

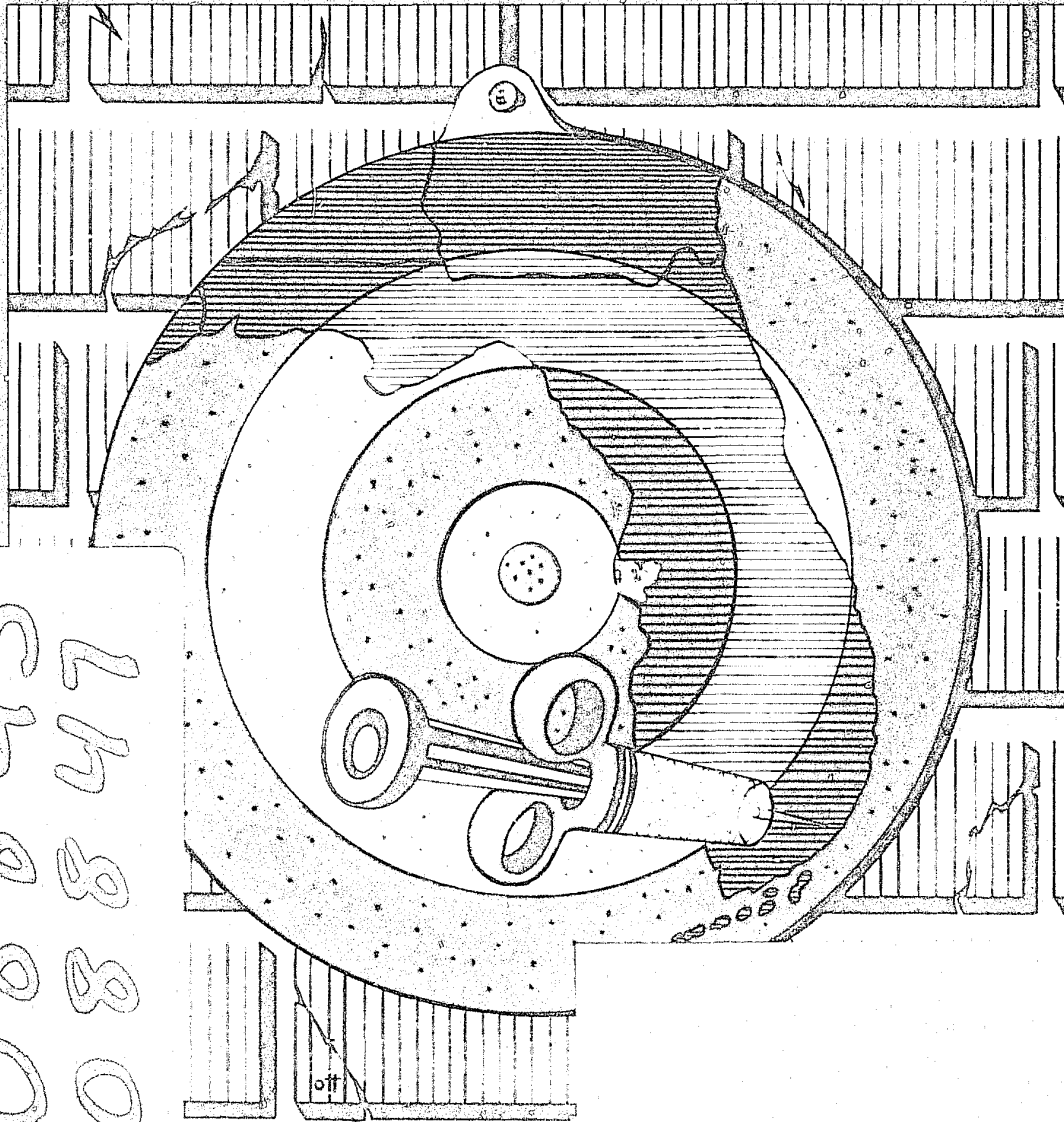
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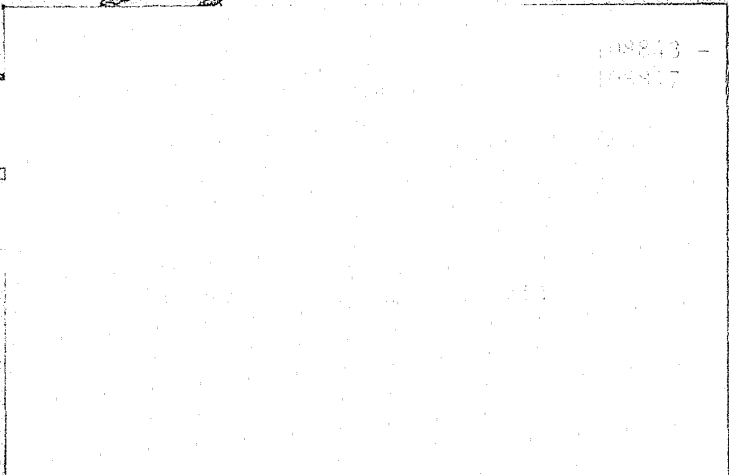
January 1988

## Law Enforcement Bulletin



108843  
108847

ings in Miami



# Contents

January 1988, Volume 57, Number 1

- 108843      Narcotics      **1 Drug Stings in Miami**  
By Clarence Dickson
- 108844      Identification      **7 Selecting An Automated Fingerprint Identification System**  
By Michael J. Fitzpatrick
- 108845      Management      **12 False Alarms — A Drain on Police Resources**  
By G. H. Kleinknecht and Dennis A. George
- 108846      Intelligence      **16 New Intelligence Concept Curbs Crime**  
By Thomas R. Ruxlow and Stephen Henson
- 108847      Patrol      **19 Criminal Patrol Techniques**  
By Wiley D. McCormick
- 23 Book Review**
- Legal Digest      **24 Emergency Searches of Persons**  
By John Gales Sauls
- 31 Wanted by the FBI**

# FBI

## Law Enforcement Bulletin

United States Department of Justice  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, DC 20535

William S. Sessions, Director

The Attorney General has determined that the publication of this periodical is necessary in the transaction of the public business required by law of the Department of Justice. Use of funds for printing this periodical has been approved by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget through June 6, 1988.

Published by the Office of Public Affairs  
Milt Ahlerich, Assistant Director

Editor—Thomas J. Deakin  
Assistant Editor—Kathryn E. Sulewski  
Art Director—John E. Ott  
Production Manager/Reprints  
—Mark A. Zettler

### The Cover:

Miami's approach to the narcotics problem.  
(See article p. 1).  
Cover design by John E. Ott.

The FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin (ISSN-0014-5688) is published monthly by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, 10th and Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20535. Second-Class postage paid at Washington, DC. Postmaster: Send address changes to Federal Bureau of Investigation, FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin, Washington, DC 20535.



## *New Intelligence Concept Curbs Crime*

***"[T]he Iowa Law Enforcement Intelligence Network . . . trains local officers in intelligence investigations, collects and disseminates intelligence on career criminals . . . and stresses cooperation among LEIN members. . . ."***

By  
THOMAS R. RUXLOW

*Director*

and

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In 1984, a new concept dealing with criminal intelligence storage, dissemination, and cooperation between law enforcement agencies was initiated. The Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI), under the direction of the commissioner of the Iowa Department of Public Safety, established the Iowa Law Enforcement Intelligence Network (LEIN). This program trains local officers in intelligence investigations, collects and disseminates intelligence on career criminals who cross jurisdictional boundaries, and stresses cooperation among LEIN members during intelligence investigations. Since its in-

ception, the LEIN membership has risen to 315 sworn officers from 197 law enforcement agencies throughout the State of Iowa and surrounding States.

In the past, State law enforcement agencies encountered criminal patterns which were substantially attributed to organized career criminals who roamed the State at will. Many times, agencies that had information on these criminals or their intent did not have the means to pass this criminal intelligence to those in need of it. In fact, some of the smaller law enforcement agencies in the State did not have the expertise, manpower, or equipment for a sus-

tained investigation on these sophisticated street-wise criminals.

### **LEIN Schools**

Starting in the fall of 1984, the DCI initiated Iowa Law Enforcement Intelligence Network schools for local departments. The State of Iowa was divided into six regions, and selected officers from each region were admitted for training.

The curriculum for the 2-week schools concentrated on such topics as the development and use of informants, intelligence process and analysis, use of electronic surveillance equipment,

be deluged with complaints from customers who were being charged false alarm fines. Regardless, the results of the program have been beneficial to the police department, since it has significantly reduced the false alarm problem and recovered a major portion of the cost for responding to false alarm calls. The alarm industry, likewise, has benefited from the alarm system code. Licensing requirements have forced the disreputable dealers out of the county, thereby upgrading business opportunities for the remaining legitimate, qualified companies.

### Conclusion

As alarm systems become more and more sophisticated with advances in both electronics and computerization, citizens and police alike should consider them as excellent crime pre-

vention devices. The false alarm ordinance has proven to be a cost-effective, false alarm deterrent, and at the same time, has helped upgrade the quality of the alarm industry in St. Louis County.

Several area municipalities have enacted false alarm ordinances similar to St. Louis County. To further insure unqualified operators from conducting business, the Alarm Association of Missouri (with the backing of law enforcement organizations) is pushing for statewide regulation of the industry. Pending legislation calls for the appointment of a Missouri Private Security Alarm Business Licensing Board to determine rules, regulations, and established minimum educational, experience, and training qualifications for licensing. License holders would be tested twice yearly to determine their

knowledge and competency. The State law, when passed, will prevent conflicting local rules and regulations, yet will not ban the establishment of appropriate fines or other sanctions by local communities for false alarms.

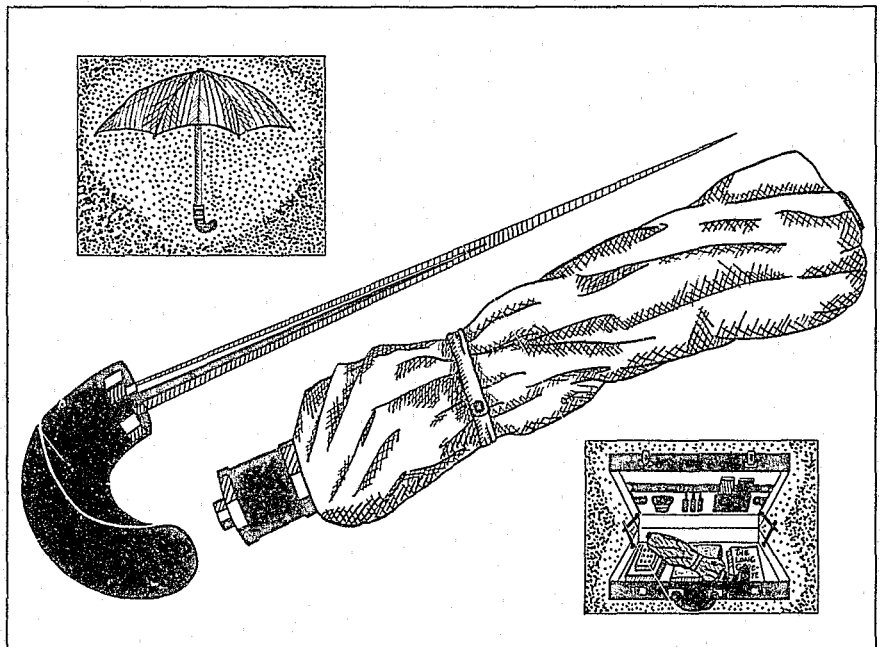
The St. Louis County False Alarm Code has proven to be a model of success and has met or surpassed all of its expectations. The problems associated with responding to false alarms have been significantly reduced, and in some cases, eliminated. Through proper research, design, and follow-up, this program has kept pace with the rapidly changing alarm systems market and should be considered a "must" for any police agency interested in controlling the use of its manpower while dealing with the ongoing problem of false alarms.

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## Umbrella Sword

A commercially produced 10-inch stainless steel blade hidden in a folding umbrella is now on sale in this country. The U.S. Customs Service warns that security personnel operating baggage X-ray machines may not be able to detect the potential threat of this weapon as the stiletto blade may be considered the shaft of the operating umbrella. The folding umbrella telescopes to only 17½ inches in length. The blade is attached to the umbrella's handle and is secured by a double lock system opened by unscrewing the ring below the handle one full turn.

Courtesy U.S. Customs Service  
Office of Intelligence





Gene Shepard  
Commissioner  
Iowa Department of  
Public Safety

enforcement, while other States are adapting the concept to meet individual needs.

#### End Results

Since implementation of the LEIN program, DCI has observed several distinctive advantages. One of the most obvious is the total cooperation between local, county, and State law enforcement agencies. Police departments, sheriff's departments, and State law enforcement officers are sharing information, manpower, and other resources in a common quest.

A data base of criminal intelligence is available to LEIN members, which assists them in ongoing investigations and also allows department heads to direct departmental goals according to criminal patterns.

Another result of the LEIN organization was the identification of the need

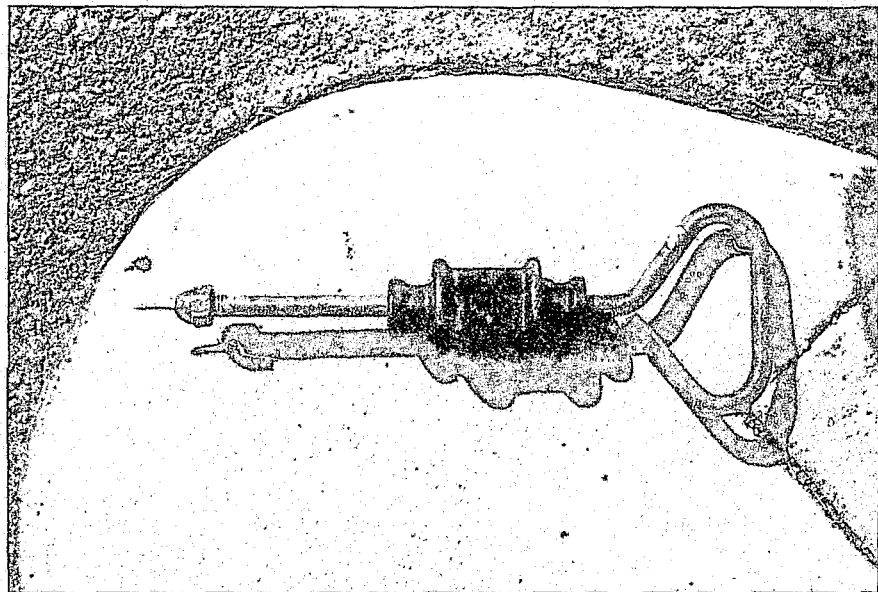
for specialized equipment. Monetary donations were made to LEIN to purchase frequency-hopping radios and other high-tech items used primarily in the proactive field. The equipment has been extensively used and is exchanged readily between LEIN agencies statewide, which has been extremely beneficial to smaller law enforcement organizations who did not have prior access to such equipment. In fact, statewide equipment pools are in the process of being established which will allow quicker access by all LEIN agencies.

Detailed information on Iowa's LEIN program is available by contacting the State LEIN Coordinator, S/A Stephen Henson, Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation, Wallace State Office Building, Des Moines, IA, 50309, (515) 281-3558.

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## Lock Punch Device

In a recent arrest of three juveniles for auto burglary, officers of the San Carlos, CA, Police Department confiscated a homemade lock punch device. One of the suspects took a threaded handle and slipped a weight over the shaft of the handle. The weight is secured by a cap nut, which has been drilled with a 1/8-inch hole. A sheet metal screw inserted into the hole acts as a punch. The weight slides freely on the shaft and can be used to open a door lock.





Mr. Ruxlow



Special Agent Henson

surveillance techniques, corruption investigations, legal aspects and considerations, and seizure and forfeiture proceedings, to name a few. The schools concluded with a 3-day field problem in which the participants actually spent time working on the criminal element and applying the skills they had just learned.

The DCI believes the LEIN school to be the cornerstone of the organization. Local officers, in learning how to deal with criminal intelligence, become better prepared to follow State laws and guidelines on its use and dissemination.

#### Central Coordinating Agency

LEIN is governed by local law enforcement agencies, with each region providing three regional coordinators. One coordinator from each region serves on the LEIN Executive Board, which sets policy and directs the daily operations of the program. DCI holds the seventh seat on the executive board.

Intelligence information which is collected by the membership is sent to DCI Headquarters in Des Moines, IA. The information is then reviewed, placed in a computer, collated by criminal analysts, and disseminated to the membership as directed by the submitting officer. DCI's Intelligence Unit acts as the central coordinating agency (CCA), with the responsibility of reproducing the intelligence forms and assuming the expense of mailing the information throughout the State.

Each year, a training conference is held in Des Moines. These conferences stress the continuing need for proactive investigative procedures and criminal

intelligence dissemination and assist members in promoting cooperation and maintaining contacts with each other.

#### Task Force Operations

All but 10 of Iowa's 99 county sheriff's departments have deputies involved in the LEIN program, as do most police departments in the State. Because career criminals cross jurisdictional boundaries, the LEIN organization facilitates task force operations by drawing on the resources, equipment, and manpower of LEIN departments.

Numerous task force operations have been successfully conducted on targeted career criminals. The most notable case, to date, involved a group of criminals who worked Iowa and surrounding States stealing farm chemicals and farm equipment. In the year prior to their arrests, Iowa suffered a loss in excess of \$500,000 in farm chemicals; following their apprehensions, the State recorded only a \$26,000 annual loss. Over 35 agencies provided manpower on the month-long surveillance which culminated in the arrest and prosecution of the offenders.

#### A Concept Worth Noting

In June 1986, the Council of State Governments reported on "Iowa's Law Enforcement Intelligence Network" in their report *Innovations*. The council reviews innovative concepts on the State level and publishes its findings nationwide. Since the publication, several other States, including Illinois and South Dakota, have established similar programs geared to collecting and disseminating criminal intelligence to law