

Columbus, Ohio
May 11, 1937


Capt. Robert L. Batts,
Communications Supervisor,
Indianapolis Police Dept.,
Indianapolis, Ind.

Dear Sir:

In answer to your letter of May 5th kindly be advised that this writer is in accord with your letter, and although personally I believe that the FBI teletype connection belongs at Indianapolis, however, from your letter I can appreciate the fact of you being in a situation where the addition of this work would hardly be fair with regards to the extra duties performed by your men. Therefore the next logical place for this center would be St. Louis, being more near the geographic center of the telegraph system. However, in the case of Mr. O'Neil, I believe that as you have mentioned in your letter that the International Police Radiotelegraph particularly down through the Southern States would be a rather advantageous point. All of this is merely a supposition, not knowing the extent of the FBI operations in foreign points. You have gone to great lengths and have pretty well covered the entire field as pertains to FBI, and I personally have no suggestions to offer, although it might perhaps be wise to run in an article in the APCO Bulletin the exact setup of FBI, inasmuch as a good many people throughout the country seem to be under the impression that they have a leased service, twenty-four hours a day. They are not aware of the fact that it is based on a TWX basis or a message basis. One reason for bringing this up is the point that a good many departments are asking information from the D of J or sending messages either by radiotelephone or radiotelegraph to the BI office and asking for information of little or no importance to the department, not knowing that this does cost Uncle Sam a certain amount of money.

I have not contacted our D of J office here in Columbus, or at Cincinnati, where a branch of TWX is in service, but hope within the next several weeks to contact these men to see what information they have heard, and to sell them on a possible tieup between our intercity radio system and their TWX, however, knowing that they individually cannot do much toward recognition of the system, but figuring that the more that know about it, and by their talking, a certain amount of this information is bound to reach Washington, materially aiding the situation.

Yours very truly,


Lieut. George H. Kinsey,
First Vice-Pres. APCO.

cc E. E. O'Neil.
E. E. Fisher
Lieut. Danstaedt.