

DCI/Bio

WILLIAM H. WEBSTER, DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION:
 MAJOR CASES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS, 1978 - 1987

The following is a compilation of major historic events involving the FBI that occurred during FBI Director William H. Webster's administration. It is arranged according to general topics. The items printed in boldface may be considered of lasting significance to American history and the history of law enforcement as well as to FBI history.

February 23, 1978 -- William H. Webster took the oath of office as Director of the FBI. President Jimmy Carter appointed him on January 19, 1978, and the Senate confirmed him on February 9, 1978. One of Judge Webster's goals was to make the FBI a model for all law enforcement agencies in the United States in terms of professionalism and conformity with constitutional procedures. He continued the quality vs. quantity approach initiated by his predecessor, with the following priorities: white-collar crime, organized crime, and foreign counterintelligence.

May 26, 1987 -- FBI Director William H. Webster was sworn in as Director of Central Intelligence. He was nominated by President Ronald Reagan March 3, 1987, and was confirmed by the Senate 94 - 1 on May 20, 1987.

PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1978 -- As one of his first acts as Director, Judge Webster sought to increase the representation of qualified minorities and women within the FBI. In his first year as Director, the number of female Special Agents (SAs) increased 55.3 percent; blacks, 14.7 percent; Asian Americans, 14.7 percent, Hispanics, 15.5 percent; and American Indians, 6.7 percent. As of December 31, 1986, the increases in women and minority SAs from February 23, 1978, were women, from 94 to 699 (643 percent); blacks, 144 to 361 (150 percent); Asian Americans, 34 to 101 (197 percent); Hispanics, 155 to 363 (134 percent); and American Indians, 15 to 38 (153 percent).

February 16, 1979 -- John D. Glover was appointed Special Agent in Charge, Milwaukee, the first black to attain that position in the FBI.

1978 -- The FBI sponsored a conference with representatives of community-based organizations to advise the Bureau on methods of expanding minority and female recruitment.

February 3, 1987 -- The National Drug Enforcement Policy Board, in existence since 1984, was reorganized with Attorney General Meese at the the head and Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Otis Bowen as vice-chairman. The Board was enlarged to include the Secretaries of Education, Labor, and Housing and Urban Development.

April 22, 1987 -- Attorney General Meese announced that DEA would retain its separate identity and mission and not merge with the FBI.

INTERAGENCY COOPERATION

April, 1978 -- "Counterfence," one of the largest and most successful joint undercover operations to date was concluded by the FBI and the Los Angeles Sheriff's Office, with the arrest of 256 persons.

January 31, 1986 -- One of the largest joint force of law enforcement officers, including the FBI, ever assembled in New York City to date, raided 470 betting places in "Operation Marlin." The raid was aimed at betting parlors run by a syndicate of Cubans in 4 of New York's 5 boroughs.

July - August 1984 -- The FBI, as lead Federal agency, cooperated with other Federal agencies as well as state and local law enforcement agencies for security during the 1984 Summer Olympics. Most of its events took place in Los Angeles, but Annapolis, Boston, Palo Alto, and San Diego also had Olympics events. Because of its size and the number of jurisdictions it covered, the 1984 Summer Olympics posed unprecedented security problems. No terrorist incidents occurred.

August 14, 1986 -- A task force was established in El Paso, Texas, to fight smugglers of guns, drugs, and illegal aliens. Members represented the FBI, Internal Revenue Service, Immigration and Naturalization Service, United States Customs Service, Drug Enforcement Administration, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, and the United States Coast Guard.

TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES

Forensic Science: Developments in forensic science are enabling investigators to solve crimes previously considered insoluble.

April 3, 1978 -- The use of laser technology to detect latent "crime scene" fingerprints was initiated in the Identification Division.

February 6, 1984 -- Cross-search procedures began between the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) Missing Person File (operational October 1, 1975) and the NCIC Unidentified Person File (operational June 30, 1983). The first confirmed identification occurred December 11, 1984, of a Massachusetts man reported missing April, 1983, who was matched with data of a Nevada suicide entered into the system in October, 1984. Local authorities followed up the NCIC match to confirm the identity.

July 10, 1984 -- The National Center for the Analysis of Violent Crime was established at the FBI Academy. It became fully operational June, 1985.

July, 1985 -- The automated Skills Bank in the Personnel Information Center became fully operational.

July 9, 1985 -- A computer, for the first time, identified a dismembered victim. The victim, Joseph M. Shanan of Elgin, Illinois, was decapitated and his hands also had been removed.

FOREIGN COUNTERINTELLIGENCE

April 10, 1978 -- Arkady Shevchenko, the highest ranking Soviet official at the United Nations, renounced Soviet citizenship and applied for United States asylum.

May 20, 1978 - Present -- The decision to indict people for espionage, plus use of new techniques, resulted in a significant number of arrests for espionage.

May 20, 1978 -- Rudolph Chernyayev and Valdik Enger, Soviet citizens and United Nations employees, were arrested by the FBI on espionage charges. Vladimir Zinyakin, a Soviet citizen, was also picked up but released because he carried diplomatic immunity. They attempted subversion and bribery of a United States Navy officer (cooperating with the FBI) to obtain Navy secrets. Both were convicted and sentenced on October 30, 1978, to 10 years each.

July 15, 1981 -- Joseph George Helmich, former Army cryptographer, was indicted and arrested by the FBI in Jacksonville, Florida. Helmich was charged with delivering information to Soviets.

April 17, 1982 -- Otto Attila Gilbert, a Hungarian spy, was arrested by the FBI in Augusta, Georgia, for conspiracy to commit espionage.

damaging spy rings in the United States in this century. Also charged was his son, Michael Lance Walker. His brother, Arthur J. Walker, was indicted on June 17, 1985, as was J. A. Walker's best friend, Jerry A. Whitworth, who was arrested on June 3, 1985. Arthur was found guilty on August 9, 1985; John and Michael pled guilty on October 28, 1985. Arthur Walker's conviction was upheld July 10, 1986. Whitworth was convicted July 24, 1986, and was sentenced August 28, 1986, to a 365-year term.

June 11, 1985 -- East German scientist, Alfred Zehe, was sentenced to 8 years in prison for espionage. Zehe was exchanged April 11, 1985, in a spy exchange involving 25 Western agents imprisoned in East Germany. Alice Mickelson, another East German agent, was sentenced to 5 years' probation in June, 1985, also was involved in this exchange. Others sent to Eastern Europe were Marian W. Zacharski, a Polish intelligence agent, sentenced in 1981, and Penyu B. Kostadinov, a Bulgarian intelligence agent.

July 11, 1985 -- Sharon Scranage, an employee of the CIA, was arrested and charged with espionage for passing classified information to representatives of the Ghanaian Government. She pled guilty September, 1985, to revealing classified information and was sentenced November, 1985, to 5 years in prison. Michael Soussoudis, a Ghanaian national accused with her, was exchanged December, 1985, for Ghanaians who worked with the CIA.

November 21, 1985 -- Jonathan Jay Pollard, a Navy intelligence analyst, was arrested for spying for Israel. His wife, Anne Henderson-Pollard, was arrested November 23, 1984. Pollard pled guilty on June 4, 1986, for conspiring to receive embezzled Government property and Henderson-Pollard pled guilty to being an accessory. On March 3, 1987, a Federal grand jury indicted Israeli Brigadier General Aviem Sella on charges that he recruited Pollard as a spy and received United States defense secrets.

November 23, 1985 -- Larry Wu Tai Chin, a former CIA analyst, was arrested on charges of spying for the People's Republic of China since 1952. He was convicted on February 7, 1986, and committed suicide 2 weeks later.

November 25, 1985 -- William Pelton, former National Security Agency employee, was charged with spying. He received a life sentence on December 16, 1986.

February 21, 1987 -- Werner Bruchhausen, a West German businessman labeled in the press as the "world's most prolific techno bandit," was convicted in Los Angeles of illegally shipping United States computers and electronics to the Soviet Union.

WHITE COLLAR CRIME

October 25, 1978 -- \$10.2 million was transferred without authority from a California bank to New York, then to Switzerland, by Stanley Mark Rifkin, a computer systems consultant. In Europe, Rifkin purchased \$8.1 million in diamonds and smuggled them into the United States. He was arrested on November 6, 1978, in San Diego and sentenced on March 26, 1979, to 8 years. Practically 100 percent recovery in diamonds and cash was made. While awaiting trial, Rifkin attempted to organize a computer theft of \$50 million, but enlisted an undercover FBI Special Agent as confederate.

February 3, 1980 -- "Abscam", an FBI undercover investigation, was revealed when media stories appeared. It targeted public corruption and bribery. Six United States Congressman and one United States Senator were indicted and convicted, as were state and local officials. This case marked an early use of closed-circuit television for surveillance purposes and for presenting the case to a jury.

February 9, 1980 -- "Brilab," an FBI undercover investigation, surfaced. It concerned political corruption and bribery in the Southwest involving political officials, labor leaders, and Carlos Marcello, allegedly a top New Orleans organized crime figure. Marcello and a former Louisiana state commissioner were convicted on August 3, 1981.

March 27, 1980 -- Michele Sindona, an international financier, was convicted, in New York, in connection with the Franklin National Bank collapse. Sindona had disappeared on August 3, 1979, while awaiting trial and reappeared in October 15, 1979, claiming abduction. The investigation proved Sindona traveled voluntarily, under an alias, to and within Europe and returned. Italy requested extradition in connection with a \$225 million fund transfer causing the collapse of 2 Italian banks. He was convicted of bank fraud in Italy, on March 17, 1985, in a trial made possible by the United States-Italian extradition treaty.

January 5, 1981 -- Guidelines were issued by the Department of Justice (DOJ) for FBI undercover Special Agents in matters involving bribery of public officials.

February 28, 1985 -- With 6 others, Governor Edwin W. Edwards of Louisiana was indicted for Obstruction of Justice, Mail Fraud, Wire Fraud, and racketeering as well as state bribery charges. The trial ended in a hung jury on December 18, 1985.

April 23, 1985 -- "Operation Gallstone," an international sting operation, led to the recovery of \$500 million in counterfeit and stolen securities and the indictment of 29 people in 3 states after a 5-year investigation.

February 9, 1986 -- Federal District Judge Walter L. Nixon, Jr., was found guilty on 2 counts of perjury, making him the second sitting Federal judge to be convicted of a crime. He was sentenced March 31, 1986, to 5 years in prison. The Federal Appeals Court upheld the conviction on April 30, 1987.

April 9, 1986 -- A Federal grand jury indicted Stanley Friedman, Bronx, New York, Democratic leader, and 6 others on racketeering charges. They were found guilty on November 25, 1986. Friedman was sentenced to 12 years in prison, on March 11, 1987. Geoffry Lindenauer, the key Government witness against him, was sentenced on July 15, 1987, to 2 years in prison for his role.

July 22, 1986 -- 170 people were charged with filing false automobile insurance claims totaling over \$1 million in 12 states and Canada, the largest auto insurance fraud in United States history.

July 29, 1986 -- Norman Mark Allen, Honesdale, Pennsylvania, pled guilty to communicating false information regarding consumer product tampering. He was the first person in the United States to be prosecuted for this crime. On September 2, 1986, he was sentenced to 5 years in prison.

July 30, 1986 -- 10 officers, including 2 chiefs, from 6 Eastern Massachusetts police departments were indicted for racketeering, conspiracy, and perjury in a scheme that included stealing police examinations and changing test scores.

October 28, 1986 -- A Philadelphia city councilman and others were indicted on charges of extortion. Other indictments against the councilman were for election fraud.

November 21, 1986 -- Six indictments were returned under "Operation Incubator," an FBI probe into the acceptance of bribes by Chicago officials. On

March 21, 1983 -- New Attorney General guidelines for domestic security and terrorism cases, announced by Attorney General William French Smith on March 7, 1983, became effective, replacing the 1976 Domestic Security Guidelines.

May 26 - June 29, 1983 -- A successful assault against the Puerto Rican terrorist organization, FALN occurred. FALN leader William Morales was arrested by Mexican authorities following information furnished by the FBI. Four FALN members were arrested in Chicago by the FBI for seditious conspiracy; explosives and weapons were seized, averting several projected bombings.

September 12, 1983 -- Victor Gerena, a Wells Fargo Armored Service guard in West Hartford, Connecticut, stole approximately \$7 million cash. On August 30, 1985, 12 persons were arrested in Puerto Rico and one was arrested in Boston. Seventeen persons were charged by a Connecticut Federal grand jury with the heist. Three were arrested on March 22, 1986; 1 in Northampton, Massachusetts and 2 in Puerto Rico.

January 30, 1985 -- 2 members of the Aryan Nation, a white extremist organization, were arrested for aiding in the multimillion dollar robbery of a Brinks truck near Ukiah, California, in July, 1984. On March 19, 1986, Richard Joseph Scutari, last fugitive member of "The Order," was arrested in Texas. He had been placed on the FBI's 10 Most Wanted Fugitive list in September, 1985. On April 30, 1986, he pled guilty to racketeering and to the Ukiah, California, Brinks robbery and was sentenced to 60 years in prison on June 5, 1986.

April 22, 1985 -- James D. Ellison, leader of "The Covenant, The Sword, and The Arm of the Lord," a white extremist survivalist group, surrendered to Federal authorities including the FBI after a 4-day siege in Arkansas. He was convicted on July 17, 1985, of racketeering charges, arson, and bombing.

August 5, 1985 -- 4 people suspected of being FALN members were convicted of seditious conspiracy for plotting to bomb 2 military installations. Three were sentenced on October 4, 1985, to 35-year prison terms and the fourth received a suspended sentence and 5 years probation.

December 30, 1985 -- 10 neo-Nazis, members of "The Order" arrested in April, 1985, were convicted on racketeering charges for murders and robberies committed to further their plans for a white supremacist revolution. This was one of the first

November 1, 1984 -- A plot to assassinate the President of Honduras and overthrow his administration was thwarted by the FBI.

November 9, 1984 -- Eduardo Arocena, a Cuban exile who allegedly headed Omega 7, an anti-Castro terrorist group, was sentenced to life imprisonment for ordering the 1980 murder of Felix Garcia Rodriguez, attache at the Cuban mission to the United Nations.

May 13, 1985 -- A plot to assassinate Prime Minister of India Rajiv Gandhi by Sikh terrorists when he visited the United States in June was foiled by the FBI. The conspiracy also planned to assassinate Bhajan Lal, Chief Minister of the Indian State of Haryana, who was also in the United States. On March 21, 1986, Gurpartap Singh Birk was convicted of violating the United States Neutrality laws by conspiring violent action against a foreign nation with which the United States was at peace and of conspiring to buy explosives. He was acquitted of plotting to assassinate the Indian Prime Minister.

June 14, 1985 -- TWA Flight 847 to Syria with 153 persons on board was hijacked. Most of the people were released in the first few days. Thirty-nine hostages were freed after 31 days. On November 21, 1985, a Federal grand jury indicted 3 men based on evidence obtained through interviews conducted by the FBI with passengers. One, Mohammed Ali Hamadi, who was arrested in West Germany, on January 21, 1987. The United States formally requested his extradition but West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl informed Attorney General Meese on June 23, 1987, that it would not extradite him, but would try him for murder.

October 7, 1985 -- The Italian cruise ship, the "Achille Lauro" was hijacked by 4 Palestinians. On October 8, 1985, the hijackers killed disabled American passenger Leon Klinghoffer, aged 69. The terrorists surrendered on October 9, 1985. The FBI conducted an investigation on the grounds that American citizens had been victims of the hijacking.

July 28, 1986 -- The FBI arrested 13 individuals for plotting the overthrow of the Government of Suriname. All either pled guilty or declined to contest charges. Four were sentenced on November 5, 1986, to prison terms; the others received suspended sentences.

May 7, 1987 -- Two right-wing extremists were indicted by a Federal grand jury in Oklahoma for plotting the murder of Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega. The plot was thwarted when a recruit informed the FBI.

January 15, 1985 -- Twenty-six persons were indicted in connection with a drug ring netting over \$100 million in profits. Proceeds of sales were laundered through several business firms dealing in gems and Oriental rugs. The investigation, "Operation Flying Carpet," was conducted by the FBI in conjunction with DEA, the Internal Revenue Service, and the U.S Customs Service. It resulted in 40 convictions. Leon Durwood Harvey was found guilty of running the drug ring.

February 7, 1985 -- Enrique Camarena Salazar, a DEA Agent in Guadalajara, Mexico, was abducted. His body and that of a Mexican pilot who sometimes worked with him were found on March 5, 1985. A suspect, Rafael Caro Quintero, was captured in Costa Rica on April 4, 1985. On December 22, 1986, a San Diego jury convicted Mario Martinez Herrera, a Mexican police official, of lying to a Federal grand jury investigating the slaying of Camarena Salazar. This was the first conviction in a United States court related to the murder. He was sentenced on February 17, 1987, to 1 year and 1 day in prison. Two others were arraigned in Los Angeles on December 29, 1986.

March 14, 1985 -- Former FBI Agent Dan Mitrione, Jr., pled guilty to Federal charges that he had accepted \$850,000 in cash and property from a Florida cocaine ring. This was the only major narcotics case ever filed against an FBI Agent.

May 24, 1985 -- Attorney General Meese announced that DEA training would shift to the FBI Academy in Quantico in fiscal year 1986. Previously, DEA agents had been trained at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center at Glynco, Georgia. The first Quantico class began on October 1, 1985.

July 23, 1985 -- Federal Agents arrested 134 people, seized 47 homes and businesses, and confiscated over \$200,000 in cash in connection with the drug ring controlled by the Jaime Herrera family of Durango, Mexico. Most arrests were made in Chicago, with others in Indiana, California, Colorado, Florida, Michigan, New York, Texas, and Puerto Rico.

November 18, 1986 -- Federal authorities indicted 7 Colombians, 1 Nicaraguan, and 1 Mexican, none of whom were in custody, for smuggling at least 58 tons of cocaine into the United States. The ring was known as the Medellin Cartel.

December, 1986 -- A separate Drug Section was established in the Criminal Investigative Division. On

April 9, 1984 -- DOJ announced charges related to one of the most significant cases involving heroin trafficking by traditional organized crime developed by the Government to that date. The case documented international connections as well as those within the United States. The case was known as "the Pizza Connection," and the ensuing trial was one of the longest in Federal court history. On March 2, 1987, 18 men were convicted. Five leaders, including Gaetano Badalamenti, former leader of the Sicilian mafia, were sentenced on June 22, 1987 to prison terms of at least 30 years, and ordered to contribute over \$2.5 million to a fund for treating drug addicts. On July 17, 1987, a mistrial was granted defendant Pietro Alfano, who had been shot on February 12, 1987, and could not attend the end of the trial.

October 2-3, 1984 -- The Joint Italian-American Working Group to Fight Drug Trafficking and Organized Crime held its first meeting in Washington D.C. The Working Group was created in October, 1983 by President Reagan and the President of the Italian Council of Italian Ministers, Bettino Craxi. Cooperation between Italy and the United States produced an extradition treaty and mutual assistance in combating organized crime.

October 24, 1984 -- Leaders of the Colombo organized crime family, Carmine Persico, and 8 others were indicted in New York for offenses including extortion, embezzlement, and mob control of unions. In June, 1986, they were convicted on Federal racketeering charges. Persico was sentenced on November 17, 1986, to 39 years and others from 12 to 65 years.

February 26, 1985 -- Nine men, including the 5 reputed leaders of New York's mafia families, were charged with participating in a "commission" that governed the 5 organized crime families in New York City. They were convicted on November 19, 1986, and sentenced on January 13, 1987, to between 40 and 100 years in prison.

January 21, 1986 -- Five men, including Joseph Aiuppa, the reputed leader of organized crime in Chicago, were convicted of conspiring to divert more than \$2 million in untaxed gambling winnings. Aiuppa was sentenced to 28 years in prison on March 27, 1986.

February 26, 1986 -- Gennaro J. Anguilo, 2 brothers, and an associate were convicted in Boston of racketeering activity. Anguilo was considered the underboss of the Providence, Rhode Island, Patriarcha La Cosa Nostra family.

Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms, state, and local police participated in the roundup.

December 17, 1986 -- 8 members of the "Bamboo" gang were sentenced to between 10 and 25 years. Charges included the murder of journalist Henry Liu.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

October 2-3, 1984 -- The Joint Italian-American Working Group to Fight Drug Trafficking and Organized Crime held its first meeting in Washington, D.C. The Working Group was created in October, 1983, by President Ronald Reagan and the President of the Italian Council of Ministers, Bettino Craxi. Cooperation between Italy and the United States produced an extradition treaty and mutual assistance in combating organized crime.

January 5, 1985 -- Four fugitives who were wanted on drug charges in the United States were returned by Colombia under a 1982 extradition treaty, the first time that Colombian nationals were extradited under the treaty. The Colombian Supreme Court declared the treaty unconstitutional in December, 1986.

1986 -- Utilization of Interpol increased substantially in the 1980s. As a result, in Fiscal Year 1986 its services were used in 375 investigative matters.

June 24, 1986 -- The United States and Italy signed an agreement joining forces in the fight against international terrorism. The agreement calls for policy, procedure, and doctrinal exchanges, the sharing of intelligence, and parallel training of personnel.

September 12, 1986 -- Oscar Fernando Cuevas, the first alleged drug launderer ever extradicted by Switzerland to the United States, was found guilty by a Federal grand jury. He was sentenced on December 19, 1986, to 15 years in prison.

January, 1985 -- Interpol was authorized for the first time since World War II, to circulate warrants in politically related crimes such as kidnapings and bombings, making it more effective in fighting terrorism.

IRAN-CONTRA INVESTIGATION

October 10, 1986 -- A Southern Air Transport plane was shot down in Nicaragua. Eugene Hasenfus, the sole survivor, admitted that the plane was transporting guns



