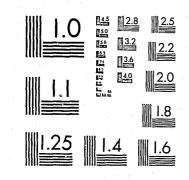
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National Criminal Justice Reference Service



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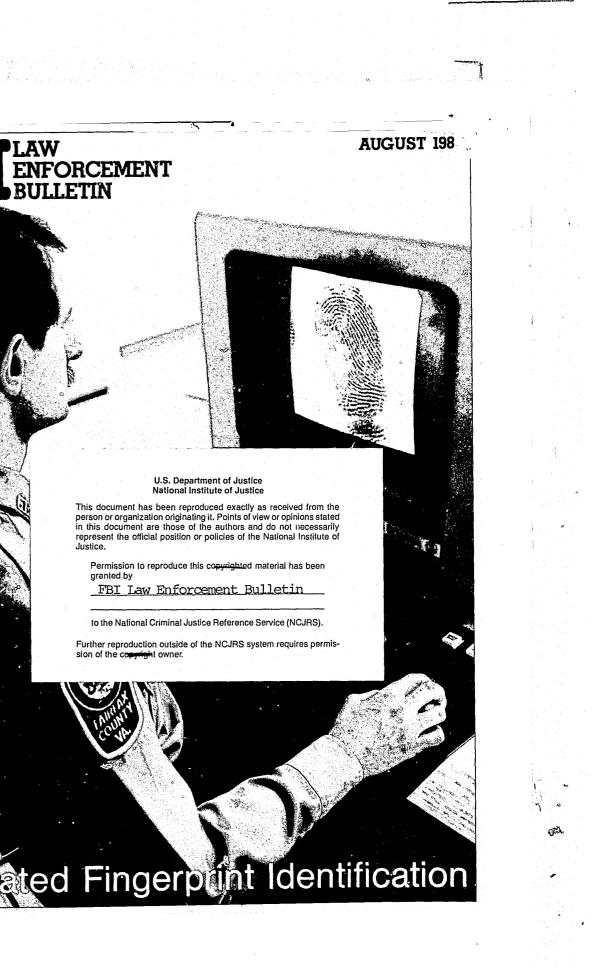
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National Institute of Justice United States Department of Justice Washington, D.C. 20531



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NEJRS	AUGUST 1984, VOLUME 53, NUMBER 8
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في المارهم



The Cover: A regional automated fingerprint dentification system significantly improves the law enforcement officer's ability to identify criminals. See article p. 1.

Federal Bureau of Investigation United States Department of Justice Washington, D.C. 20535

William H. Webster, Director

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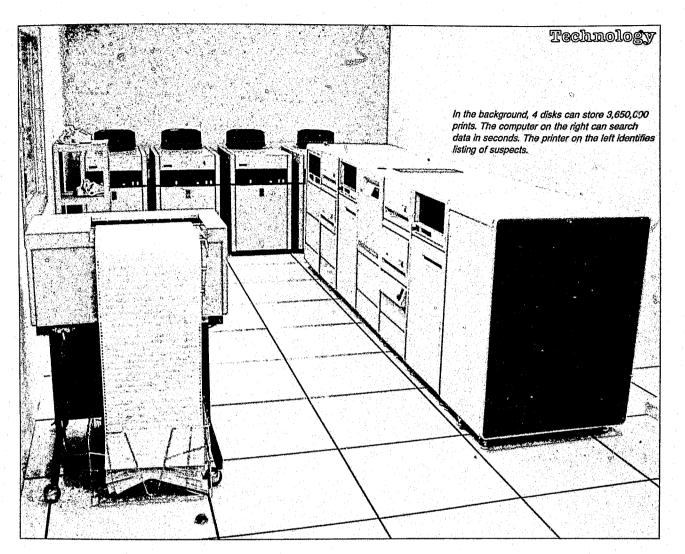
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USPS 383-310



Automated Fingerprint Identification Regional Application of Technology

By COL. CARROLL D. BURACKER Chief of Police Fairfax County, Va.	pol coll mo anc
and WILLIAM K. STOVER Chief of Police Arlington County, Va.	EDIT in the solely assis
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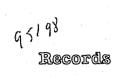
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. . when police chiefs work together and lice agencies are able to consider the ellective good, the public is better served, ore criminals are identified, d cases are solved."

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Officer Coded Report Forms

By

OFFICER STEVEN G. DEATON Planning and Research Police Bureau Portland, Oreg.

Since 1975, the Integrated Criminal Apprehension Program (ICAP), developed by the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA), has adhere to the ICAP concept. The pribecome increasingly popular among mary question is whether the existing police agencies across the country, field report forms were designed for ICAP's success lies in its uncomplicated approach to effectively manage and use police resources. ICAP offers police administrators the opportunity to structure their department oper-sists of three component parts-crime ation based on a model that has analysis, operations analysis, and inproven successful.

the interrelationships within the system of 1) crime analysis, 2) a timely and pertinent information for structured goal-oriented decisionmaking process, and 3) sound service delivery techniques. Basically, ICAP is a logic flow designed to enhance the responsiveness of the patrol operation. (See fig. 1.) The simplicity of the concept lends itself well to the day-to-day operations of many police agencies.

ICAP Logic Flow

Step 1 of the ICAP logic flow, data collection, represents the patrol officer's preliminary investigation. Because ICAP focuses on the analysis of information collected, the information input at the first step must be specific useful information. The requirement or responsibility to collect this information demands a new offense report designed to upgrade the quality of the information to be generated.

Most police agencies' report writing systems require a rethinking on the part of the administrators to crime analysis or whether they were merely designed to report the occurrence of an event.

The second step, analysis, contelligence analysis. All three compo-The ICAP concept depends on nents are designed to analyze the data collected and respond with use in day-to-day police operations. If the information collected is subjective or incomplete, the analysis of that information will reflect the inaccuracies and the credibility of the analysis will deteriorate.

To realize the full potential of the operation, personnel in the crime analysis units must be given quality crime information. The ICAP model suggests a revised offense/incident report form designed to enhance a crime analysis unit. The model form includes possibilities for improving the quality of data collected and increasing the quality of data analyzed.

It is easy to visualize the benefits of quality information. What is not so easy to visualize is the need to change from subjective data collection and analysis to objective data collection and analysis. This transition is paramount to efficient, effective, strategic, and tactical management decisionmaking.





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STATE AND A SECONDARY

The third step, planning, is a formalized integrated decisionmaking process by supervisors and administrators based on the data analysis. The two types of decision categories suggested within the model are strategic decisions and tactical decisions. Strategic decisions are policy-oriented-tactical decisions usually involve short term allocation of resources.

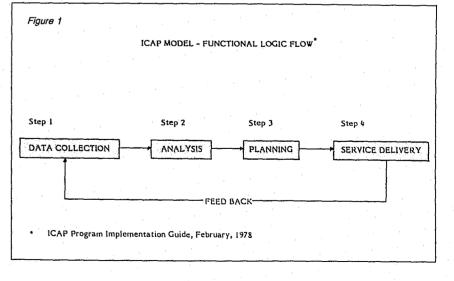
The fourth step, service delivery, includes crime-related activities, crisis intervention, and order maintenance. The deployment decisions for these three activities are influenced by many factors, such as resources, analysis, communication, priorities, etc. Without good data input, the service delivery output will suffer.

The ICAP model can be a model for agency advancement well into the future. The catalyst for future advancement is a redesigned report system which, under the ICAP concept, focuses attention on the crime analysis unit. With detailed objective information, the analysis function can serve as a liaison within an agency to pull all units into the mainstream of police service.

The characteristic ICAP model places emphasis on detailed suspect descriptions and/or suspect methodof-operation profiles using a "decision box" format. Decision boxes lend themselves well to objective data collection. From a crime analysis unit perspective, crime profiles require specific objective data capture. There are, of course, several formats that can be used to record crime analysis information on a report form. Each department must decide which format is best for them.

Our department requires that the following information be included on its report forms:

- 1) Type of premises where the crime was committed:
- 2) Method and point of entry of suspect:
- 3) Instrument and force used by the suspect:
- 4) Location of the victim at the time of the crime:
- 5) Location of the property when stolen.
- 6) Type of property stolen:
- 7) Unusual actions, methods, speech of suspect; and



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"The . . . ICAP model places emphasis on detailed suspect descriptions and/or suspect method-of-operation profiles using a 'decision box' format."

8) Suspect description/information.

The first administrative step is to decide what data the agency is actually seeking from these information requirements. Second, administrators must decide what they can add or subtract from the new list of data elements to enhance crime analysis. Third, administrators must decide how to format the new information requirements-decision box (forced choice) or fill-in information.

The Simi Valley, Calif., Police Department has developed an ICAP-related crime report. (See fig. 2.) The crime analysis information is precoded and has a checkbox design format, whenever possible, in order to reduce report preparation time. This system allows for easy entry during records processing. The type of data elements under the general crime analysis headings should be particular to the specific crime-related problems an agency and community are experiencing.

Subject Description

The suspect description section on ICAP-related forms is the hallmark of the crime analysis orientation. General suspect description categories are used for descriptive areas such as:

- 1) Hair length;
- 2) Hair style;
- 3) Facial hair;
- 4) Complexion;
- 5) General appearance;
- 6) Demeanor;
- 7) Speech;
- 8) Voice:
- 9) Face:
- 10) Glasses;
- 11) Tattoos/scars;
- 12) Weapon type;
- 13) Weapon description; and
- 14) Clothing description.

These general categories are defined by generalized descriptors designed for rapid sorting in crime analysis. They are arranged in checkbox fashion on the crime or incident report. This design allows for both easy report preparation and processing of reports and aids in the collection of suspect information that is easily forgotten on a strictly fill-in box form. The suspect descriptors common to all police report forms are still, and probably always will be, in fill-in spaces. No one has identified a better method for collecting race, sex, height, weight, build, hair color, eye color, date of birth, and age descriptors. ICAP only expands the suspect descriptors for enhanced investigations and detailed analysis.

Good data collection will prove useful only if the mechanisms for processing, analysis, and retrieval are present and timely. The ICAP model offers police agencies the tools to develop the logic flow necessary to enhance patrol responsiveness. When adopting the ICAP logic, police agencies must not neglect the required commitment to crime analysis.

The arrest report is not addressed specifically by ICAP. It is considered a complement to the crime or incident report. Besides the necessary booking information requirements, the data elements on the arrest report should be consistent with crime analysis information requirements. This will allow manual or computer searches and matches on an arrested person's characteristics and outstanding suspect descriptions.

Another method for collecting crime analysis information involves the use of a separate coding sheet. The Eugene, Oreg., Police Department has probably the best crime

analysis unit in the State. Based on ICAP philosophy and Eugene innovation, the department has expanded crime analysis information requirements to include victim and suspect actions and vehicle classifications. The basic information is collected on the incident report. When the situation being investigated warrants, the analysis information is collected on a separate coding sheet. (See fig. 3.)

There are both advantages and disadvantages to the coding sheet system of data collection. The key is to develop a method of data collection that works well for all local users. Although the coding system designed by participating ICAP agencies is a good one, unless the information collected is useful within the crime analysis orientation, it is futile to require report writers to complete the form.

Our department has developed a different method of data collection well within the ICAP philosophy but unique to gathering coded information. Report forms are in tablet form with coding sheet overlays. The report writer merely transfers a series of numbers corresponding to crime analvsis information from the coding sheet to the report form before removing it from the tablet. (See fig. 4.) There are, of course, advantages and disadvantages to this method of data collection. This method requires a heavy reliance on the automated processing system to decode, sort, and file the collected crime analysis information.

The data requirements necessary to fulfill ICAP philosophy are similar from agency to agency. The subtle differences in report form design manifest themselves in local information requirements and in the local administrators' law enforcement orientation.

4 CODE SECTION/DESCRIPTION

CRIME REPORT

NCIC/CI1 CA 05609

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20 / FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin

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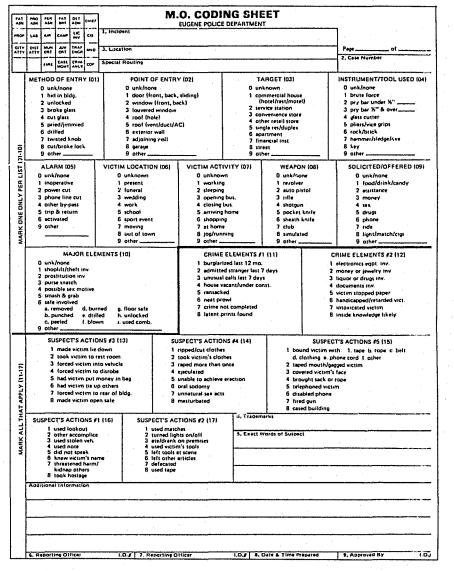
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ICAP is not a panacea. It is, however, a model of a "big picture" of a police agency operation. Interested agencies will be able to find numerous articles and reference manuals detailing ICAP operations. The success of the program will be measured in terms of an administrator's commitment to the crime analysis philosophy espeused by ICAP and to the development of a crime reporting system which enhances data collection, collation, analysis, and dissemination in the most effective and efficient manner.

The officer coded report forms developed through ICAP research and modified by the Portland Police Bureau can be the catalyst, among other things, for advancement into the high-tech environment. As police reliance on computer systems becomes more commonplace, a method of data collection and analysis must be adopted in order to ensure maximum use of available police resources. The officer coded report forms offer police administrators this assurance, plus several other benefits, including:

- 1) Decrease in interpretation errors between report writer and report processor;
- 2) Decrease in report preparation time;
- 3) Decrease in report processing time:
- 4) Decrease in collection of repetitive, subjective information:
- 5) Increase in report accuracy: 6) Increase in ease of data
- retrieval;
- 7) Increase in intraagency communication;
- 8) Increase in life of the report forms-decrease in forms maintenance: and
- 9) Increase in dollar savings associated with the report writing
- system.





ICAP has successfully developed the method by which generalized crime analysis information can be used to enhance a police agency's operation. Now ICAP is experiencing a future. Portland's officer coded forms resurgence of interest as evidenced by the adoption of officer coded, crime analysis-oriented report forms among many small to medium-sized on computer systems and have alpolice departments.

The collection of the generalized crime analysis information has now experienced change based not only ICAP logic within the participating on the resurgence of ICAP interest agency and promotes ICAP's continbut also the growing reliance on com- ued success through better communiputer systems to aid in the crime anal- cation within the criminal justice vsis function. The Portland Police Bu-system.

reau's officer coded report forms represent all the advantages ICAP logic offers, but their forms have taken the ICAP logic one more step into the have incorporated the necessary changes into the crime analysis function caused by growing police reliance lowed for agency growth (both anticipated and unanticipated). The design of Portland's forms satisfies the basic

FBI

"During my stay in the United States I have seen the inhabitants of a country where a serious crime had been committed spontaneously forming committees with the object of catching the criminal and handing him over to the courts."1 This could be a visitor's description of the formation of a Crime Stoppers program. Actually, these words were written by Alexis DeTocqueville in his monumental work, Democracy in America, describing America as he saw it during the 1830's.

This is indicative of a long tradition of citizen involvement in law enforcement, which is crucial to the function of the entire criminal justice process. Brent and Rossum suggest the importance of this participation in their book, Police, Criminal Justice and the Community: "It is the citizen who initiates the process by reporting crime, acting as a witness and accuser; they are the major source of information."2 Crime Stoppers is a program which exemplifies this tradition and fits well into the dynamics of communities large and small.

Crime Stoppers, Crime Solvers, Silent Witness-few have not heard these names. Some will say, "Isn't that one of those reward programs?" or "That's the crook of the week club." The fact that the name is recognized is noteworthy, since the concept itself was developed only 8 years ago. To have reached this level of recognition, now international in scope, should be the envy of anyone in marketing.

Still, there are those more familiar with Crime Stoppers who are no less knowledgeable. Shortly after becoming coordinator of our Crime Stoppers program, I received a call from a man who was quite irate. He just viewed our "Crime of the Week" dramatization on television and had a comCrime Resistance

CRIME STOPPERS Participation May Be the Real Payoff

DET. KENNETH L. FERRELL Coordinator Crime Stoppers Wichita, Kans.

". . . Crime Stoppers offers a method of compiling information # which can significantly reduce investigative time as well as positively affect morale and personnel requirements.

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