

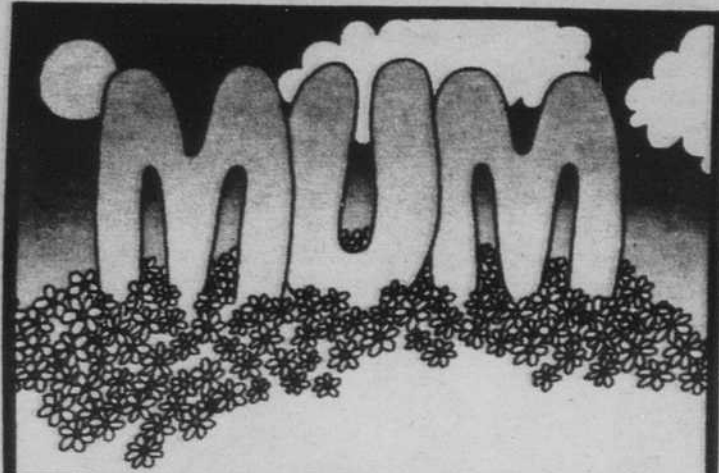
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# An agent's life is erratic

Continued from Page 1

Although working for the FBI doesn't provide the gritty adventure of Hollywood, it offers other compensations, Enyart says.

"The most satisfaction I get is knowing that what I and this agency have done is benefitting the public," he says. "It all boils down to protecting the good from the bad.

"We all have concerns that maybe the system as it is doesn't have enough concern for the victims of criminal acts," he continues. FBI agents walk a narrow line between obeying the guidelines the courts set and protecting the public, he says. It is sometimes difficult to make a decision because of vague legal guidelines about gathering evidence.

"The courts have the opportunity to mull over the action that was taken by the agent. The agent may have only had a few seconds or minutes to make the decision. The courts can look back and say that decision was not right," he says. Sometimes the evidence in question is not admitted into court, and there's "no way to change that," Enyart says, but it does cause frustration.

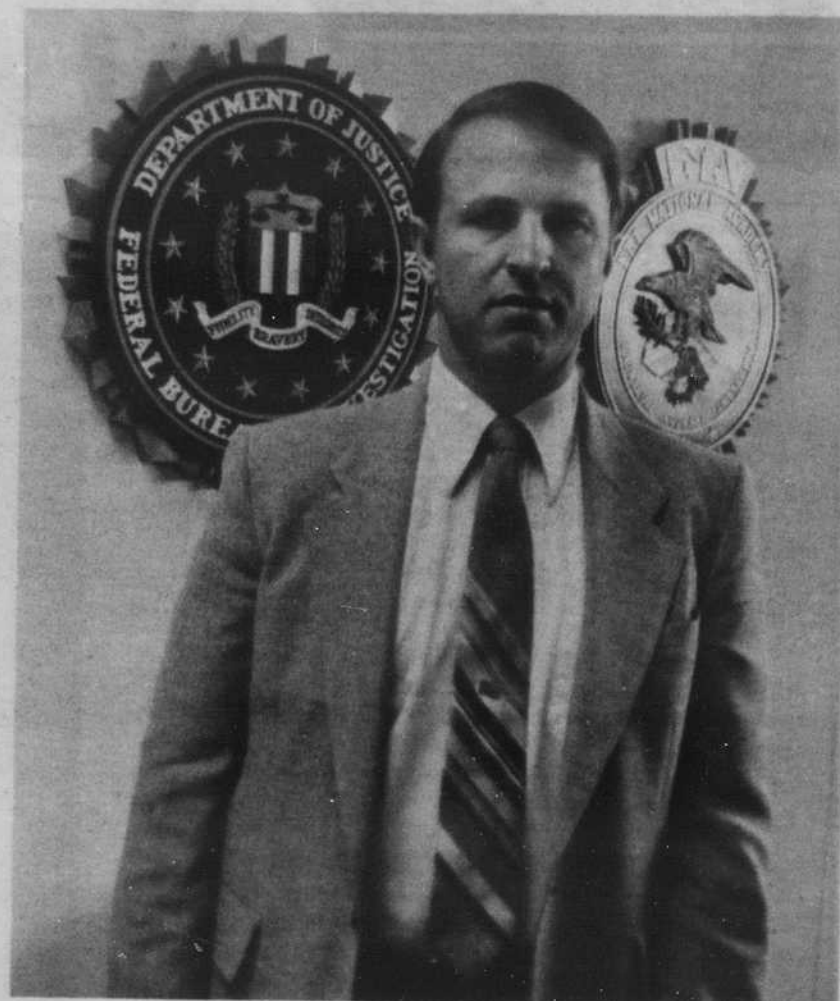
Most agents have between 25 and 40 cases they are working on. Enyart admits it is "difficult to keep track," but they have a priority order that places organized crime, white collar intelligence and foreign country intelligence at the top.

Not every case is at the same level of intensity either, he says. For example, a bank robbery case might be open for five years until the statute of limitations expires, he explains, but after the initial work is done, if there are no suspects and no leads, then the case will take up very little of an agent's time.

A fraud case may be treated differently. An extensive investigation may last up to three years because witnesses must be located throughout the United States, and the agent may have to subpoena documents from banks or other agencies, he says.

Almost half of the work the agents do, however, is for offices in other parts of the country who need information about someone in this area.

"That is one reason why we have a reasonable degree of success," he says. "We can get work done in any part of the United States."



Lynn Enyart

Photo by Erich Boekelheide

A common misconception about the role of the FBI is that the agents determine a criminal's guilt, Enyart says. "I don't make the decision on whether someone is guilty or not. I gather the evidence and interview people to determine the facts of a given situation."

After an agent solves a case, the U.S. Attorney's Office must decide whether the act was in violation of a federal law and whether there is sufficient evidence to charge the person with a crime.

"If we establish, through the investigation, both of these elements, they will certainly prosecute," Enyart says.

Those who are indicted and charged have a 98-percent conviction rate, he says. "They (the U.S. attorney's office) do not want marginal cases. They demand a high quality of evidence."

On a bank robbery "we will work until we identify a suspect. There is not much doubt a crime was committed." There is a 80 to 85-percent solution rate for these cases, according to Enyart.

In a fraud case, it has to be

established that there was a crime committed. "Some end up in the gray area because they must show the intent to violate the law, not just that some people lost money," says Enyart. For example, an oil well investment company lost money and people felt taken. But the deal was legitimate. "Just because he lost money doesn't make the businessman a criminal," Enyart says.

The FBI became well-known for its "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives" posters, he says. The program has been a success because the public has become aware of the faces of these people, he says.

"The bulk of the calls on the program are citizens calling in with information that has been correct."

At the end of the hour-long interview, Enyart stands next to the "Most Wanted" poster for the photographer. He assumes a serious stance, looking like a tough FBI agent.

After the pictures are taken, he hands out his plain white business card. "Just give me a call if you have any more questions."

## 'Firesides' attract 16 faculty

Faculty in 16 departments have volunteered to host Faculty Firesides so far this spring, according to Judy Bogen, a counselor in academic advising.

A new program that began this term, Faculty Firesides encourages students and professors to meet at professors' homes to continue discussions outside the classroom setting.

The University Foundation has provided a small fund to reimburse professors for refreshments, at a rate of 75 cents per student up to a maximum of \$50.

Bogen says additional funds still are available

and can be reserved by calling 686-3105.

Departments participating in the program include architecture, biology, the computer center, curriculum and instruction, English, gerontology, German, geology, the law school, marketing, music, publications, romance languages, Russian, sociology and speech.

The first Fireside, held at Russian Prof. Albert Leong's house, attracted more than 30 students, Bogen says. Fliers advertising the talks in other departments should be posted soon, she says.

## staff

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