

BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
OF THE  
FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

FOR THE PRESS

For immediate release

April 8, 1938

The following letter has been received by Chairman Eccles of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System:

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

March 22, 1938

Honorable Marriner S. Eccles,  
Chairman,  
Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Eccles:

I want to call your attention to the splendid assistance which has been rendered this Bureau by the Federal Reserve banks in detecting ransom money in connection with several kidnaping cases.

The Federal Reserve Bank branch at Salt Lake City, Utah, in detecting the ransom money which had been paid for the release of George Weyerhaeuser at Tacoma, Washington, assisted this Bureau in locating and apprehending Mr. and Mrs. Harmon Waley at Salt Lake City, Utah, on June 8, 1935. It is recalled that George Weyerhaeuser was kidnaped May 24, 1935 at Tacoma, Washington, by William Mahan and Harmon Waley, assisted by Harmon Waley's wife. The Los Angeles, California, branch of the Federal Reserve Bank assisted in the location and apprehension of William Mahan by detecting the passage of ransom money in Los Angeles, California.

Recently the Federal Reserve Bank branch at Los Angeles assisted in the identification, location and apprehension of John Henry Seadlund alias Peter Anders, who was one of the perpetrators of the kidnaping of Charles S. Ross near Chicago, Illinois, on September 25, 1938.

I thought you and the presidents of the various Federal Reserve Bank branches would be interested in knowing of the assistance which your System has rendered this Bureau in connection with these kidnaping cases. It is by such splendid cooperation that this Bureau is able to carry forward effectively its work of crime detection and prevention, and I desire to express to you both personally and officially the appreciation of this Bureau for this assistance.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover.