

The following excerpts are from the Congressional Record, Vol. 86, No. 38, Friday, February 26, 1940, pp. 3037 ff. (Senate)

Under discussion was an appropriations measure providing for two appropriations for the ~~Expanded~~ Federal Bureau of Investigation. The first was the amount of \$7,222,000.00, a regular appropriation, and the second " emergency items" totalling \$2,488,000.00, both coming to \$9,500,000.00 in round numbers.

Senator McKellar ( in charge of the bill ) said , "That Bureau has increased right and left, from a very small beginning to a very large Bureau. Senator Norris asked, " Did the committee take any evidence on the activities of the Bureau?" McKellar replied that, as is usual in such cases, the head of the Department was invited to appear before the committee, etc. The Norris said " Frankly, I am worried about the activities of this Bureau. I must confess, to begin with, that I have no concrete evidence, which I could offer in court to sustain the position which I take. Yet it seems to me that this is a subject which should be looked into. We are appropriating in this bill a little more than \$9,500,000 for this Bureau, and under the law creating the Bureau, and in connection with its activities, it does not seem to me that it can utilize that amount of money. My information to a great extent depends upon items of news which have appeared at various times in the newspapers and magazines. In one article in particular, appearing in the New Republic, this Bureau is very severely criticized. I do not know whether it is in this article or not, but in many of the newspapers I have read statements to the effect that the methods resorted to by the representatives of the Bureau are, to say the least, rather abhorrent to one who believes in constitutional liberty, and the rights we think we all have as citizens of the United States under the Constitution.

"It is alleged, and it was circulated in the newspapers at the time, as I remember, that a large number of people, to give an illustration, were arrested in Detroit the nighttime in Detroit. Several raids were made, if they may be denominated raids, in different cities in the United States, where similar arrests took place. As I understand from the newspapers, those arrested were charged with having engaged with what was admittedly illegal, perhaps, under the statute, that is, enlisting as soldiers in the Loyalist Army of Spain during the unfortunate revolution which took place in Spain. That, I understand, is a technical crime under the laws of the United States, a statutory crime, but it does not imply any malice, anything that is mean, such as would be charged against a bank robber, or a kidnapper, or a man who had persistently violated the Mann Act, or something similar, showing an evil intent. It was a statutory offense. As I understand, men and women were arrested at 4 o'clock in the morning and taken out of their homes without any notice that they were to be arrested. They were handcuffed, and in that condition were taken to the common jail, and some were held in custody in other places, where the handcuffed men were charged with a statutory offense, which had attached to it no ignominy, because we must all admit that our people were much more divided on the question whether we should assist the Loyalist cause in Spain. There was no malice.

"If this charge be true, it seems to me this Bureau is engaging in an activity not in consonance with our idea of constitutional right, an activity which cannot be excused. If these charges are only partially true, it is a matter of taking the law into their own hands and punishing people who are not convicted of a crime, who are not charged with any malicious crime, who are not charged with anything

which has attached to it any element of criminality."

Then Norris requested and was granted unanimous consent to incorporate the article from the February 19, 1940 issue of the New Republic in the Record as part of his remarks.

Then Norris resumed, "Mr. President, it seems to me that this matter should be inquired into, and I was wondering whether the committee ( Appropriations- H.W. ) had any information as to the activities of this Bureau, and whether it has been given any information as to the other things which have been charged against it."

Mc Kellar replied, "No; the committee does not have such information", and then Norris said, " I am not alleging these matters as facts of which I have personal knowledge, for I have not. I rely for my information upon the general news of the day, and particularly upon the editorial in the New Republic Magazine, for which I think we all have the profoundest respect, and which ordinarily is not guilty of making any assertions or charges without due and proper investigation."

Then McKellar incorporated in the Record the following table of appropriations to the Bureau beginning in 1930:

#### Appropriations

1930	\$2,307,720
Deficiency	350,000
1931	2,781,419
1932	2,978,520
1933	2,775,000
1934	2,589,500
1935	2,880,000
Deficiency	1,563,349
1936	5,000,000
1937	6,025,000

1938	\$6,000,000
Deficiency	159,702
1939	6,043,200
Supplemental	300,000
Deficiency	700,000
1940	7,000,000

## Estimates

1930	\$2,307,720
Deficiency	395,000
1931	2,781,419
1932	3,000,000
1933	2,826,210
1934	2,599,619
1935	2,840,670
Deficiency	1,960,339
1936	4,700,000
1937	5,800,000
1938	5,925,000
Deficiency	159,702
1939	6,043,200
Supplemental	126,000
Deficiency	✓ 826,000
1940	7,000,000
1941	7,244,000

✓ Includes \$250,000 for construction of target range at Quantico, Va.

Here Norris called to McKellar's attention the fact that the "emergency" appropriation was not included in these figures, McKellar replied as follows, and was permitted to incorporate the tables in the Record:

"That is true; and, in order that the whole picture may be in the Record, I ask unanimous consent that I may insert the table on page 113 of the hearings in the House Committee on the Justice Department appropriation bill, which will include the figures of the emergency fund, the total allowed by the Budget being \$9,932,000."

Total estimate for 1941 approved by Budget Bureau for regular and national defense

	Approved for regular work	Approved for national defense work	Total allowed by Budget Bureau, 1941
Personal services, departmental Employees:	\$2,016,480	\$ 243,000	\$2,259,480
Special agents	(44)	(11)	(55)
Clerks	<u>(1,112)</u>	<u>(136)</u>	<u>(1,248)</u>
Total employees	<u>(1,156)</u>	<u>(147)</u>	<u>(1,303)</u>
Personal services, field Employees:	\$3,532,080	\$1,057,000	\$4,589,080
Special agents	(797)	(250)	(1,047)
Clerks	<u>(303)</u>	<u>(154)</u>	<u>(457)</u>
Total employees	<u>(1,100)</u>	<u>(404)</u>	<u>(1,504)</u>
Total personal services Total employees:	\$5,548,560	\$1,300,000	\$6,848,560
Special agents	(841)	(261)	(1,102)
Clerks	<u>(1,415)</u>	<u>(290)</u>	<u>(1,705)</u>
Total employees	<u>(2,256)</u>	<u>(851)</u>	<u>(2,807)</u>

~~PERSONAL SERVICES, DEPARTMENTAL EMPLOYEES, SPECIAL AGENTS, CLERKS, NATIONAL DEFENSE WORK~~

Other expenses:			
Supplies and materials	\$ 140,889	\$ 310,000	\$ 450,889
Storage of vehicles	40,000	15,000	55,000
Communication services	159,500	100,000	259,500
Travel expenses	858,414	250,000	1,108,414
Transportation of things	25,000	10,000	35,000
Heat, light, and power	7,000	3,000	10,000
Rentals	158,893	120,000	278,893
Repairs and alterations	71,200	15,000	86,200
Special and miscellaneous	<sup>1</sup> 25,000	25,000	<sup>1</sup> 50,000
Confidential fund	---	100,000	100,000
Equipment	<u>209,544</u>	<u>240,000</u>	<u>449,544</u>
Total, other expenses	<u>1,695,440</u>	<u>1,168,000</u>	<u>2,863,440</u>
Total, all expenses	7,244,000	2,488,000	9,732,000
Emergency fund	200,000	---	200,000
	7,444,000	2,488,000	9,932,000

<sup>1</sup> Includes \$20,000 for regular confidential fund.

see letter of 3/15/40