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Hoover Wrote Last Message On Crime Rise

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In his last message to law enforcement officials, the late FBI director, J. Edgar Hoover, warned of increased crime dangers during the summer vacation months.

"The challenges of summer require the highest level of law-enforcement performance," said Hoover, who died May 2. "This is no more than professional standards demand and no less than the public has a right to expect."

Hoover's remarks were contained in the director's message in the June issue of the FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin, released Wednesday.

"The summer throngs of intermingling people will be swollen further by a sizable and at times unpredictable element of our population—students on leave from school for the season," said Hoover.

"Given the natural exuberance of youth, combined at times with the common human frailty of poor judgment, they can and have proved to be a catalyst for menacing situations confronting the law enforcement officers." He said FBI statistics show that serious crimes rise during June, July and August.

Hoover said also accelerated summer airline travel "may also encourage that most loathsome criminal of the current crop—the hijacker-extortionist who terrorizes the lives of as many as hundreds of innocent men, women, and children at a time for lawless objectives."