

WRG:atw

March 8, 1938.

Mr. Richard E. Smith,  
120 East 39th Street,  
New York, New York.

Dear Mr. Smith:

In the absence of the Director, I want to acknowledge receipt of the advanced copy of William Moulton Marston's book entitled, "The Lie Detector Test," which copy was sent to Mr. Hoover for review.

It will be delivered to him upon his return to the city and I am sure he will find the subject matter very interesting.

Sincerely yours,

Helen W. Gandy,  
Secretary.

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Jones
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

RECORDED  
 MAR 10 1938  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED  
 INDEXED

94-4-1682-1  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 MAR 10 1938  
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
 FILE

RECEIVED

*Uncky*

*Aug 10/38*

*a*

Richard R. Smith sends in  
advance copy of book entitled  
"The Lie Detector Test" by  
William Moulton Marston.

rcl

Mr. Tolson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Clegg	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Glavin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Ladd	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Nichols	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Rosen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Tracy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Carson	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Egan	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Gurnea	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Hendon	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Mumford	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Quinn	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Nease	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Gandy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

ack  
3/8/38  
wmg

Please ack  
this

*from*

**RICHARD R. SMITH**

120 EAST 39th STREET  
NEW YORK, N. Y.



Make all returns to A. B. A. Warehouse  
35 East 20th St., New York, N. Y.

**To**

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Chief of Bureau of Investigation  
Dept. of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

# ADVANCE COPY



This book is sent to you for review.

Its publication date is MAR 10 1938

Its retail price is \$2.00

Please observe the release date.

120 East 39th Street    RICHARD R. SMITH    New York, N. Y.



RICHARD R. SMITH

120 EAST 39th STREET • NEW YORK CITY

CAledonia  
6-5161

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. E. A. Tamm	✓
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

*By*

March 10, 1938

Miss Helen W. Gandy  
 Secretary to J. Edgar Hoover  
 Federal Bureau of Investigation  
 United States Department of Justice  
 Washington, D. C.

Dear Miss Gandy:

Thank you for your note of the 8th assuring me that the complimentary copy of THE LIE DETECTOR TEST will be given to Mr. Hoover on his return and that you believe he will be interested in it.

Naturally I hope that he will read the book and that when he has done this he may be so pleased with it that he will feel inclined to let me have his comment on it and to give me permission to quote this comment.

Will you be good enough at least to make this suggestion to Mr. Hoover. Thanking him and you in advance, I am

Sincerely yours,

RRS:MT

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

*ack 38  
3-16-38  
RHS*

44-4-1692-2

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 MAR 11 1938 P.M.  
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WOLSON  
 MAR 11 1938  
 FBI



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

EPC:MTG

March 15, 1938.

94-4-1682-3

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. NATHAN.

Re: Crime Detection Data and  
Methods - General.

I recommend that two copies of "The Lie Detector Test"  
as described in the letter of March 11, 1938, from the New York  
Office, be purchased for use in the Bureau. A copy has already  
been sent personally to the Director but I believe this book will  
be a very handy reference in giving any instructions subsequently  
to Agents and that several copies would be useful for that purpose.

Respectfully,

E. P. Coffey.

*E. P. Coffey*

*ONE*

*Filed in Post Dir  
3/22/38  
138 files*

RECORDED

94-4-1682-3	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
MAR 22 1938 A. M.	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
NATHAN	FILE
USE IN POST DIR	LAB.

*sent 3/19 gm*

*94-4-1682-3*

*Mr. Nathan*

*Lenin  
me  
etc*

*W*

*u*

**Federal Bureau of Investigation**  
**United States Department of Justice**  
607 U. S. Court House  
Foley Square  
New York, N. Y.

FKO:ES  
80-0

March 11, 1938

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

RE: CRIME DETECTION DATA AND METHODS -  
GENERAL

Dear Sir:

The New York Times for March 10, 1938, published an announcement of the publication of a book entitled, "The Lie Detector Test" by William Moulton Marston, publisher, R. R. Smith, price \$2.00.

The book is said to describe the development and uses of the equipment indicated.

Please advise if interested, and if you wish a copy of this book secured for the laboratory.

Very truly yours,

*R. E. Vetterli*  
R. E. VETTERLI  
Special Agent in Charge

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

44-1682-3

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FILE

REC'D RPC

*RPC/mtd*  
*mem 3-15-38*

60-5-2167  
RECORDED COPY FILED IN



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

QT:EG

May 11, 1938.

- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Baughman
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Crowl
- Mr. Dawsey
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Foxworth
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Hottel
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Schick
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Schloer
- Mr. Tamm
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. NATHAN

Re: Review of book entitled,  
Lie Detector Test by  
Doctor William M. Marston.

The above-entitled book was reviewed by Mr. Quinn Tamm of the Technical Laboratory who reports that in his opinion the book is typical of all the work done by Doctor Marston in that it is written in an extremely egotistical vein and that the sole purpose of the book seems to be to establish the fact that Doctor Marston was the first to use the blood pressure test in the detection of deception. The first three chapters in the book deal with the subject of pointing out how Doctor Marston discovered the blood pressure test as a deception detector and also ridicules all other psychological attempts along this same line. The balance of the book is devoted to the various uses to which Doctor Marston has put the so-called lie detector test such as actual use in police cases, examination of employees in banks, a chapter entitled "Love and the Lie Detector" in which Marston points out how he has settled marital difficulties by the use of his psychological test.

It is noted that throughout the book the author points out that the blood pressure test for the detection of deception in the hands of a trained operator is infallible and that once the deception has been detected it has been his experience that if this is pointed out to the subject he will admit his guilt and it will have the psychological effect upon him of making him always in the future tell the truth. This to Mr. Tamm, exemplifies the same egotistical ridiculous strain in which this book is written.

Respectfully,

*E. P. Coffey*  
E. P. Coffey.

*W*

*JA*

74-4-1682-4

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

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

LBN:VI

April 28, 1939

*PX*  
*✓*

*dm*  
*x*

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

With reference to Mr. Lester's suggestion that we secure from [redacted] of the Detroit Police Department the details of his investigation involving Dr. William Marston, the is detector specialist, I desire to advise that while talking to SAC Bugas on other matters, I asked Mr. Bugas the next time he was talking to [redacted] to ask him the details regarding this matter and advise the Bureau. He stated that this would be done.

b7C

I also talked to him concerning the pending visit of Mr. R. L. Jones, Chief of Police, Dallas, Texas, and of course told him that a car should not be assigned to him, although it would be satisfactory for an Agent to drive him around some afternoon.

Respectfully,

*LBN*  
L. B. Nichols

*ewg*

80-6340  
RECORDED COPY FILED IN

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

94-4-1682-5

TOLSON  
MAY 1 1939  
FOUR

*8*

Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice  
Post Office Box 2118  
Detroit - Michigan  
July 13, 1939

117  
[Handwritten signatures and initials in a routing box]

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Re: WILLIAM MOULTON MARSTON

Dear Sir:

With respect to telephonic request from Inspector L. B. NICHOLS that [redacted] of the Detroit Police Department be contacted for whatever information he possessed concerning WILLIAM MOULTON MARSTON, the following data are set out.

ZLW  
b7C

[redacted] advised that in 1938 the Gillette Razor Company conceived the idea, apparently at the instigation of Mr. MARSTON, of using the lie detector in an advertising scheme concerning Gillette razor blades. The idea was to have a representative number of individuals, who used Gillette razors, shave with a razor containing a Gillette blade and then on the same occasion shave with a razor containing some substitute blade that fits a Gillette razor. These individuals were then to be immediately questioned by allegedly unbiased individuals concerning the respective merits of the blades just used.

MARSTON's lie detector machine was to be used during this interrogation and, of course, it was presumed that the answers would show the preponderant merits of Gillette blades over the other blades. The lie detector machine would simply show the veracity of the answers and thus help to establish the superiority of Gillette blades over the others. This scheme was handled by an advertising concern in Detroit, called Maxon's, Inc., which is one of the largest advertising agencies in the United States.

According to [redacted] conducted experiments with a small group of individuals and padded the results so as to show that the Gillette blades were superior. [redacted] and his associates in the Detroit Police Department then assisted MARSTON in carrying the experiment further and making a test with a larger number of individuals. [redacted] stated that the interrogation engaged in with his assistants showed about fifty per cent of the individuals thus tested indicated Gillette blades to be

b7C

b7C

RECORDED & INDEXED

94-4-1682-6  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
JUL 14 1939  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

I always thought this fellow Marston was a phoney & this proves it. K. ended in 2-7-2-

Director, FBI, Washington, D. C.

July 13, 1939

superior and about fifty per cent indicated the other blades to be superior. MARSTON was not satisfied with this latter test and then confidentially advised an associate of [redacted] that if this associate would swear to results indicating that all the individuals believed Gillette to be superior, there would be a good sum of money in it not only for MARSTON but for this associate of [redacted]. The associate declined to perjure himself in this fashion and, apparently, the entire scheme fell through as far as the Detroit area was concerned at least. MARSTON indicated on that occasion that he stood to make around thirty thousand dollars for his part in the entire scheme.

b7C

Very truly yours,

*John S. Bugas*

JOHN S. BUGAS  
Special Agent in Charge

JSB:CMc



STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

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STATE OF FLORIDA

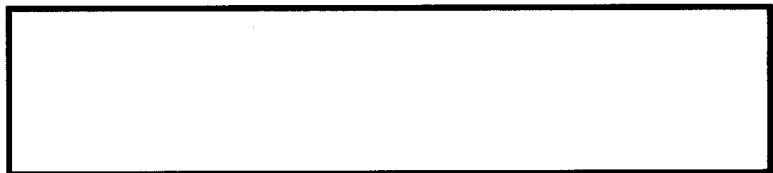
October 28, 1940

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

Having seen in a Jacksonville paper the statement that Dr. William Moulton Marston is to train deception testers preparing them for service in a possible "Truth Bureau," I should like to get in touch with Dr. Marston to offer myself for training because I attended Dr. Marston's classes on legal physiology, and the use of the Lie Detector at the American University during 1923.

I shall be very grateful for this information.



b7C

AH:eg

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&  
INDEXED

17-4-105-7  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
OCT 30 1940  
L.A.S.

J. EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

64-6-1002-7

RECORDED

November 8, 1940

[Redacted]

b7C

Dear [Redacted]

Your communication dated October 28, 1940, has been received and although I would like to be of assistance I must advise that the individual to whom you refer in your letter is not in any way connected with the Federal Bureau of Investigation nor do I have information relative to his present address.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Foxworth \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nathan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

NOV 10 1940  
 RECEIVED  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
 WASHINGTON, D. C.

✓  
 [Handwritten initials and marks]

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

October 30, 1940

- Mr. Tolson ✓
- Clegg ✓
- Mr. Foxworth ✓
- Mr. Ladd ✓
- Mr. Nathan ✓
- Mr. E. A. Tamm ✓
- Mr. Coffey ✓
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. McGuire
- Mr. Nichols ✓
- Mr. Hendon ✓
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Beahm
- Miss Gandy

The secretary to Congressman Green of Florida stated they had a letter from a constituent in Jacksonville, Florida, to the effect that she had read in a Jacksonville paper that Dr. William Moulton Marston was going to establish a "truth bureau". The item went on to state that Dr. Marston has worked successfully for a number of years with the lie detector and that the truth group which he was going to establish would be an out-growth of his work with the lie detector. The secretary inquired if the Bureau had any information concerning this matter.

I informed the secretary that the Bureau did not have any information concerning this particular group or Dr. Marston.

It will be recalled that Dr. Marston is a self-styled lie detector specialist.

cek

RECORDED & INDEXED

*Handwritten:* New York

74-11008

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
5 NOV 2 1940	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
TOLSON	CLEGG
LADD	TAMM
NICHOLS	HENDON

January 5, 1942

William Moulton Marston, Esquire  
Cherry Orchard  
Rye, New York

My dear Mr. Marston:

Your letter of December 19, addressed to the President, together with enclosures, has been referred to this Department for acknowledgment and consideration.

In reply, we wish to thank you for the copy of your book "The Lie Detector Test", which has been sent to our main Library, and also for your generous offer of service at this time. You may be assured that should it become necessary to call upon you, we shall not hesitate to do so. We are also advising the Federal Bureau of Investigation of your availability at this time.

May I suggest that, since the United States Civil Service Commission, Washington, D. C., is the chief recruiting agency of the Federal Government, you advise them of your availability for the duration of this emergency.

~~DEFERRED RECORDING~~

Sincerely yours,

C. W. Palmer

C. W. Palmer

Special Assistant to the Attorney General

97-7
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JAN 29 1942
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CWP:jba

*London*

JAN 30 1942

RECEIVED

JAN 30 1942

RECEIVED

*Handwritten notes and initials*



WILLIAM MOULTON MARSTON  
CHERRY ORCHARD  
RYE, NEW YORK

C  
O  
P  
Y

December 12, 1941

The President of the United States,  
The White House,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I have the honor to offer you my services in any military or civilian capacity where my training and experience as a lawyer and psychologist may be of use, for the duration of the war.

I respectfully suggest that my most useful qualification in the present emergency is that of an expert in lie detection. I originated the Lie Detector Test technique now generally in use, at the Harvard Psychological Laboratory in 1915; applied the test to military problems during the first World War; and have since extended the use of the test to several new fields as outlined in my book, "The Lie Detector Test," enclosed herewith.

I am also a lawyer, writer, public speaker, advertising and personnel adviser and am experienced in writing and directing publicity.

During the last war I worked, first, in a civilian capacity in connection with the National Research Council, testing the applicability of all existing types of deception test to war situations. I have tests in the Boston Criminal Courts; also under the auspices of the Army Intelligence Service, the Psychological Division, Surgeon General of the Army and the F.B.I., with uniformly successful results.

~~DEFERRED RECORDING~~

With a view to organizing a staff of trained psychologists for systematic military application of the Lie Detector test I was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant and was sent to Camp Greenleaf in 1918. On completion of my military training I was recommended for a Captaincy; but this commission and further deception test developments were interrupted by the Armistice. I then volunteered for reconstruction work and was sent to Base Hospital, Camp Upton, where I served as Commanding Officer of the Reconstruction Service and morale officer of the Base Hospital, receiving an honorable discharge from the Army in 1919. I am, at the present time, 48 years old, in good health and sound physical condition.

tab.  
RECORDED

94-4-1682-9

William Moulton Marston

To furnish for your consideration an accurate and complete record of my qualifications for the types of service which I might render my country, I take the liberty of enclosing: (1) my background and career as published in the "Cyclopaedia of American Biography", Vol. E. 1937-38; (2) biographical sketch from "Who's Who in America", vol. 20, 1940-41; (3) a copy of my book, "The Lie Detector Text", N.Y.C., 1938; and (4) a brief summary of suggested applications of the Lie Detector test in time of war.

Should my services be called upon to organize deception test work for military or civilian purposes, I have available a trained executive assistant who also volunteers his services as per letter enclosed, and other operators.

With my personal pledge of loyalty and devotion to the greatest cause on earth, believe me to be, Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

/s/ William Moulton Marston

WMM  
r

C O P Y

From the  
DIVISION OF PERSONNEL

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Carusi \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Gilfond \_\_\_\_\_

THE SOLICITOR GENERAL \_\_\_\_\_

THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL \_\_\_\_\_

Assistant Attorney General, Antitrust Division \_\_\_\_\_

Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division \_\_\_\_\_

Assistant Attorney General, Tax Division \_\_\_\_\_

Assistant Attorney General, Lands Division \_\_\_\_\_

Assistant Attorney General, Claims Division \_\_\_\_\_

The Assistant Solicitor General \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Hoover, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Bennett, Director, Bureau of Prisons \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Schofield, Immigration and Naturalization Service \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Martin, Director, Bureau of War Risk \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Smith, Chief, Special Defense Unit \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Quinn, Administrative Assistant \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Lyons, Pardon Attorney \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Collins \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Vanech \_\_\_\_\_

Division of Records \_\_\_\_\_

File Room \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Palmer \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Blackwelder \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Gill \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Beers \_\_\_\_\_

Mrs. Plumley \_\_\_\_\_

Mrs. Foster \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Foucault \_\_\_\_\_

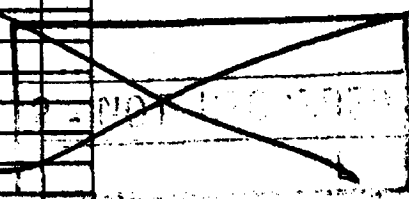
Miss Affleck \_\_\_\_\_

Mrs. Brown \_\_\_\_\_

For your information  
and files.

C.W. Palmer

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Carson	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Hendon	.....
Mr. Holloman	.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Miss Gandy	.....
Files	.....



75  
2 FEB 5 1942