



Bulletin photo by John Cleary

DALEVILLE BANK ROBBED BY LONE BANDIT
... it was first held up by John Dillinger in 1933

Police seek bank robbery suspect

By DOUG WALKER
Bulletin Staff Writer

DALEVILLE — A lone bandit armed with a handgun robbed the Daleville branch of Central Bank and Trust of an undetermined amount of money Wednesday morning.

Indiana State Police investigator Richard Walker reported a tall white man in his early 20s entered the bank at approximately 11:36 a.m. and pulled a small caliber handgun from his pocket as he approached a teller's window.

The man told the teller, "I'm going to rob you. Give me all of the money in the two drawers," according to Walker, who said the robber did not point his gun at the woman.

A second teller became aware of the robbery while it was in progress, Walker said, and a third employee, who was in a back room, did not know what had happened until the man had fled from the bank.

Walker said bank cameras may have recorded the robbery, but the film had not been returned as of late this morning.

Investigators said the man thanked the teller as she handed him the

money, and walked out the bank's front doors. He reportedly walked through a parking lot at the rear of the building at 305 N. Walnut St., and then apparently proceeded east on foot, possibly along a railroad track.

Officers from the Indiana State Police, Delaware County Sheriff's Department and the FBI were dispatched to the scene of the robbery and conducted an extensive search of the Daleville area, but failed to turn up a suspect.

"We're still looking into a couple of things that I really can't go into right now," Walker said.

Walker said detectives were uncertain if the man had used a car

to flee from the scene. "None was seen," he said.

The gunman was described as 6-foot-1 to 6-foot-4, weighing approximately 160 pounds, had light brown hair and was missing two bottom front teeth. He also had a light mustache, which police believe he may have penciled in.

Bank manager Gary Ellis, who was not in the building at the time of the robbery, said this morning he was not at liberty to disclose the amount of money taken in the robbery.

Ellis said the bank had been robbed four times during the past 50 years, including Wednesday's robbery.

The bank was first held up in 1933 by notorious Hoosier criminal John Dillinger, in what was re-

portedly the first bank robbery of his career.

Prior to Wednesday, the bank was last robbed on Jan. 23, 1969.

Wednesday's robbery took place only two weeks before the first marshal in Daleville's history, former Middletown deputy James Orr, is scheduled to take office.

Daleville

Central Bank site of robbery June 13

by Nancy Searfoss

A surveillance camera photo taken during the June 13 robbery of Central Bank and Trust in Daleville is now the best lead to the identity of the robber, according to a state police representative.

According to police, a man entered the bank at 11:40 a.m. and pointed a nickel-plated pistol at a teller. He demanded money from two cash drawers.

As of Thursday night, police said there was still no concrete information as to the man's identity, although police have received several leads.

The suspect was described as in his 20's, 6'2" to 6'4", slender of build, blond hair, a moustache, and missing his bottom front teeth. He was wearing a brown long-sleeve silky shirt and beige plaid

trousers.

A teller told police she saw the man walk by the drive-up window before he entered the bank. Witnesses told police the man fled east on foot with the cash in his hands. Authorities estimate \$4,000 was netted by the hold-up man.

The bank was robbed at least twice before, the last time in 1969. The bank's manager and a teller were both injured in that robbery.

John Dillinger robbed the Daleville Commercial Bank on July 17, 1933, in the same building. According to a book "Bloodletters and Badmen," by Jay Robert Nash, Dillinger nonchalantly entered the bank wearing a neat blue suit and a straw-boater. He was accompanied on the hold-up by Harry Copeland, a Muncie ex-con. According to Nash, Dillinger leaped a railing and told teller Margaret Good it was a hold-up. Dillinger proceeded to line up the bank's customers and then put them, along with Miss Good, into the vault. He netted \$3,500 in the robbery.

Dillinger calmly left the bank and Copeland slowly drove the getaway car out of town.

Miss Good opened the vault from the inside and alerted police. "He was the most courteous of bank robbers," she said. She figured he didn't want to scare her because she was so young.



A clear surveillance camera photograph has provided no clear leads to the identity of the June 13 Central Bank and Trust robber.