

# Indiana Calls on Troops to Curb Bandits

Indianapolis, Ind., Oct. 26.—[Special.]—Indiana, confronted with a wave of lawlessness with which the civil authorities are apparently unable to cope, today took stern measures which it is hoped will wipe out banditry and halt the depredations of escaped felons from the Michigan City penitentiary.

Seventy officers and 560 enlisted men of the Indiana National Guard, selected for their ability with firearms, have been ordered into service with specific orders to war on the criminal element. They are to be supported by shotgun details formed by American Legion posts at the request of the state commander.

## Shoot to Kill, Order.

Strategical plans call for the stationing of details of soldiers at forty-four secret points. They are to hold themselves ready, under the command of their officers, to surround any spots where bank bandits, gangsters, or escaped convicts are reported, and to shoot to kill if resistance is offered.

All the guardsmen are to be sworn in as special deputy sheriffs of the counties in which they are stationed, thus becoming technically a part of the civil law enforcing agencies and avoiding all conflict over military and civil jurisdiction. They will be under the command of Al Feeney, superintendent of the state police, who has suggested that the Legion reinforcements be given the same official status.

## More Banks Are Robbed.

The necessity for such a safety plan became urgent after bank robberies yesterday at Fillmore and Modoc and the stickups of other banks the previous two days at South Bend and Greencastle. Also there have been recent raids, supposedly by bandits and escaped convicts, on the police arsenals at Auburn and Peru.

John Dillinger, said to be the chief of the most desperate of the criminal bands, has been identified as the leader of the Peru raid. Fear of him and his men, regarded as an organization as dangerous as the one headed by Jesse James many years ago, led Peru citizens to form a vigilante group of 100 and prepare for battle. The Dillinger gang is believed to include most of the eight convicts still alive of the ten who fled from Michigan City Sept. 26.

## Bandits Have Machine Guns.

Matt Leach, captain of the state police, said tonight that the Dillinger gang is equipped with machine guns and bulletproof vests as well as plenty of cash.

Emergency vigilante organizations have been formed at Seymour and in Fulton county. Gov. McNutt has ordered that National Guard commanders remove the firing pins from all rifles and pistols left in armories.