

Kleindienst Assails Boggs; Invites Inquiry Into F.B.I.

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WASHINGTON, April 7—Richard G. Kleindienst, Deputy Attorney General, asserted today that Representative Hale Boggs of Louisiana was "either sick or not in possession of his faculties" when he charged that the Federal Bureau of Investigation had tapped Congressmen's telephones and called for the resignation of J. Edgar Hoover.

Mr. Kleindienst said he would "welcome an investigation by the responsible members of Congress" of the allegations made on the House floor Monday by Mr. Boggs, the Democratic whip.

"Unless that is done or Mr. Boggs retracts his statements," Mr. Kleindienst said, "you have hanging in the air the charge itself — wiretapping the telephones of members of Congress."

Mrs. Abzug Seeks Inquiry

Representative Bella S. Abzug, Democrat of Manhattan, filed a resolution in the House today calling on the Judiciary Committee to conduct "a full and complete investigation of the Federal Bureau of Investigation" that would include "investigation of the ability of the director," Mr. Hoover.

Representative Emanuel Celler, Democrat of Brooklyn, chairman of the Judiciary Committee, said that he would consult with members of the committee about the possibility of holding hearings.

Mrs. Abzug said: "Recent events have made it starkly evident the the F.B.I., busy in-

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vestigating others, needs someone to investigate it. For example, in recent months we have observed charges (by Mr. Hoover) against leaders of the Catholic antiwar movement originate in testimony made before committees of Congress and justified only by an indictment returned two months later."

"Stolen F.B.I. files have shown us that the agency routinely maintains large and inaccurate dossiers on special groups and individuals—notably the peace movement and black activist groups — whose politics the director finds personally offensive," Mrs. Abzug said.

"These incidents show us that the F.B.I. may be slowly but inexorably invading the privacy, the constitutional freedoms and the peace of mind of us all," she added.

Representative Charles H. Wilson, Democrat of California, introduced a bill that would set a 10-year limit on the tenure of the head of the bureau and would set a mandatory retirement age of 65.

The prohibition against any public servant amassing "dy-

nastic or dictatorial powers' is one of the basic traditions of this country, Mr. Wilson said. "I see no justification for exempting an F.B.I. director from such traditions."

Representative Wayne L. Hays, Democrat of Ohio, announced this afternoon after consulting with Speaker Carl Albert of Oklahoma that the House Administration Committee, which he heads, would

hire an independent company to check Congressmen's telephones periodically to see if they were tapped.

And Representative John J. Rooney, Democrat of Brooklyn, released testimony by Mr. Hoover before the House Appropriations Subcommittee on State, Justice, Commerce and the Judiciary. Mr. Hoover told the subcommittee March 17: "We have never tapped the telephone of any Congressman or any Senator since I have been director of the bureau."

In the Senate, the Democratic whip, Robert C. Byrd of West Virginia, challenged Mr. Boggs to produce his evidence.

"I think there is a good bit of imagination involved here," Mr. Byrd said. "If he has good, substantial, bona fide evidence, he should reveal it."

Mr. Boggs reiterated his intention to disclose his evidence after the House returns from its Easter recess April 19.

At the White House, Ronald L. Ziegler, the President's press secretary, was asked if Mr. Hoover still enjoyed the full confidence of the President. "Yes," Mr. Ziegler replied.

A White House official disclosed that Mr. Boggs's charges were discussed for 25 minutes yesterday at the daily morning meeting of top White House staff members. He indicated that the discussion had concentrated on whether Mr. Boggs had any evidence to support his charges.