Kennedy for surveillance of King into the public domain by writing both sides of a correspondence between Congressman H. R. Gross (R-Iowa) and Hoover and getting Gross to insert the correspondence in the *Congressional Record*. Other members of Congress have vivid – and unhappy – memories of the angry and sometimes abusive letters they would get from DeLoach, on plain white paper, whenever they said something publicly that displeased the FBI.

DeLoach was one of the few Bureau officials who appeared to believe in cordial diplomatic relations with some of the more political and partisan appointees in the Justice Department, usually the objects of FBI scorn. At one point, he even offered to include some of Attorney General Robert Kennedy's aides in a typical Bureau "deal," an arrangement whereby top FBI personnel bought their meat from a Washington supplier at wholesale prices. DeLoach was also a friend of Ramsey Clark, who was a guest in DeLoach's home the night after he was named attorney general by President Johnson. (The two men had an irreparable falling out, however, when the FBI announced the solution of the Martin Luther King assassination case in the midst of Robert Kennedy's funeral, without first notifying Clark. Nonetheless, DeLoach, like Hoover, remained friendly with Ramsey's father, Tom Clark.)

But by far the most important role DeLoach played was in his assignment as liaison with President Johnson, almost from the moment Johnson succeeded to the office. He developed a degree of involvement and intimacy with the nation's First Family that was previously unheard of in the FBI. Other FBI agents had had close relationships with presidents – Ralph Roach was a confidant of President Truman, for example, and Orrin Bartlett sometimes traveled with President Eisenhower – but it was perhaps Johnson's own personality, and his tendency to suck people into his inner circle, that made DeLoach's situation unique. During the Johnson administration, White House communication with the Bureau not only circumvented the attorney general, which was often the case under other presidents, but it sometimes even bypassed Hoover. DeLoach and his family were invited to White House social functions (although not to the weddings of the Johnson daughters) and spent an Easter weekend with the Johnson family at Camp David, the presidential retreat in the Maryland mountains. Lady Bird Johnson would seek out DeLoach's official and private advice from time to time on whether it was safe for her to make certain public appearances. DeLoach was the only Bureau official ever to have a White House phone extension in his home. Johnson ordered it installed – in the master bedroom – in a fit of temper one Saturday