

Mondale Calls FBI Out of Control

Post 8/13/76
Los Angeles Times

Sen. Walter F. Mondale (D-Minn.) has pictured the FBI as being out of control and said he will urge Jimmy Carter, the Democratic presidential nominee, to give high priority to restoring the bureau "to an effective, hard-hitting, tough, law abiding organization that has the respect of the American public."

Mondale criticized both Attorney General Edward H. Levi and FBI Director Clarence M. Kelley for failing to solve problems of corruption and abuses of power within the FBI.

"It is absolutely crucial that the Attorney General control and direct far more closely than he does the day to day operations of the bureau," said Mondale, Carter's vice presidential running mate.

Questioned during a breakfast ses-

sion Wednesday with the Los Angeles Times, Mondale said that while he personally likes Kelley, "I do not think he's really got control. I don't think he's got much time left to prove that he can do so."

The senator called for prosecution of all agents who committed "black-bag jobs" (burglaries) and other illegalities now being investigated by the Justice Department. He said officials who ordered such illegal acts also should be prosecuted.

Mondale, a member of the Senate intelligence committee that investigated the FBI and the CIA, said, "There have been several embarrassments to Mr. Kelley that have undermined his capacity to lead the bureau."

"Number one," Mondale said, "he assured the committee that there were no black-bag jobs after 1966—we

now find out that there were."

Other embarrassments, he said, included the disappearance of official records of the late J. Edgar Hoover and allegations concerning excessive payments by the FBI for equipment it purchased.

Asked yesterday in Plains, Ga., if he would recommend that Carter, if he is elected, dismiss Kelley, Mondale said, "In fairness, let's give Mr. Kelley a little more time and see if he can get control of the bureau."