

Gray Throws FBI Into a Tizzy

By Jack Anderson

The Federal Bureau of Investigation, molded in the image of the late J. Edgar Hoover, has been thrown into a tizzy by his successor, Louis Patrick Gray III.

Hoover surrounded himself with staid, veteran assistants who kept the FBI on a steady course. Gray has brought in three sharp but inexperienced, modish, young aides who are known inside the FBI as the "Mod Squad."

Hoover personally directed the FBI from his Washington sanctum sanctorum. Gray is away so much that he has been nicknamed "Two-Day Gray" around FBI headquarters.

Like most non-Cabinet officials, Hoover almost always flew in commercial planes. Gray uses the Air Force as if it were his personal airline. He and his wife have flown all over the country to inspect field offices and keep speaking engagements. Since his appointment last May, he has traveled an estimated 60,000 miles at an estimated cost to the taxpayers of well over \$100,000.

Hoover scrupulously kept out of partisan politics, although he was not above slipping political tidbits to the incumbent President. Gray made no bones about his support for President Nixon during his

travels around the country during the election campaign.

Relaxed Role

Hoover kept the FBI under an iron discipline, dictating how his agents dressed and how long they wore their sideburns. Gray now permits colored shirts, modish clothes and lengthened sideburns. Gray is also recruiting women for the first time and more blacks as agents. His rule is more relaxed but less certain.

Many of the old-timers, unable to adjust to Gray's management, have quietly resigned from the FBI. Some won't be missed. But in recent weeks, four of the most vital and vigorous, middle-aged FBI officials have given notice.

The top fraud sleuth, Charles Bolz, is taking a job at the Housing and Urban Development Department. The irreplaceable head of the FBI's crime information center, Don Roderick, is retiring. The FBI's ace cryptanalyst, I. W. Newpher, and its budget expert, Daniel Brennan, are also going.

All four insisted to my associate Les Whitten that Gray's tenure had nothing to do with their departure. But they could have stayed if they wished.

At the White House, President Nixon is deliberating whether to retain Gray or select someone else to head the

FBI. The President promised Gray only that his name would be "considered" as the permanent FBI director.

Our sources inside the FBI say they would prefer some one of national stature, like Supreme Court Justice Byron White or the former crack No. 3 man at the FBI, William Sullivan.

But Pat Gray, who is a more compassionate man than his pugnacious features might indicate, is eager to stay on. And he has an inside track with Richard Nixon.

Footnote: a spokesman, explaining Gray's frequent use of Air Force planes, said the decision was made to avoid the embarrassment of the FBI director possibly turning up one day on a hijacked airliner. "And if he'd gone scheduled airlines, he wouldn't even have been around enough to call him 'Two-Day Gray,'" added the aide. The FBI reimburses the Air Force for the cost of using the planes.

Washington Whirl

VIETNAM OUTLOOK—President Nixon is making secret preparations to continue playing an active role in Vietnam after a cease-fire is declared. Under the anticipated agreement, the United States will be obliged to withdraw all military advisers, but defense suppliers can remain in Vietnam to replace equipment.

The Pentagon is quietly arranging with the suppliers to substitute civilian representatives for the military advisers.

The State Department is also preparing to increase its diplomatic contingent in Saigon. As for Vietnam spending, the reduced military aid will be made up largely in economic aid. Reconstruction costs shouldn't run high, because the United States has kept installations and highways rebuilt as the war has progressed. But huge sums will be made available to strengthen the South Vietnamese economy.

FORBIDDEN READING—The Washington Post, as a reward for its prize-winning reporting of the Watergate scandal, has become a dirty name around the White House. The Post's capable, inoffensive society reporter, Dorothy McCordle, has been banned from covering White House social functions. And it would be worth an aide's job if he were caught reading Herblock's latest book, "State of the Union." With scathing wit, the book lampoons the Nixon administration in word and drawing. A White House source confessed to us, however, that some presidential aides are sneak-reading Block's book at home.