

Kelley Acts to Tighten His Grip on FBI

By John M. Goshko
Washington Post Staff Writer

Director Clarence M. Kelley announced an FBI reorganization yesterday that bureau sources described as strengthening his control over activities that have involved the FBI in charges of wrongdoing and abuse of its powers.

In the most significant change, Kelly shifted responsibility for domestic intelligence investigations—the task that triggered most of the controversy now surrounding the FBI—from the intelligence division to the general investigative division.

FBI sources said the shift is aimed

at bringing a new approach to domestic security cases. Under the late FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover, domestic intelligence became a cover for frequently illegal surveillance and harassment of individuals and organizations with suspected subversive tendencies.

Under orders from Hoover, who died in May, 1972, the intelligence division conducted an extensive counterintelligence program that included "dirty tricks" against groups that did not meet the late director's definition of political orthodoxy.

The Justice Department is also probing allegations that FBI agents,

involved in domestic intelligence investigations, engaged in widespread illegal burglaries during the past five years. The bureau previously had said that it ceased such so-called "black bag jobs" in 1966.

Other changes and moves announced by Kelley include:

- Establishment of a "special review group" to evaluate the FBI's much-criticized use of informers. Kelley took this action after an FBI informer broke into the offices of the Socialist Workers Party in Denver last month and stole SWP documents,

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a violation of bureau policy against condoning criminal activity by informers.

• Consolidation of the FBI's internal inspection service, which investigates allegations of official misconduct and corruption, into a new division of planning and inspection that will report directly to Kelley. The Justice Department also is investigating charges that some bureau officials were involved in misuse of funds and other "abuses of power."

• Elimination of the FBI legal counsel's office as a separate division and its incorporation into the director's office. The purpose, Kelley said, is to put the legal counsel in a better position to survey the total range of FBI operations and advise him of matters involving doubtful legality.

Bureau sources said transferring domestic security cases out of the intelligence division will allow the division to concentrate exclusively on foreign intelligence activities within the United States.

Foreign intelligence involves combatting espionage, terrorism and other activities by foreign governments or groups inside the United States. Domestic intelligence, which is treated separately by federal law, involves protection against subversion and attempts to overthrow the government by American citizens.

The general investigative division, headed by Assistant Director Richard J. Gallagher, is responsible for combatting federal offenses that are non-political in nature, including bank robbery, kidnaping, forgery, and embezzlement.

In explaining the shift, Kelley noted that Attorney General Edward H. Levi, in recently issued guidelines, "has clearly directed that we pursue domestic intelligence investigations in accordance with constitutional guarantees and criminal statutes."

Kelley added, "To better facilitate our efforts in this regard, I am transferring domestic intelligence investigations into the general investigative division, for the express purpose that they be managed like all other criminal cases in that division."

The purpose, bureau sources said, is to ensure compliance with Levi's directive that domestic intelligence probes be confined to investigating and prosecuting actual violations of the law. That contrasts sharply with the intelligence division's long-ingrained emphasis on watching large numbers of suspected subversives on the assumption that they might do something legal.

Kelley noted that since he took office in 1973, the FBI has reduced the number of targets in domestic intelligence investigations from 22,000 to 4,000.

That, one bureau source said, was done by weeding out "the garbage cases—those where you opened a file on everybody who writes a letter to a Communist newspaper."

Domestic security investigations, the source added, are now supposed to be confined to leaders, officials and members of organizations "whose activities give reasonable grounds for

supposing that they might be liable to criminal prosecution."

At a press conference where he outlined the changes, Kelley conceded that the two Justice Department probes of FBI wrongdoing have damaged morale within the bureau.

"Right now, there are many people whose morale has been seriously affected by virtue of the possibility of either disciplinary or prosecutive action," he said.

But he declined to predict whether these investigations into illegal burglaries and alleged corruption would actually lead to prosecution of any present or former FBI personnel.

Kelley said he has deliberately insulated himself from these inquiries and "avoided interviewing people who might be involved." He did this, Kelley said, to avoid the impression of influencing or interfering with those who are conducting the investigations and to leave himself free to act on their findings with an open mind when the probes are completed.

Kelley said he believes the burglaries by FBI personnel have finally been stopped. But, after recalling that he had to retract his previous statement about the break-ins ending in 1966, he added:

"I wish I could say categorically, unquestionably that this is not going on. I can no longer make categorical sweeping statements."

Kelley also announced that Thomas J. Jenkins, the FBI's deputy associate director in charge of administration, will retire Aug. 27 after 42 years with the bureau.

Jenkins' departure from the bureau's top-management echelon comes a month after Kelley fired the FBI's second-ranking official, Nicholas P. Callahan, for reasons that are known to be related to the corruption probe.

There have been unconfirmed reports that Jenkins might also be a target of the Justice Department investigation. However, Kelley, in public, and other bureau sources, in private, went out of their way yesterday to insist that Jenkins' retirement has no connection with the investigations.

Kelley, who has been hospitalized frequently in recent weeks with a painful back ailment, also revealed that he will enter a Kansas City hospital Monday for corrective surgery. He said that he expects to be immobilized for two to three weeks.

S.C. Man Arrested In Attack on Airman

COLUMBIA, S.C., Aug. 11 (AP)—A Charleston, S.C., man, Aletto Olleque Agrauiador, has been arrested by the FBI on charges of assault with intent to commit murder-conspiracy on a government reservation.

Joseph J. Loeffler, special agent in charge of the FBI in South Carolina, said Tuesday that Agrauiador, 20, was arrested on the basis of a federal warrant issued Aug. 9 at Norfolk, Va. The warrant was issued following an investigation into the stabbing of an airman at Langley Air Force Base, Va.

The airman is listed in stable but critical condition at the Air Force Regional Hospital at Langley.