

# Kelley Reports New Emphasis On Spy Vigil

By Tim O'Brien  
Washington Post Staff Writer



CLARENCE M. KELLEY  
... assesses first year

Reporting on his first year in office, FBI Director Clarence M. Kelley said yesterday his agency is stepping up the hunt for Communist spies, prosecuting thousands of organized crime figures and still searching for Patty Hearst.

Kelley said "additional emphasis is being placed on FBI counterespionage operations" to keep pace with increasing number of official and unofficial visitors from Communist nations.

Pointing specifically to citizens of China and the Soviet Union, Kelley said visitors from Communist countries are arriving in numbers large enough to require greater FBI counterespionage activity.

"We are redirecting some of our manpower in order that we might give this situation additional attention," he said. "We are giving it additional emphasis."

Ticking off the bureau's accomplishments during his first year at the helm, Kelley said:

- More than 1,250 organized crime figures were convicted in FBI cases, including "ranking syndicate leaders" Carmine Tramunti and Vincent Aloï of New York City, Philip Testa of Philadelphia, Gennaro Angiulo of Boston and Frank Branca of Cleveland.

- More than 250 other organized crime figures are being prosecuted in connection with FBI-related cases; among them "five national Syndicate leaders in three cities."

- FBI investigations led to a record 15,240 federal convictions in the past fiscal year, more than a five per cent increase over the previous record in fiscal 1973.

- A record 37,891 fugitives

were located in FBI cases. Among them were six on the bureau's "Ten Most Wanted Fugitives" list.

- Fines, savings and recoveries in FBI cases totaled \$489.2 million, "which averages \$1.25 for every dollar of direct funds appropriated to the FBI for the fiscal year."

- And 96 kidnaping convictions were returned during fiscal 1974, compared with 71 for the previous year.

While noting "it is much more laudatory to prevent crime than to prosecute criminals," Kelley said "the FBI still commands a high position of respect among our citizens."

But a single unsolved case continues to cloud the bureau's reputation for gang-busting professionalism. Speaking to reporters yesterday, Kelley acknowledged that the FBI still does not know the whereabouts of newspaper heiress Patricia Hearst or remnants of the Symbionese Liberation Army, which she joined.

"We do not know whether or not they are out of the country," Kelley said. "We do not know where she is."

For more than five months the FBI has pursued Miss Hearst—first as a kidnap victim, next as a material witness to a bank holdup, and finally as a bearer of illegal firearms. Kelley vowed that "we will prevail" in solving the case.

Kelley defended his bureau against criticism that it overlooked two major clues in the first stages of the Hearst case.

Acknowledging that the FBI

failed to stake out a bank where SLA member Camilla Hall held a checking account, he said the decision was based on manpower requirements for other, more promising leads. He said insufficient information existed at the time to believe a stakeout would pay off. Miss Hall was able to personally enter the bank, withdraw her money unchallenged and depart.

Kelley also acknowledged reports that his agents, when first searching the apartment from which Miss Hearst was abducted, failed to find hidden cyanide bullets—a trademark of the SLA. In a search the next day, however, the bullets were found taped under a book case.

Kelley said the first search was aimed at finding leads to where the SLA had taken Miss Hearst, that the apartment was secured so no evidence would be lost, and that a more thorough subsequent search uncovered the evidence.

In his fiscal year-end report to Attorney General William Saxbe, Kelley said kidnap cases are demanding a "major portion" of the FBI's investigative attention, but that "the overwhelming majority of these cases are successfully concluded with the victim's safe return, the arrest of criminals involved, and recovery of most — in many cases, all — of the ransom money."

Pointing to two divergent trends in American crime, Kelley said there has been a "dramatic decrease in aircraft hijackings" but a "dramatic rise in financial manipulations computer frauds and other 'white collar' crimes during the past fiscal year.

A year ago this week, the 62-year-old former FBI agent and Kansas City police chief took the reins of an agency shaken by events that hurt its morale and reputation and left its future uncertain.

Kelley dissassociated himself both from "the shroud of mystique" that critics say enveloped the FBI under the 48-year reign of J. Edgar Hoover and from the Watergate-related actions of L. Patrick Gray.

"Paramount in my mind . . . was to establish the fact that we are free of political influence and that every effort should be extended that we might remain so," he said.

Among his major changes at the bureau, he said, are new

restrictions on the use of information in the FBI's computerized identification records. As of July 1, the FBI stopped giving most arrest records to civilian agencies for use in screening job applicants unless the records show the disposition of the arrest.

Records based only on suspicion or involving minor offenses are no longer retained. And for the first time, he said, an individual can obtain a copy of his own identification record.