

HOOVER, 74, ASSERTS HE WILL NOT RETIRE

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—J. Edgar Hoover, 74 years old, said today he had no intention of retiring as director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

"I look forward to many years of sharing in the efforts of law enforcement to make this a safer society," he said.

On Saturday, Mr. Hoover will mark his 45th year in the post. In 1964, President Johnson said, "The nation cannot afford to lose you," and signed an executive order waiving indefinitely in Mr. Hoover's case the mandatory retirement age of 70 for Federal employes. President Nixon also asked Mr. Hoover to stay on the job.

A bureau spokesman said today, "The entire F.B.I. is delighted with Mr. Hoover's announcement that he has no intention of retiring."

"The past several years," Mr. Hoover said in a statement, "have witnessed an alarming increase in crime in all areas of the country, coupled with the mounting acts of violence by the new left and other extremists."

"Indeed, the vicious attacks on law enforcement by these elements have posed a crisis for our society. But I have the utmost confidence that the cause of law and order will prevail."