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Doesn't Plan To Retire, Hoover Says

United Press International

In a rare reply to persistent rumors, FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover said yesterday he had no intention of retiring and looked forward to many more years in the fight to overcome a "crisis" of lawlessness in America.

On Saturday, Hoover, 74, marks his 45th year as the first and only director of the FBI. An FBI spokesman said "the entire FBI is delighted with Mr. Hoover's announcement that he has no intention of retiring."

Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.) said "there are others in the country who could bring new ideas and initiatives" to the Bureau. But, he added, "I'm not calling for his resignation. He's served the country well in the past."

In 1964, former President Johnson said "the Nation cannot afford to lose you" and signed an executive order waiving indefinitely in Hoover's case the mandatory retirement age of 70 for Federal employees. President Nixon asked Hoover to stay on the job shortly before he took office.