

Nixon Names Laird

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Domestic Adviser; Kansas City Police Chief Will Head FBI

Haig to Direct Staff, Retire From Army

Early Hearings On Kelley Seen

By Sanford J. Ungar
and Spencer Rich

Washington Post Staff Writers

Clarence Marion Kelley, the 61-year-old police chief of Kansas City, Mo., is President Nixon's choice to become permanent director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, sources in the Justice Department and on Capitol Hill said yesterday.

Attorney General Elliot L. Richardson and a White House legislative liaison officer spent much of yesterday introducing Kelley to Senate Democratic and Republican leaders, as well as to members of the Senate Judiciary Committee, which must pass on his nomination.

A White House announce-

ment of Kelley's selection was scheduled for the weekend, but may be advanced, the sources said, because it has become such a poorly kept secret.

Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kan.), apparently under the impression that the announcement had already been made, asked a reporter yesterday, "Have you seen the new director of the FBI yet? He's been up here."

The chairman of the Judiciary Committee, Sen. James O. Eastland (D-Miss.), was expected to schedule hearings on Kelley's nomination for the week beginning June 18.


Kelley, who served 21 years with the FBI before returning to his hometown in 1961 to become its police chief, was apparently picking up bipartisan support even before his formal nomination. The only major opposition expected is from organizations critical of his record on racial issues.

Several Democrats on the Judiciary Committee have indicated, however, that they intend to press any nominee for the directorship for a specific definition of his plans for the FBI, which is suffering from severe morale problems.

His hearings could also be used as a forum for debate on legislation to limit the

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CLARENCE M. KELLEY
picked to head FBI

Kansas City Chief Picked To Head FBI

FBI, From A1
FBI director's term of office.
If confirmed by the Sen-

to, Kelley would become only the second permanent director in the bureau's history. The late J. Edgar Hoover served in the post for nearly half a century.

Mr. Nixon's original choice to succeed Hoover was L. Patrick Gray III, a Republican loyalist without law enforcement experience who served for 11 months as acting director but failed to win approval by the Judiciary Committee after he became implicated in the Watergate scandal.

Gray resigned as acting director on April 26, after it was disclosed that he had destroyed material taken from the White House safe of Watergate conspirator E. Howard Hunt, Jr., William D. Ruckelshaus, then head of the Environmental Protection Agency, was then named as temporary caretaker of the FBI.

Kelley's age—he will be 62 in October—seemed to hold the FBI job for more than eight years. The mandatory federal retirement age is 70, and that requirement is unlikely to be waived for Kelley by a future president as it was for Hoover by President Johnson.



By Charles Del Vecchio—The Washington Post
President takes a stroll in the Rose Garden with Laird, left, and Gen. Hag.

A lawyer with a keen sense of public relations, Kelley took over the Kansas City police force at a time when it was plagued by a scandal in which his predecessor and several other high-ranking officers had been indicted for corruption.

He was selected by the city's police board after a four-month search during which he was recommended by, among others, then Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy.

Kelley is known for his technological accomplishments, including installation of a computer that patrolmen can use to get immediate information from police files.

His supporters, who include much of the city government, claim he has cut crime in Kansas City by nearly 25 per cent since 1969.

Last year, Kelley took a brief leave-of-absence to serve as chairman of a five-man board that supervised security arrangements at the Democratic and Republican National Conventions in Miami Beach, and it was apparently at that time that he came to the attention of the Nixon administration.

One of his chief self-acknowledged failures over the years was his inability to recruit blacks to the predominantly white Kansas City police force.

When other methods failed, Kelley last year transferred 10 black officers to full-time recruitment in the black community. There are now 90 blacks among the city's 1,300 policemen.

Black community leaders demanded Kelley's resignation as chief in 1968, when six persons were killed in Kansas City during riots that followed the assassination of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. They charged that he had condoned the indiscriminate use of tear gas in putting down the riots.

Kelley figured briefly in controversy in late 1969, when it was revealed that he had released 113 confiscated weapons to Maj. Gen. Carl C. Turner, former provost marshal of the Army, who later sold them for profit.

Testifying before the Senate Permanent Investigations Subcommittee, Kelley said he had been misled into believing that the weapons were intended for a military police museum.

(Turner was later sentenced to three years in prison for soliciting fire arms from the Chicago police department and keeping them for his own use.)

Ziegler Gets Larger Role

By Lou Cannon

Washington Post Staff Writer

President Nixon brought former Defense Secretary Melvin R. Laird back into his Watergate-shaken administration yesterday as chief domestic adviser and named Gen. Alexander Haig to head the White House staff.

Laird promptly indicated that the appointments were part of a concerted administration effort to restore confidence in the U.S. government both at home and abroad.

"It's absolutely essential that we get on with the business of government," Laird told a White House news conference. "Government in some quarters is at a standstill and this cannot be allowed to continue."

As part of the administration reshuffle, Press Secretary Ronald A. Ziegler was given the title of assistant to the President while retaining his press secretary's duties. Since the President first acknowledged a Watergate cover-up by White House staff members on March 21, Ziegler has played an increasingly important policy role in the administration and turned over many of the daily briefing chores to his deputy, Gerald L. Warren.

The 50-year-old Laird, a longtime personal friend of Mr. Nixon, was given the title of counselor to the President for domestic affairs and inherits many of the responsibilities held by John Ehrlichman, one of the leading Watergate casualties of the Nixon second term.

But there were hints that Laird, who came out of semi-retirement and gave up his congressional pension pay to take the job, may be even more influential than was Ehrlichman.

"The man makes the job and particularly in the case of Mr. Laird," said Warren in announcing the appointment.

Laird said he had been personally assured by the President that Mr. Nixon was not involved in the Watergate case or the subsequent cover-up. On May 1 Laird told reporters that he would not want to know if Mr. Nixon were involved but he said yesterday that he was speaking as a private citizen then and did not

hold that view as a government official.

One of Laird's top priorities, he told reporters, will be restoring faith in the confidence of the dollar abroad.

"Those people who are speculating against the dollar are making a very grave error," Laird said in reference to European money dealers.

Laird said he will make new recommendations to the President for action to curb inflation and defend the dollar but he declined to say what these proposals would be.

See PRESIDENT, A10, Col. 1

PRESIDENT, From A1

Indications that new economic restraints might have bipartisan backing came yesterday from Senate Democratic Leader Mike Mansfield and Republican Leader Hugh Scott, who joined in a plea for administration action on the economy. Mansfield said the President will have the support of Congress "if he will face up to the problem."

Laird spent 16 years in the House, 14 of them on the Appropriations Committee, as a congressman from Wisconsin. He was named defense secretary by President Nixon in 1969 after Sen. Henry Jackson (D-Wash.) rejected an offer of appointment. Laird held the post throughout the first term and turned down offers to remain in the admin-

istration during the second term.

Haig, 48, rose from colonel to four-star general after he was assigned to the White House in 1969, first as military adviser and then as assistant to Henry A. Kissinger. The President named Haig interim chief of staff in May following the resignation of H. R. Haldeman.

Since that time, Haig has been subject to some criticism for serving as the top White House administrative officer, normally a civilian job, while retaining his post as Army chief of staff.

It was announced yesterday, however, that Haig will retire from active military duty on Aug. 1 when he formally becomes an assistant to the President and takes over Haldeman's former duties on a permanent basis.

Neither Haig nor Laird will use the title "chief of

staff" or other military-sounding phrases, Laird said yesterday.

He promised a policy of openness with the press, noting that he had conducted 185 press conferences during his tenure as defense secretary. And Laird indicated he would move to repair relationships with the Democratic-controlled Congress by maintaining the "broadest, most open lines of communication" with members of the House and Senate.

"My closest friends in Washington are the Democratic and Republican members of both the House and Senate," Laird said. "I love the Senate."

Long before the Watergate scandal was acknowledged by the administration, the White House staff was frequently accused of high-handedness and secrecy in dealing with congressmen, the press and the public.

In back-to-back briefings Laird and Warren demonstrated that the administration is now trying to erase the impression of a closed administration and improve access for everyone.

"You've already seen signs of more leadership, more cabinet meetings," Warren said. ". . . He (Mr. Nixon) wants to create more access to the President and to the upper levels of the White House."

However, the President subsequently canceled a reception for House Republican members yesterday afternoon and a bipartisan leadership meeting scheduled for this morning. He

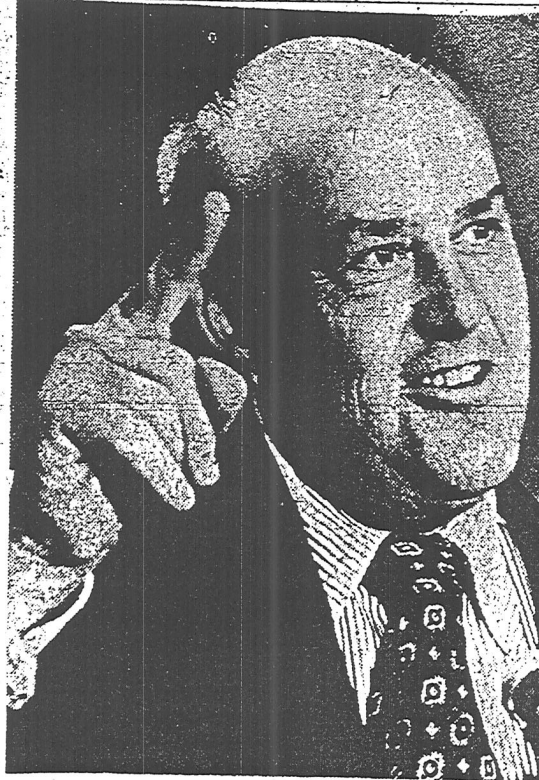
will hold a cabinet meeting today.

The announcement of Ziegler's new duties was a demonstration of what Warren called Mr. Nixon's "utmost faith in and respect for Ron Ziegler."

The White House has insisted ever since the resignations of Haldeman and Ehrlichman that Ziegler would not step down despite criticism that he had lost credibility as an administration spokesman.

"Ron's relationship with the President has grown to where he is one of the top staff members in the White House," Warren said.

The reorganization, confirming what has been the practice for the past several months, leaves Warren with the duty of deputy press secretary, Kenneth W. Clawson as deputy communications director and Andrew T. Falkiewicz as a deputy press secretary with responsibility for foreign journalists.



By Charles Del Vecchio—The Washington Post

Presidential adviser Laird: "It's absolutely essential that we get on with the business of government."