

Nixon Hit For 'Politics' On FBI Head

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Washington

Representative Don Edwards (Dem-Calif.), said yesterday that President Nixon's naming of L. Patrick Gray III as acting FBI director was a "political appointment" which ignored the intent of Congress under the Omnibus Crime Bill.

"Gray is someone no one knows anything about," Edwards said. "The plans for the President to have Gray as an interim director until after the election — or at least a half a year — is not what Congress intended under the Omnibus Crime Bill. The appointment should have the approval of the Senate."

SENATE

The anti-crime legislation made the appointment of an FBI director subject to Senate confirmation.

Mr. Nixon named Gray to the post after Director J. Edgar Hoover died last week. The President said he would serve until after the elections in November.

Gray said he hoped to do such a "top notch" job that he may turn out to be the President's "leading candidate" to head the FBI on a fulltime basis.

'ZEALOUS'

Edwards, a former FBI agent, appeared on CBS's "Face the Nation" with an-

other former agent, Representative Lawrence R. Hogan (Rep-Md.)

Hogan, who said he had talked to some of his congressional colleagues about being director himself, said he felt the FBI had kept up with the times and "has been zealous in protecting the rights of Americans."

Edwards said he thought the agency had been "bad insofar as race relations in the states" was concerned. He also criticized the FBI for hiring no women agents and fewer than two dozen minority agents.

Edwards said he wasn't "necessarily afraid" that Gray would use the director's post as a political job, "but he is a political appointment — an old friend of President Nixon."

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