

# Gray's olde FBI mare ain't what she used to be

## New Orleans States-Item

WASHINGTON — The Federal Bureau of Investigation, molded in the image of the late J. Edgar Hoover, has been thrown into a tizzy by his successor, Louis Patrick Gray III.

Hoover surrounded himself with staid, veteran assistants who kept the FBI on a steady course. Gray has brought in three

## Jack Anderson

sharp but inexperienced, modish, young aides who are known inside the FBI as the "Mod Squad."

Hoover personally directed the FBI from his Washington sanctum sanctorum. Gray is away so much that he has been nicknamed "Two-Day Gray" around FBI headquarters.

Like most noncabinet officials, Hoover almost always flew in commercial planes. Gray uses the Air Force as if it were his personal airline. He and his wife have flown all over the country to inspect field offices and keep speaking engagements. Since his appointment last May, he has traveled an estimated 60,000 miles at an estimated cost to the taxpayers of well over \$100,000.

Hoover scrupulously kept out of partisan politics, although he was not above slipping political tidbits to the incumbent president. Gray made no bones about his support for President Nixon during his travels around the country during the election campaign.

## Gray lets them grow

Hoover kept the FBI under an iron discipline, dictating how his agents dressed and how long they wore their sideburns. Gray now permits colored shirts, modish clothes and lengthened sideburns. Gray is also recruiting women for the first time and more blacks as agents. His rule is more relaxed but less certain.

Many of the old-timers, unable to adjust to Gray's management, have quietly resigned from the FBI. Some won't be missed. But in recent weeks, four of the most vital and vigorous middle-aged FBI officials have given notice.

The top fraud sleuth, Charles Bolz, is taking a job at the Housing and Urban Development Department. The irreplaceable head of the FBI's crime information center, Don Roderick, is retiring. The FBI's ace cryptanalyst, I. W. Newpher, and its budget expert, Daniel Brennan, are also going.

## They could have stayed

All four insisted to my associate Les Whitten that Gray's tenure has nothing to do

with their departure. But they could have stayed if they wished.

Our sources inside the FBI say they would prefer someone of national stature, like Supreme Court Justice Byron "Whizzer" White or the former crack No. 3 man at the FBI, William Sullivan.

## But Gray wants to stay

But Pat Gray, who is a more compassionate man than his pugnacious features might indicate, is eager to stay on. And he has an inside track with Richard Nixon.

Footnote: A spokesman, explaining Gray's frequent use of Air Force planes, said the decision was made to avoid the embarrassment of the FBI director possibly turning up one day on a hijacked airliner. "And if he'd gone scheduled airlines, he wouldn't even have been around enough to call him 'Two-Day Gray,'" added the aide. The FBI reimburses the Air Force for the cost of using the planes.

## WASHINGTON WHIRL

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