

Senate, 96-0, Approves Kelley As New Director of the F.B.I.

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, June 27 — Clarence M. Kelley, President Nixon's nominee as director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, was confirmed by the Senate today, 96 to 0.

Mr. Kelley succeeds L. Patrick Gray 3d, who was named acting director by the President after the death of J. Edgar Hoover in May, 1972. Mr. Gray's nomination as director subsequently failed because of his involvement in the Watergate affair.

At a news conference after the Senate vote, Mr. Kelley, a veteran of more than 30 years in law enforcement, including 21 years with the F.B.I., described his confirmation as "a form of homecoming for me."

The former police chief of Kansas City, Mo., characterized himself as "nonpolitical."

"I have always been a professional," he said, reading from a prepared statement. "I owe allegiance to no political party, leader or background."

"My job will be to carry out duties as director as efficiently, honestly and fairly as I can," he said.

Asked by newsmen about his relationship with the Watergate investigation, Mr. Kelley replied that his immediate job would be to become "well-acquainted" with the investigation.

Speaking about possible future use of the F.B.I. for political purposes, Mr. Kelley said he would "resist such efforts." He said he would go to the Attorney General and the President if such a situation arose.

"I will do everything possible to prevent the agency from becoming such a vehicle," he said.



Associated Press

Clarence M. Kelley after being confirmed as F.B.I. director yesterday.