

Kelley 'Explains' Tough Words

Washington

Declaring that he was not "an ambassador of bad will," FBI Director Clarence Kelley has told the New Mexico Press Association he had not seen the text of a controversial speech containing a harsh attack on the news media until after he boarded a flight for Albuquerque.

An advance text of the speech, which Kelley abandoned after a telephone "consultation" with Attorney General Edward Levi, contained an announcement by Kelley that the FBI would no longer

cooperate with reporters who had "journalistically bludgeoned" the FBI.

Kelley told the editors late Friday night that the speech had been prepared for him by his "ministry of external affairs," and that after glancing through it aboard the plane he began to doubt its efficacy. He assured the group that "the FBI will continue the policy of openness" with reporters that he instituted on taking over the bureau in 1973.

The FBI's external affairs division, which maintains relations with the news media, is also respon-

sible for writing Kelley's speeches.

One bureau official said Saturday that it was possible that the director, who had given another speech in Virginia earlier in the day, had not become aware of the strong language in his prepared remarks until he was en route to New Mexico.

But some FBI officials indicated that Kelley had played a role in formulating the concepts endorsed in the speech, and that the change in the bureau's press policy that he was scheduled to announce had already been put into effect.

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