

Hoover: 'No Plan to Retire'

WASHINGTON — (UPI)— FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover celebrates his 46th anniversary on the job today with "no intention whatsoever" of retiring.

Now serving his eighth president, Hoover turned 75 last Jan. 1, five years past the mandatory retirement age waived for him in 1964 by an admiring President Johnson. He is given more highly regarded by President Nixon and Attorney General John N. Mitchell.

No Response

Hoover, who has not granted a personal interview since late 1968, declined even to answer written questions on this anniversary, citing "the very heavy responsibilities facing me at this time."

He said in a letter, howev-

er, "that I have no intention whatsoever of retiring."

Pressures on his 17,000-member bureau were at a peak as Hoover celebrated the anniversary of his appointment May 10, 1924, by Attorney General Harlan Fiske Stone.

Present FBI concerns range from the Black Panther party to investigations of campus disorders, crime in the streets, national internal security, aircraft piracy and the Mafia, to name a few Hoover mentioned in recent testimony before the House Appropriations Committee.

Hoover reflected the change in administration. He even included a reference to his differences with former Attorney General Ramsey Clark during the Johnson Administration.

Hoover is quite close to Mitchell, and entertained him and Nixon last fall at a dinner.

The FBI chief works a minimum of five hours a day, has a ruddy complexion and quick step, and is nearly as trim as he demands his agents.

Rarely Seen

Rarely seen by the public, he speaks only through the monthly FBI Bulletin, which is distributed to local law enforcement agencies, and in his annual testimony to Congress.

Despite his firm disavowal of any retirement plans, close observers believe Hoover might step down within the next year.

If and when Hoover does retire, he had made clear he will neither write any mem-

oirs nor allow any "official" version of his extraordinary career to be written.

He will leave untold his inside story of the presidents he has served since Calvin Coolidge.

Ants Destroy Gandhi's Works

BOMBAY — :AP; — About 1000 copies of a 13 volume work on the works of Mohandas Gandhi, the father of India, have been eaten by ants, according to an official statement in the Maharashtra state assembly.

Of 64,000 copies printed since 1968, only 9,000 copies have been sold, the statement said. The rest have been in storage where the ants found them.