

# Hoover Digging In After 47 Years

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WASHINGTON — (AP) — When J. Edgar Hoover took over what was to become the Federal Bureau of Investigation in 1924, the scandal-ridden agency was reeling under a barrage of criticism.

Marking his 47th anniversary as head of the FBI today, Hoover himself is under heavy attack and, in President Nixon's words, "digging in." But he still seems firmly in the saddle.

The 76 year old Hoover has seen seven presidents and 15 attorneys general come and go during his tenure as FBI director. And he has seen the agency grow from 441 special agents and 195 clerical employes to more than 8400 special agents and 10,500 clerical employes.

He is spending today, an aide said, "right here, working at his desk, just like any other day."

But though Hoover will take no public notice of the occasion, it is unlikely to go unnoticed by the growing number of public figures clamoring for his retirement.

A veteran member of that group, Sen. George McGovern (D-S.D.) fired a fresh round at Hoover yesterday, demanding a Senate investigation of what he said was an attempt by the director to discredit an airline pilot who criticized the FBI.

McGovern, a Democratic presidential aspirant, said Hoover inquired into the Air Force record of Donald J.

Cook Jr., Trans World Airlines pilot whose plane was skyjacked from Los Angeles to Rome by Raphael Minichiello on Nov. 1, 1969.

Cook criticized an FBI attempt to block the skyjacking while the plane was refueling in New York, saying it was "a prescription for getting the entire crew killed and the plane destroyed."

This, McGovern said, resulted in Hoover's inquiry, which the senator called a violation of the civil rights act, the First Amendment right to free speech, the Ninth Amendment right to privacy and Air Force regulations covering disclosure of personnel information.

Other criticisms of Hoover during the past year have

come from House Democratic Leader Hale Boggs, who accused the FBI of bugging his phone, and Maine Sen. Edmund Muskie, another Democratic presidential possibility who rapped the agency for surveillance activities on Earth Day 1970.

Hoover's disclosure of an alleged plot to kidnap presidential adviser Henry Kissinger to a Senate committee prior to indictments being returned in the case also provoked heavy criticism.

But perhaps the most embarrassing incident of the year for Hoover and his FBI was the theft of files from its Media, Pa., office containing internal directives and surveillance reports.