

F.B.I. Chief Denies Nixon Uses Deceit In Break-In Inquiry

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WASHINGTON, Oct. 2—It would be hard to believe that President Nixon was attempting to deceive the nation regarding the Watergate scandal, L. Patrick Gray, acting director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, said today.

Mr. Gray, who has said his re-appointment will be up to the winner of the Presidential election, discussed the Watergate affair and the United States-Soviet grain agreement with editors and publishers at the United Press International convention here.

Of Mr. Nixon's involvement in Watergate, Mr. Gray said, "It strains the credulity that the President of the United States—if he had a mind to—could have done a con job on the whole American people.

"As to the grain investigation, I don't know what we'll find but we're going to investigate the hell out of it."

Mr. Gray said he had taken "under my own wing," the June 15 break-in and bugging of Democratic National Headquarters at the Watergate office building that resulted in the indictment of seven men, including two former White House consultants and the former chief of security for the Committee for the Re-election of the President.

Mr. Gray said he did not subscribe to the thesis that the Administration could not investigate itself.

"Anyone who writes that is really leveling a general indictment against all public officials," he said.