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How Gray's Disclosures Jolted the FBI

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WASHINGTON — Acting FBI Director L. Patrick Gray's disclosures that he turned over Watergate reports to the White House and his making public details of the investigation is jolting FBI morale and shocking some administration officials, sources in or close to the FBI said.

"We won't have any more credibility than the Veterans Administration if this keeps up," said an agent.

One source who was close to the Watergate investigation said Gray is turning over to the Senate Judiciary Committee for the public record some of the same confidential memos the FBI prepared for the White House.

"I almost died when I saw that report on our interviewing Kalmbach about Segretti in the morning paper," he said. "We don't make public reports on people we interview. There are no charges against Mr. Kalmbach. If I were President Nixon I'd be mad as hell at Gray."

Gray, in responding to questions from senators at his confirmation hearings on his nomination as FBI Director, supplied to the committee an FBI report on questioning Herbert W. Kalmbach, President Nixon's personal attorney.

Kalmbach, the report said, told FBI agents he

paid Donald H. Segretti, an alleged recruiter of political saboteurs, \$30,000 to \$40,000 during seven months in 1971, at the request of Dwight Chapin, the president's former appointments secretary.

Kalmbach said he didn't know what Segretti was doing.

"Gray didn't have to say anything about the Watergate case," said an FBI source. "He could have fallen back on the traditional FBI position that he couldn't discuss it because the case was still in the courts."

The President signaled that course in his own news conference when he declined to comment on it because it was going to be appealed.

Seven men — three of them former White House consultants or Nixon campaign officials — are awaiting sentencing for their parts in the bugging of the Democratic National Committee. Five pleaded guilty and two were convicted in U.S. District Court.

When his confirmation hearings opened two weeks ago, Gray acknowledged to critical Democratic senators that the quality of the FBI's investigation of the Watergate caper was a measure of his ability to guide the agency. Thus he has been willing to answer questions about it.