

Kelley Names Associate

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FBI Director Clarence M. Kelley reached into the agency's career ranks yesterday and named Nicholas P. Callahan, a 38-year bureau veteran, as his associate director.

Currently assistant director of the FBI in charge of its Administrative Division, Callahan, 59, will serve as the bureau's No. 2 man, and is expected to control access to Kelley within the FBI.

Bureau sources described Callahan as "quite an old hand" who is quiet and unassuming and well liked. The appointment came as a surprise, because Callahan had been expected to retire soon.

He joined the FBI as a messenger in 1935, and served as an agent in its Dallas, Newark, Baltimore and Philadelphia field offices before returning to bureau headquarters in 1945. He has been there ever since.

The sources noted that Callahan has little investigative experience, but suggested that Kelley may have selected him as a person who could help the new director learn the ropes at headquarters.

Kelley, who served 21 years as an FBI agent until becoming chief of police in Kansas



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City in 1961, has repeatedly said that he has little knowledge of current bureau operations. The post of associate director has been vacant since W. Mark Felt, a career official, retired last month.

Kelley announced Callahan's appointment at a full-scale news conference in the FBI director's suite—an event that was unheard of during the nearly half-century that the late J. Edgar Hoover ran the bureau.

The new director had prom-

ised a close and open relationship with the press, and he began yesterday's unusual gathering by shaking hands with every reporter, photographer and television technician in the room.

"I do not construe this as an adversary type of proceeding," Kelley said. He joked that he hoped the press will show "kindness in treating a poor old chief of police who's in a new field."

Answering reporters' questions, Kelley disputed the testimony of former White House aide John D. Ehrlichman before the Senate Watergate Committee Wednesday that Hoover stymied investigations in his last years.

"My personal reaction is that, having been associated with Mr. Hoover as an agent, an agent in charge and later as a chief of police... he was entirely capable of discharging his duties, very lucid in his discussion, and I was most satisfied with his performance," he said.

But Kelley continued to duck substantive questions about FBI operations, saying, for example, that he had given "no thought" to the issue of whether the bureau should continue to assign agents to American embassies overseas.

He did say, however, that he felt the FBI's morale problems, traceable to what he

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FBI Director

"considerably dissipated" by the appointment and confirmation of a permanent director.

Kelley also promised again

that he will cooperate fully with the new subcommittee established by the Senate Judiciary Committee to oversee FBI affairs.