

*Inquiry Into the Destruction of Former FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover's Files and FBI Recordkeeping, Hearing Before a Subcommittee [on Government Information and Individual Rights] of the House Committee on Government Operations, 94th Cong., 1st Sess., Dec. 1, 1975*

I have read the above-referenced hearing. A summary of relevant information is provided below.

I. KLEINDIENST TESTIMONY

Richard G. Kleindienst was Deputy Attorney General and Acting Attorney General when Hoover died on May 2, 1972. He testified that he learned of Hoover's death between 8 and 9 am on May 2 from (to the best of his recollection) Clyde Tolson. (p. 2). Kleindienst then gave an oral order "that the offices of the Director be locked and secured until an Acting Director" was appointed. (p. 3). To the best of his recollection, he gave an order by telephone either to Tolson or to Helen Gandy (Hoover's Executive Assistant), although Kleindienst thought it possible that he gave it to John P. Mohr, another high FBI official. (p. 3). Kleindienst did not follow up to determine whether and how this order had been carried out, nor did he recall receiving any confirmation that it had been. (p. 4).

Later on May 2 or on May 3, President Nixon named "Pat Gray" Acting Director on Kleindienst's recommendation. (p. 4). Kleindienst did not recall discussing his order to secure Hoover's office with Gray, and he had no personal knowledge as to whether his order was obeyed. (p. 5).

Kleindienst testified that he had not taken notes or made any diary entries respecting these events. (p. 7). When he later served as Attorney General, "there was a complete log of every telephone call that [he] made,"

but there was no log of his calls at the relevant time.

Kleindienst testified that he never looked at Hoover's files or directed anyone to do so for him. (p. 8).

## II. GANDY TESTIMONY