

Fourth is a contention that

F.B.I. AIDE RESIGNS IN POLICY DISPUTE

W. C. Sullivan Retires After
Conflicts With Hoover

10/3/71
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Oct. 2—William C. Sullivan, a key administrative official and veteran of more than 30 years with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, has resigned after having policy differences with the bureau's director, J. Edgar Hoover.

Informed sources said that Mr. Hoover had been putting pressure on Mr. Sullivan to retire for months, but that he has steadfastly resisted.

The sources also said that Mr. Sullivan's name had been removed from his office door and new locks installed on it while he was away on leave.

Spokesmen for the F.B.I. would neither deny nor confirm reports of the conflict, and would only say that Mr. Sullivan had retired, effective next week. The spokesmen also said that Mr. Sullivan would be replaced by Alec Rosen, head of the bureau's General Investigation Division.

Comments on Communism

Informed sources said that the policy disputes between Mr. Sullivan and Mr. Hoover flared in October, 1970, when Mr. Sullivan told a group of newspaper editors and publishers in Virginia that the Communist party "is not in any way causing or directing or controlling the unrest we suffer today in the ra-

cial field and in the academic community."

The department received a deluge of mail critical of Mr. Sullivan's remarks. The mail, sources said, angered Mr. Hoover, who has long held that Communism is the greatest threat to American society.

Indications that Mr. Sullivan was on the way out first became apparent almost two months ago, when Mr. Hoover named W. Mark Felt to a newly created post just above Mr. Sullivan's.

Denounced the Klan

Close ties between Mr. Sullivan and Mr. Hoover reportedly were first broken in the early nineteen-sixties, when Mr. Sullivan held that the Ku Klux Klan, not Communism, was the chief domestic threat.

Mr. Sullivan, who is 59 years old, has a bachelor of arts degree, a master's degree in education and a doctor of law degree from American University. He attended American University and has done graduate work at Clark University, Boston College and George Washington University.

Mr. Sullivan is a research associate of the Hoover Institution on War, Revolution and Peace at Stanford University, and is an adviser to the National Council of Community Affairs and Human Rights of the Federal Bar Association.