

CIA Chief Spent Days On Hill

Six days a week since mid-September the chauffeur-driven Chevrolet would pick up CIA Director William E. Colby at his suburban Maryland home and deliver him to the White House for the 9 a.m. briefings.

For the 55-year-old Colby the briefings with State, Defense and Justice Department officials in the White House situation room became another part of the depressing routine that developed as the inquiries into the intelligence agency's activities gained steam.

The last trip to the White House came Sunday when President Ford, according to a reliable source, told Colby his 25-year career as an intelligence officer was at an end and offered him the position of ambassador to NATO.

Colby's rejection of the offer was calm and dispassionate, a fitting finish for a man whose reputation has been built around the ability to remain cool under pressure.

"He's a very imperturbable fellow," a CIA official said yesterday, "whether the water's around his socks or his neck."

The water has been mounting almost since Colby took over at the CIA in 1973. By last week he was spending nearly half his time preparing to defend himself or the agency in front of a battery of hearings on Capitol Hill.

A CIA spokesman calculated yesterday that Colby had appeared before House and Senate committees at least 56 times to answer questions. During October and November of this year there are only six days when Colby or other CIA officials haven't been pencilled in to testify in open or closed session.

The rumors that Colby was to be replaced in the seventh floor director's office at CIA headquarters have been flying for months.

But until Mr. Ford's



WILLIAM E. COLBY
... "imperturbable"

alternate job offer Sunday there was no official confirmation of Colby's departure.

Colby dropped out of Columbia University law school in 1941 after his first year to join the Army Parachute Corps, eventually moving to the Office of Strategic Services under Gen. William (Wild Bill) Donovan and ending up parachuting behind the German lines at the age of 24 leading sabotage operations.

After two years with Donovan's law firm in New York City, Colby worked for the National Labor Relations Board in Washington and then in 1951 joined the CIA.

Colby's CIA career has included assignments in Stockholm and Rome but it was in the Far East and Vietnam that he became known to American journalists as head of the Vietnam pacification program and overseer of the Phoenix portion of the program designed to break the Vietcong infrastructure through imprisonment and assassination of suspected Vietcong.

Colby served two stints in Vietnam, returning to Langley in 1971 to head the Directorate of Plans, the CIA's "dirty tricks" department as it has been described by the agency's detractors.

His tenure as director since 1973 has been marked by an openness toward some aspects of the intelligence agency's operations.

Nixon Man Survives Unscathed

Donald Rumsfeld is one of the few top aides of Richard M. Nixon who emerged from the Watergate era with reputation unscathed.

Rumsfeld was representing the old Illinois 13th District in the House of Representatives when Nixon on his fourth attempt succeeded in convincing him that the proper outlet for his ambition was the executive branch.

Rumsfeld, then 37 years old, gave up his seat in 1969 to become head of the Office of Economic Opportunity, then considered a nearly impenetrable bureaucracy.

From OEO, Rumsfeld bounced to the White House, where he became counselor to the President and then, when Phase II price controls came into effect, he was named head of the Cost of Living Council.

In December, 1972, Nixon named Rumsfeld ambassador to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, and he stayed in Brussels until the Watergate crisis began to topple the Nixon White House.

Although Rumsfeld was a key figure in the group that made transition plans for Gerald Ford's assumption of the presidency, he constantly denied at that time that he would be involved in the Ford White House, and went back to his post in Brussels.

A month later, however, he came back to Washington to become, as some critics put it, "Ford's Haldeman"—chief of staff to President Ford as H.R. Haldeman had been to President Nixon.

At the White House Rumsfeld has in effect administered the business of the President, including supervision of more than 500 staff members.

He is considered a pragmatist who is highly organized, extremely intelligent and a "quick study" who uses enormous stamina to his administrative advantage.



DONALD RUMSFELD
... pragmatic

He is a physical fitness enthusiast and tries to keep in the kind of shape that won him a state wrestling championship in Illinois more than 25 years ago.

At the White House he has preferred to work on his feet at a "stand-up" desk.

He grew up in the northern outskirts of Chicago, attending New Trier High School in Winnetka, where he met his future wife, Joyce Pierson.

He went from New Trier to Princeton University. At Princeton he was in ROTC and after graduation went into the Navy and served two years as flight instructor.

He was anxious to get into politics and, while attending Georgetown University law school here from 1957 to 1959, worked as an intern to then-Rep. David Dennison (R-Ohio) and then-Rep. Robert P. Griffin (R-Mich.).

He was told that Washington was a poor place to start a political career and went back to Illinois to work in an investment banking firm and to look for his chance.

It came almost right away, when Rep. Marguerite Stitt Church decided to retire in 1962. With help from his old New Trier High and Princeton friends, Rumsfeld (then 29) set out to get himself elected to Congress. He succeeded.

In 1965, he and several other young congressmen led a drive to oust the late Charles Halleck as leader of House Republicans. The young members' candidate to succeed Halleck was Gerald Ford.