

# Ruckelshaus Is Regarded as Tough,

By Peter Milius  
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When Congress created the Environmental Protection Agency in 1970, cynics smiled. The anti-pollution laws, they confidently prophesied, would never be strictly enforced.

The man the President appointed to enforce them, William Doyle Ruckelshaus, surprised the cynics. In his two years as the agency's administrator, he has won an almost universal reputation as a fair but tough and independent man.

Now Ruckelshaus has become involved in a surprise of a different kind.

Yesterday, the President appointed him acting director of the FBI, to succeed L. Patrick Gray III, who resigned as a result of his involvement in last year's attempted cover-up of the Watergate case.

The White House said that Ruckelshaus will serve until the nomination of a new permanent director for the FBI. What he will do then was left in doubt, but there has been repeated speculation that he planned in any case to return to Indiana to make another run for the Senate seat of Democrat Birch Bayh in 1974.

Ruckelshaus is 40 years old. He was born and grew up in Indianapolis. He served in the Army from 1953 to 1945 as an enlisted man, emerging as a sergeant, and went on to earn a BA degree from Princeton University in 1957 and his



Acting FBI director William Ruckelshaus vows 'honest, fair and vigorous' role.

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law degree from Harvard three years later.

He served as a deputy Indiana attorney general from 1960 until 1965, then as attorney to the Indiana state senate for two years.

division. He stayed there until his appointment as EPA administrator in December, 1970. Politically, he is regarded as one of the moderates within the administration.

In the spring of 1970, when he was still at the Justice Department and students began massing here in a protest against the Cambodian incursion, it was he who was chosen to negotiate with them over the details of their planned demonstrations.

Later in that year, he was picked again to head the team of speakers the Justice Department was sending to campuses in an effort to improve the administration's image among college students.

In the last two years, as director of the EPA, Ruckelshaus has been subjected to—and has survived—continuous and conflicting pressures of the severest sort.

The most famous example has been the tug-of-war with the nation's auto manufacturers over a 1975 deadline for the installation of anti-pollution devices on all new cars. Ruckelshaus has now granted the auto-makers an extension, but even many critics of that decision give him credit for an earnest effort at rigorous enforcement.

His role at EPA put him frequently at odds with other powerful interests, both in industry and Congress. His decision last year to ban almost all uses of DDT was one example.

By the same token, this year he was forced to defend before congressional committees the Justice Department's civil

withhold some \$6 billion in sewage treatment money Congress approved over a presidential veto.

In a press conference yesterday, Ruckelshaus promised "honest, fair and vigorous" administration of the FBI.

Ruckelshaus is married and has five children. His wife, J. Edgar Hoover.

members of the administration under the late Ruckelshaus has a reputation as one of the liaison with women's groups

He will be the bureau's second acting director within a year, after its unbroken half a century under the late J. Edgar Hoover.

# Fair, Independent

man in America."

Allegedly, it said, he is "the best small-mouth bass fisher