

Nixon Taps CIA Official as Marine Head

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Nixon today announced he will nominate Lt. Gen. Robert E. Cushman Jr., now deputy director of the Central Intelligence Agency, to become commandant of the Marine Corps. The 56-year-old Cushman, No. 2 man at CIA since 1969, would serve a four-year term as Marine commandant, succeeding Gen. Leonard F. Chapman Jr., who will retire Dec. 31.

Cushman is no stranger to Nixon, having served as his assistant for national security affairs in the 1950s when Nixon was vice president.

At the Pentagon, the betting favorite in some circles for head of the Marine Corps had been Lt. Gen. John Chaisson, currently chief of staff of the corps. Some observers felt Cushman's CIA assignment was of such importance that he would not be tapped for a purely military post.

White House secretary Ronald L. Ziegler said he does not know who would replace Cushman at CIA. He said he was equally uncertain whether the job would go to a civilian or a military officer. Historically, the No. 2 job has

11-30-71
 been filled by a military man.

Before becoming deputy CIA director on April 21, 1969, Cushman commanded the III Marine Amphibious force in Vietnam for more than 18 months.

A native of St. Paul, Minn., Cushman has been a Marine officer since his graduation

from the Naval Academy in 1935.

Married, he lives with his wife and two children in nearby McLean, Va.