Notes on People by Laurie Johnston

The State Department's new director of intelligence and research will be Harold H. Saunders, appointed yesterday by Secretary Henry A. Kissinger. He succeeds William G. Hyland, who will go to the White House as deputy to Lieut. Gen. Brent Scowcroft, President Ford's new special assistant for national security. Mr. Saunders, a 44-year-old former analyst for the Central Intelligence Agency, spent 13 years with the National Security Council staff in the White House and since 1974 has been with the State Department specializing in the Near East and South Asia.

General Scowcroft will retire from the Air Force Dec. 1, according to a White House announcement yesterday.

LAURIE JOHNSTON