



RICHARD HELMS
Nixon will keep him on

Controls Quiet Down The CIA

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After the heady days of Allen Dulles and the strong-willed leadership period of John McCone, the United States Central Intelligence Agency has settled down to a quiet way of going under the direction of Richard Helms.

Talk of the CIA as an "invisible government" has waned. Aside from the continuing major operation in Laos, the agency is involved,

as far as an outsider can tell, in nothing to match the derailing-do of the past when it overturned the government in Guatemala, helped oust the Premier in Iran, tried but failed to oust Sukarno in Indonesia and concocted the disaster at the Bay of Pigs.

Officials in other agencies say the CIA now is firmly under control. One official in a position to know commented that Helms is a "very cooperative, responsible guy who gets full marks for inter-agency relationships."

NIXON

President-elect Richard M. Nixon has announced that he will keep Helms at the head of CIA. A spokesman for Nixon adds that the President-elect felt that Helms was a nonpartisan career man who had demonstrated ability to handle the office. A check, he added, convinced Nixon that he has done a fine job.

After the Bay of Pigs there was a great hue and cry about the CIA being out of control. The late Robert F. Kennedy and General Maxwell Taylor looked into the problem and Taylor, now a presidential adviser, is represented as currently believing the agency now is fully under presidential control.

Control, however, as one official put it, involves a problem: "busy people."

BOARD

Aside from the President's own ways of enforcing control, there is a three-man board charged with the job of overseeing CIA activities. It is composed of Charles E. Bohlen, deputy Under Secretary of State for Political Af-

fairs; Paul H. Nitze, the deputy Secretary of Defense; and Walt W. Rostow, the White House assistant for National Security Affairs.

How good a job this trio does is impossible to determine but others are satisfied.

A key criticism in the Bay of Pigs investigation was that the CIA's intelligence-gathering functions were entwined with the operational efforts, and that the intelligence was used to prove the operation would be a success.

CONFIDENCE

Now, it is contended, that umbilical cord has been cut. As a result officials outside CIA say, there is a new confidence in the CIA's intelligence work.

The CIA has two parts: (1) Black operations, the cloak and dagger stuff, and (2) intelligence gatherings and collation. Heading the first is Thomas H. Karamessines, with the title of deputy director, plans; heading the second aspect is R. Jack Smith as deputy director, intelligence. Both, like Helms, are long-time professionals in the business.

The agency's budget, well hidden in the congressional appropriations, is highly secret. (The conventional guess is \$500 million a year.) Some say the figure has gone up since the reconnaissance satellites (spies-in-the-sky) have begun to produce stacks of pictures from all over the world which requires a vast number of interpreters. The cost of the satellites themselves, however, is in the Pentagon budget.