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AEC Chief Will Head The CIA

N.Y. Times Service

Key Biscayne, Fla.

President Nixon said yesterday he will nominate James R. Schlesinger, chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, to be director of the Central Intelligence Agency.

He said he will nominate the current director, Richard Helms, to become Ambassador to Iran.

Both appointments had been rumored, but the White House sought, in making the announcements, to scotch rumors suggesting that Helms had been pushed out.

His departure from CIA was described as a retirement, consistent with Helms' feeling that he, like other CIA officials, should retire at age 60. Helms, a lean, athletic, affable man, will be 60 in March.

SERVICE

The White House took pains to affirm the President's appreciation for Helms' 30 years of public service, and pleasure that it would continue.

At the same time, Helms' departure is touched with symbolic overtones.

In the opinion of knowledgeable officials, it means the end of an era of professional intelligence operatives and the beginning of an era of systems management.

Helms, once a reporter who interviewed Adolf Hitler, epitomizes a generation which developed its expertise during World War II and subsequently helped to create the CIA. When appointed in June, 1966, he was the first careerist to become CIA director.

By contrast, Schlesinger is an economist and political scientist schooled in strategic studies, system analysis, and defense spending. He is a tall, thin, ruffled man of 42 who prepared a detailed report on the intelligence community for Mr. Nixon last year.

AIDE

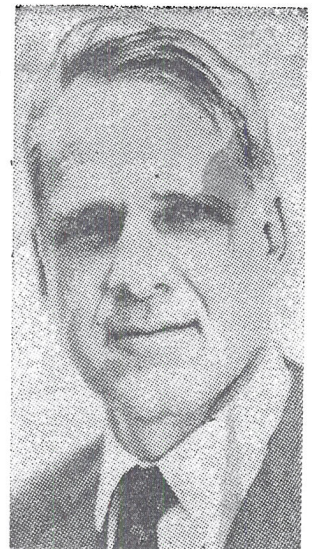
No successor was named to the AEC chairmanship, which Schlesinger has held since August, 1971. Before

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AP Wirephoto

RICHARD HELMS
New envoy to Iran



AP Wirephoto

JAMES SCHLESINGER
Next director

CIA DIRECTOR

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that he had been a chief official of the Office of Management and Budget, concentrating on national security and international affairs.

This experience, coupled with the administration's apparent interest in the cost and redundancy of intelligence programs, led a close student of the CIA to suggest that what Mr. Nixon now wants is "more cloak for the buck."

Details about "the agency," as it is known in the government, are classified. But it is thought to have a budget of more than \$750 million and more than 10,000 employees. Most are in-

involved in intelligence — technical assessment, analysis and estimates.

ENVOY

If confirmed by the senate, Helms will succeed Joseph S. Farland, who has been ambassador to Iran since last May. The White House said Farland will be reassigned to another post.

According to a private source, the outgoing deputy secretary of state, John N. Irwin, will soon be announced as the President's nominee to be ambassador to France. The position has been vacant since the departure in early November of Arthur K. Watson, an IBM executive, who is Irwin's brother-in-law.