

JAN 25 1978

Carter's Shakeup of Intelligence Work

Washington

President Carter yesterday ordered a major reorganization of the U.S. intelligence community, terming his action a "major step forward" in safeguarding both the national interest and civil liberties.

At a White House ceremony, Carter signed a bulky executive order designed not only to streamline the intelligence setup, but also to put new restrictions on covert activities that have drawn fire from congressional investigators. The restrictions include an outright ban on political assassinations.

The President took the occasion to express his "sincere and complete confidence" in Admiral Stansfield Turner, an Annapolis classmate he named as director of the Central Intelligence Agency. There had been reports that Turner would be eased out as CIA director.

Turner emerges from the reorganization with enhanced authority, particularly over the preparation of budgets not only for CIA, but also for the Pentagon's National Security Agency and Defense Intelligence Agency. However, administration officials acknowledged that Turner did not get all the expanded powers he sought.

The CIA chief has caused dissatisfaction in the CIA, especially for abruptly firing a large number of senior agents last year.

Turner and other intelligence



UPI Telephoto

SECURITY ADVISER ZBIGNIEW BRZEZINSKI AND CIA DIRECTOR STANFIELD TURNER The two joked with reporters after the President signed the reorganization order

bosses attended the ceremony, as did a sizable delegation from Congress and Vice President Walter Mondale, who helped direct a months-long administration review that led to the executive order.

"In my opinion," said Mondale, "the most important principle this

executive order stands for is that we can protect our nation and do it within the law."

Calling attention to illegalities exposed by Congress, Mondale said the order takes direct issue with those who argue that illegal means

are necessary if intelligence activities are to succeed.

Carter assigned a major "oversight" role to Attorney General Griffin Bell, who henceforth must personally authorize the use of electronic surveillance, television

monitoring, physical searches or mail openings by the intelligence community when U.S. citizens or organizations are the targets.

In the case of mail openings, this may be done only if mail has passed beyond the care of the Postal Service.

The restricted activities, in general, can only be directed against Americans if there is cause to believe they are foreign agents.

The order says intelligence activities "should be responsive to legitimate governmental needs and must be conducted in a manner that preserves and respects established concepts of privacy and civil liberties."

In regard to reorganization, two standing committees of the National Security Council are given newly defined and expanded roles:

- The Policy Review Committee, chaired by Turner, will set intelligence priorities and make sure budgets take them into account. Carter said, "This ensures that the needs of the most important users of intelligence will guide the entire intelligence process."

- The Special Coordination Committee, headed by presidential assistant Zbigniew Brzezinski, "will review and make recommendations to the President on the most sensitive intelligence activities" and, for the first time, coordinate all counter-intelligence work.

Associated Press