

That White House 'Shakeup' Was Not Really a Shakeup at All

by Lou Cannon

There are two reorganizations underway these days in the Nixon administration, one the "major shakeup" promised by the White House in the aftermath of the election and in the other the reorganization which is actually taking place.

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In fact, on the White House staff level the "shakeup" is not really a shakeup at all. The impression conveyed by Ziegler's barrage of announcements is that everybody is going and that Charles Colson, the controversial special counsel, has been kind enough to stay on for 60 days and help in the transition. What is actually happening is that almost everyone else is staying and that Colson is going.

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The announcements that haven't been made are as revealing as the ones that have been. Two other administration officials, in addition to Colson, were linked by pre-election reports to the still-unproven charges that the administration played a direct role in espionage against the Democratic opposition. These two, ... Dwight Chapin and ... Kenneth Clawson, also are staying if they want to stay. Additionally, Chapin has been told to make himself unavailable to questions from the press.

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