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Washington

As president of the Naval War College from 1972 to 1974, Admiral Stansfield Turner kept a sign on his door that read: "I need one good idea a day."

It was characteristic of a man whom his associates and friends describe as endlessly curious about philosophy, theater, opera, international politics and military affairs.

Stan Turner, whom President Carter designated yesterday as his choice to head the Central Intelligence Agency and to function as his director of Central Intelligence, was an all-round student of the world around him as early as his high school days in Highland Park,

He was also near the top of his class wherever he studied.

There is one side to Turner which a naval associate described "breezy and informal," another which he said made one 'not mistake for one minute that he is an admiral.

When he commanded the Second Fleet in 1974 in the Atlantic, he was accustomed to make surprise visits to his ships by helicopter. Before landing, he would toss a life preserver into the ocean and then demand that the crew "show what

Carter on TV Today

President Carter's first televised news conference since his inauguration will be shown today at 11:30 a.m. on the three major networks.

The press conference will be carried live on Channel 4 (KRON), Channel 5 (KPIX) and Channel 7 (KGO). It will be repeated at 11:30 p.m. on Channel 9 (KQED).

they could do" about a putative man overboard on instant notice.

An associate from his days at the Newport, R.I., war college described this as a continuation of the "shakeup politics" he had instituted on his arrival there. His first day there he told the students to "feel right at home" and show their families around the campus. After this lulling start, he said: "Report back to the first class in one hour."

The shakeup proceeded with his demand that the college serve not as "a year off" from naval duty, but a program involving tough

examinations in strategy, tactics, analysis and management.

These practices and his own penchant for a heavy intellectual diet did not endear Turner to all of his peers.

However, he won respect at Newport for innovations, such as a series of humanities lectures by outsiders, including his friend, Herman Wouk, the author of the Caine Mutiny. An evening at the Turner household, a colleague recalled, was likely to include a politician or a historian.

One of his guests at a college seminar was the Georgia governor, Jimmy Carter, who was his classmate at the Naval Academy in the accelerated class of 1947, which finished a year early.

Turner had come to the Navy way of the Naval Reserve at Amherst College, which he attended from 1941 to 1943. He finished 25th in a class of 820, served on a carrier and a cruiser, and then won a Rhodes Scholarship. At Oxford he studied philosophy, politics and economics, receiving a masters degree in arts in 1950.

He was on destroyers during the Korean War, during which he earned a Bronze Star medal and other medals. He also commanded a guided-missile frigate in the Vietnam conflict.

His shore duty included two tours in defense systems analysis at the Pentagon. He was appointed commander-in-chief of Allied Forces, Southern Europe, in August. 1975

He was born Dec. 1, 1923, in Highland Park, a prosperous suburb of Chicago on the shore of Lake Michigan, the son of Oliver Stansfield and Wilhelmina Josephine Turner. His father was a real estate broker.

Student of World

He was elected class president in his sophomore year of high school and was a football letterman. Mary Mikkelson, who went to school with him, recalls him as "nice to everybody" and "into everything."

At Annapolis, he also made the football team despite his relatively short stature, and played left guard. He continues to enjoy sports playing tennis and squash and swimming when he has a chance. His classmates remembered his

"corny puns" in the yearbook, a habit he appears to have retained.

He married the former Patricia Busy Whitney in 1953. Their son, Geoffrey, is a Navy lieutenant stationed in Maryland, and their daughter Laurel is married. The Turners recently became grandpar-

Turner does not smoke, drinks rarely and works long days, his associates report.

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