

The Washington Post reported today that the assistant director of the FBI, William Sullivan, has been forced into retirement after a series of policy disputes with the director of the FBI, J. Edgar Hoover. The Post said that Mr. Sullivan was on sick leave on Friday [1 Oct] while his name was removed from his office door and the locks changed. The newspaper also said that Mr. Sullivan was not informed of the action.

A spokesman for the FBI declined today to comment on the story in the Post but confirmed Mr. Sullivan's retirement and the appointment of Alex Rosen, the director of the FBI's general investigative division, as a successor.

Quoting sources inside the FBI, the Post said that Mr. Sullivan had been under intense pressure from Mr. Hoover to resign and had resisted as of 10 p.m. Friday. The Post said, "The sources said they expected Sullivan to decide over the weekend whether actually to turn in his resignation, or to challenge openly his one-time benefactor at the risk of his government pension."

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