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HENRY S. ROWEN TO HEAD CIA'S NEW NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE COUNCIL
BY JUDITH MILLER
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WASHINGTON - THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION HAS SELECTED HENRY S. ROWEN TO HEAD A NEWLY CREATED NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE COUNCIL AT THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS SAID TUESDAY.

ROWEN, A FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE RAND CORP. WHO RESIGNED IN 1971, PARTLY BECAUSE OF PENTAGON DISSATISFACTION WITH RAND'S SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE PENTAGON PAPERS, HAS UNTIL RECENTLY BEEN A PROFESSOR AT STANFORD UNIVERSITY'S GRADUATE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS. HE HAS ALREADY BEGUN WORKING AT THE CIA, BUT HIS APPOINTMENT HAS NOT BEEN ANNOUNCED.

ACCORDING TO ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS, WILLIAM J. CASEY, THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE, CHOSE ROWEN FOR THE POST AND DECIDED TO CREATE THE COUNCIL TO UPGRADE THE SYSTEM UNDER WHICH NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATES ARE PRODUCED.

PREPARATION OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATES, WHICH ARE SUPPOSED TO BE COMPREHENSIVE STUDIES OF AN ISSUE OR SUBJECT THAT REFLECT THE VIEWS OF THE ENTIRE INTELLIGENCE APPARATUS, HAS BEEN A SOURCE OF BITTERNESS WITH INTELLIGENCE OFFICIALS FOR NEARLY EIGHT YEARS. CASEY RECENTLY TOLD CIA OFFICIALS IN AN AGENCY NEWSLETTER THAT THE SYSTEM HAD BECOME ''SLOW, CUMBERSOME AND INCONSISTENT WITH PROVIDING THE POLICY MAKER WITH A TIMELY, CRISP FORECAST THAT INCORPORATES CLEARLY DEFINED ALTERNATIVE VIEWS.''

CRITICS OF THE PROCESS HAVE ALSO CHARGED THAT THE ESTIMATES HAVE PREDOMINANTLY REFLECTED CIA VIEWS, WITH IMPORTANT DISSENTS FROM OTHER INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES RELEGATED TO FOOTNOTES. STANSFIELD TURNER, DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE IN THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION, WAS ACCUSED BY SOME INTELLIGENCE OFFICIALS OF DISTORTING ESTIMATES TO MAKE THEM DOVETAIL WITH THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION'S FOREIGN POLICY, AN ALLEGATION THAT TURNER DENIED, ALTHOUGH HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HE HAD PERSONALLY REWRITTEN ESTIMATE PAPERS.

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