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PM-INTELLIGENCE SKED 12-12BY NICHOLAS DANILOFF

WASHINGTON (UPI) -- IN AN EFFORT TO IMPROVE ANALY FORECASTS, CIA DIRECTOR STANSFIELD TURNER HAS RECRUITED AN INDEPENDENT THREE-MAN REVIEW PANEL WITH BROAD AUTHORITY TO CRITICIZE U.S. INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATES.

A SENIOR INTELLIGENCE OFFICIAL SAID THE PANEL WILL HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO CRITICIZE ANY ESTIMATE IT CHOOSES AND AS SEVERELY AS IT THINKS APPROPRIATE.

DISCLOSURE OF THE MOVE COMES AT A TIME WHEN PRESIDENT CARTER HAS MADE CLEAR BOTH PRIVATELY AND PUBLICLY THAT HE IS DISSATISFIED WITH THE QUALITY OF INTELLIGENCE REACHING HIM.

THE OUTSIDE CRITICS -- WHO WILL JOIN THE CIA FOR A TWO-YEAR NITCH -- ARE PROF. KLAUS KNORR OF PRINCETON UNIVERSITY, AMBASSADOR WILLIAM LEONHART, AND GEN. BRUCE PALMER, RETIRED ARMY VICE CHIEF OF STAFF.

TURNER CONCEIVED THE IDEA FOR THE REVIEW PANEL ABOUT A YEAR AGO. THE OFFICIAL DISCLOSED, BUT IT IS ONLY NOW ON THE VERGE OF BECOMING ACTIVE.

KNORR IS DUE TO JOIN THE CIA JAN. 1. LEONHART AND PALMER ARRIVED EARLIER THIS YEAR.

THE PANEL WILL BE ABLE TO DRAW ON THE HELP OF SOME 30 OTHER ACADEMICS AROUND THE COUNTRY WHO ARE ON AN "AVAILABILITY LIST." THE OTHER OUTSIDERS HAVE AGREED TO BE CONSULTANTS TO THE CIA APPROXIMATELY ONE DAY A WEEK AS NEEDED.

A MAJOR SOURCE OF DISSATISFACTION AT THE WHITE HOUSE WAS THE CIA'S DIFFICULTY IN PREDICTING THE COURSE OF CURRENT UNREST IN IRAN.

THE CIA LABORED FOR WEEKS ON AN UP-TO-DATE ASSESSMENT OF THE LIKELY TURN OF EVENTS IN IRAN WHERE THE SHAH'S AUTHORITY HAS BEEN SEVERELY CHALLENGED BY AYATOLLAH KHOMEINI, THE SHIITE MOSLEM LEADER LIVING IN EXILE IN PARIS.

ONE DRAFT OF THE ESTIMATE, THE OFFICIAL SAID, CONTAINED THE ASSESSMENT THE SHAH WAS LIKELY TO RIDE OUT THE MOUNTING CRITICISMS WITHOUT MAJOR THREAT TO HIS POWER. THIS CONCLUSION TURNED OUT TO BE WRONG.

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