



STATINTL

CAPITAL CHATTER

Overhaul Due

In Latin-America Policy Making

By Our Washington Staff

WASHINGTON — White House braintrusts are being moved about like chess pieces in an effort to bring order out of the chaotic administration of our Latin American policy.

There's been a widespread feeling that President Kennedy has too many people working on the problem. Net effect of the change will be to diminish by two-thirds the impressive array of talent who have been stumbling all over themselves.

Appointment of Robert F. Woodward as assistant secretary of state for Latin American affairs was the necessary first move. The theory is that he will become the central clearing house for ideas about Latin America, but whether this will work out in practice remains yet to be seen.

After Woodward is settled down, Adolph A. Berle, the President's special assistant on Latin American affairs, will return to private life.

Arthur M. Schlesinger Jr. will be eased over to other duties as the White House's general handyman. This will leave presidential assistant Richard N. Goodwin, 29-year-old campaign speech writer, as the only survivor of the existing special White House team still assigned to Latin American affairs. Of course, national security adviser McGeorge Bundy and Walt W. Rostow will be on tap for assistance at any time.

One of those most displeased by the changes is Secretary of State Dean Rusk, who at times during the Berle-Schlesinger-Goodwin regime had trouble figuring out what Latin American move was coming next.

Meanwhile, back in the rumor mill, the Administration is said to be having a time of it figuring a way to ease CIA chief Allen W. Dulles out of his job. He has been intending to quit late this year, but the Cuban fiasco would make it look as if he were being fired. Dulles has had a long and distinguished government career and the White House is now seeking some way of rewarding him for his services while at the same time making it look as if he's the fall guy for the fiasco.

The new team... is fanatical on the subject of civilian control of the military. It takes a jaundiced view of generals and admirals who, members of the New Frontier think, are too parochial in outlook and have too many vested interests in their own branches of service. One joker suggested that the elimination of generals and admirals might be the answer to the problem. His own ingenious solution would be to allow no promotions above the rank of Lieutenant Colonel (or in the Navy, Commander) until the officer had worked his way up from 2nd Lieutenant and Ensign in exact service. By the time he was ready to become an admiral or general, he would be ready for retirement.

Name of this plan? Operation Treadmill.

Some people think Congress may be going to extremes to protect children. Rep. Allen J. Ellender (D-La) has introduced a bill to "prevent the introduction and spread of diseases dangerous to the adult honeybee." The question they seem to be asking is: What is to be done about protecting honeybee children? They presumably will be left exposed to all the customary honeybee childhood diseases while their parents would be protected by law.