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CRISIS IN THE CIA

The following is a full translation of an article by V. KASSIS, entitled "Crisis in the CIA," which appeared in Izvestiya, 24 June 1966:

"There has been a reshuffling in the leadership of the US Central Intelligence Agency. Admiral Raborn's post as Director of the 'sick elephant' -- as the CIA is called in the US -- has been taken over by his former deputy, Richard Helms.

"It is noteworthy that in December 1965 the Washington correspondent of the St Louis Post Dispatch, R. Dadmen [transliterated from the Russian], foresaw that something would happen within CIA.

"The brazen intervention by the US imperialists in the Dominican Republic aroused a storm of indignation throughout the world. The key figure of the intervention, Admiral Raborn, suffered a fiasco at that time. As the US press said, he proved to be a rather 'unqualified expert.'

"Nevertheless, to save face US leaders allegedly decided 'that the Admiral would remain in his post for at least another year.' The forecast turned out to be too optimistic. Raborn continued at his post for half-a-year less.

"Was the failure of CIA activity in connection with US intervention in the Dominican Republic the only reason for Raborn's dismissal from the post? Of course not. In recent years a veritable reshuffle (game of leap-frog) of directors has been going on in this super secret US agency. Allen Dulles was replaced by John McCone, John McCone by William Raborn, and now William Raborn by Richard Helms. The duty of creating a reliable screen for the provocative operations of the US government was assigned to each of the above CIA leaders. But each one of them, because of his personal qualities and capabilities, ruined one operation after another.

"Suffice it to recall the unsuccessful attempt at intervention against revolutionary Cuba, the clumsy work of the CIA in South Vietnam, the endless intrigues in the Congo (Leopoldville), and the constant failure of the 'sick elephant' in other countries.

"As one US senator expressed it, the CIA is taking too much upon itself and giving poor justification for its billion dollar expenditures. In spite of this, according to the testimony of Senator Young, the agency is gradually becoming an invisible government in the US. Even the US press

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lately has increasingly expressed a note of indignation at the activities of the CIA, which is likened to a 'state within a state' and which plays too great a role in determining US foreign policy.

"The present changes in CIA leadership were obviously called forth by still another reason. Raborn has been replaced by Richard Helms, a professional intelligence man. Washington sets great hopes on him and expects him to prevent new CIA flops. But the point is that these flops of the CIA take place not because of the persons who occupy the director's chair, but because of the US's aggressive and adventuristic foreign policy itself."