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EDITORIAL

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General Smith Names A Deputy

Brigadier General F. Trubee Davison has been appointed director of personnel and assistant to Lieut. General Walter Bedell Smith, chief of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Mr. Davison has been serving as a leader of civil defense in Nassau County, New York. He was Assistant Secretary of War in the Coolidge and Hoover Administrations. In World War I he was a member of the famed "Yale Group" of young volunteer pilots, and in June of 1941 he became an Air Force colonel, retiring as a one-star general after serving as Assistant Chief of the Air Staff in charge of personnel under the late General of the Air Force "Hap" Arnold. In civilian life he has been president of the American Museum of Natural History for almost 18 years, and had planned to retire in October.

Trubee Davison is a peculiar combination of scholar and man of action. He is a flier, a lawyer, an administrator, a politician, a combat veteran of two wars, and withal an exceedingly cultivated citizen—in short a well-rounded man, to employ an old-fashioned phrase.

He possesses exactly what the Central Intelligence Agency needs most—a nimble, fertile, unregimented mind. The CIA has been rather unfortunate in its chiefs, who are selected in turn from the various Services (an extremely poor arrangement). Bedell Smith is the first to bring to the exacting job, so unorthodox, indeed so unprecedented, anything like the proper qualifications of mind, personality, and experience. It is ever the mark of a good leader to choose good subordinates, and General Smith has done just that in picking Mr. Davison as a deputy.

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