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## CIA Chief Fires Two Officers for Roles In Iran-Contra Case, Disciplines Others

By JOHN WALCOTT

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WASHINGTON — Central Intelligence Agency Director William Webster has fired two CIA officers and disciplined several senior officials for their roles in the Iran-Contra affair, intelligence sources said.

Bill Baker, a CIA spokesman, said the agency doesn't comment on administrative actions "until and unless they're announced." But administration intelligence officials said Mr. Webster fired the former CIA station chief in Costa Rica and the chief of the large CIA base at Aguacate, Honduras.

In addition, intelligence sources said the CIA director has reprimanded Duane "Dewey" Clarridge, the director of the agency's Counterterrorism Center, and Alan Fiers, head of the CIA's Central America Task Force.

The sources said Mr. Webster dismissed Mr. Clarridge from his post in the terrorism unit, and suggested he take early retirement. The CIA director also reprimanded and demoted Mr. Fiers.

Mr. Webster waited to take action against officers who had been implicated in the Iran-Contra affair until he had digested a report he commissioned on the CIA's actions by his special counsel, Washington lawyer Russell Bruemmer.

The report was completed two weeks ago, a CIA official said, and Mr. Webster took action this week.

Intelligence sources said Mr. Clarridge was disciplined because he provided incomplete or misleading testimony to congressional investigators probing the administration's secret arms deliveries to

Iran and the transfer of profits from the arms sales to the Nicaraguan rebels.

In addition, Mr. Clarridge was reprimanded for traveling to South Africa to seek aid for the rebels, or Contras, without informing the State Department.

Intelligence sources, however, said Mr. Clarridge was sent to South Africa by the late CIA director William Casey and that State Department Latin America policy makers were aware of his mission.

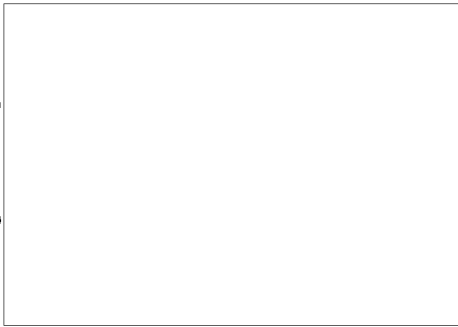
Mr. Fiers served with former National Security Council aide Lt. Col. Oliver North on the administration's Restricted Inter-agency Group, which supervised U.S. policy toward Nicaragua while CIA field officers in Costa Rica and Honduras were assisting a supposedly private Contra aid network directed by Col. North.

Intelligence officials said the field officers reported to Mr. Fiers that they were cooperating with Col. North's operation while a congressional ban on U.S. military aid to the Contras was in force.

The sources also asserted that CIA operation director Clair George was aware of the agency's role in assisting Col. North. Mr. George will retire at the end of this month.

Mr. Webster has resisted pressure from the House and Senate intelligence committees, which want to impose new restrictions on covert operations. But intelligence sources say Mr. Webster also has tried to avoid disrupting the agency or sending morale there into a tailspin with wholesale firings, demotions and transfers.

It isn't clear, however, whether the disciplinary actions Mr. Webster has taken this week will mollify the CIA's congressional critics.



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