

Senior Bush financial adviser steps down

by UPI

WASHINGTON -- The Bush administration's White House exodus expanded Wednesday with the resignation of National Economic Council chief Alan Hubbard. An unidentified senior administration official confirmed to ABC News that Hubbard, 60, was leaving after leading the council for three years. The Wall Street Journal said Hubbard worked on deregulation issues at the White House under President George H.W. Bush, and was an informal adviser and top fundraiser for the current president's bids for the White House in 2000 and 2004. Last week Homeland Security Adviser Frances Townsend resigned and Bush has also lost chief political adviser Karl Rove; communications chief Dan Bartlett; and budget director Rob Portman in the past six months. Such high-profile staff changes are usual as an administration heads into its final year. The National Economic Council advises the president on U.S. and global economic policy.

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