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Moss to Cox: Probe Dual Role Of Gen. Haig

Associated Press

Rep. John E. Moss, (D-Calif.) charging that President Nixon's appointment of former Gen. Alexander Haig Jr. as his chief administrative aide violated the law, yesterday asked special Watergate prosecutor Archibald Cox to investigate it.

Haig was a four-star general when Nixon brought him into the White House on May 6 to replace H. R. Haldeman, who resigned in the wake of the Watergate scandal, and remained on active status until placed on the retirement list Aug. 1.

Moss, in a letter to Cox, said Haig's three months of double duty as a military officer and civilian government official not only violated the law but set a dangerous precedent.

"The line between the professional military and civilian control of the United States' military forces has been blurred by this appointment," Moss said. "That line must be redrawn in the interests of the Constitution and the well-being of representative democracy in this nation."

He said he was turning to Cox because efforts to get Atty. Gen. Elliot Richardson to act had proved unsuccessful. "At no time did he answer my direct questions," Moss said of Richardson, "choosing instead to take refuge behind feeble legalisms."