

Gen. Haig to Pay for His Dog's Trip

Stuttgart, Germany

General Alexander M. Haig Jr. will reimburse the government for what it cost to transport his dog, Duncan, from Frankfurt to

Stuttgart last October, a spokesman for the U.S. European Command said yesterday.

The use of a staff car to transport Duncan was dis-

closed this week in Washington by Representative Les Aspin (Dem-Wis.). He said it was illegal and demanded that the Army collect the costs from the general.

Haig, former White House chief of staff, heard about the matter for the first time when Aspin disclosed it, the spokesman said, and decid-

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ed to pay the \$46.92 cost of the 260-mile round trip by two enlisted men to pick up the dog, the spokesman said.

The soldier who drove to Frankfurt airport to pick up Duncan and bring him back to Stuttgart said he did it "under protest."

"I figured with the gas shortage and our regulations, a special run for a dog was totally unauthorized," said Private First Class Marty Lopez, 19, of San Jose, Calif.

The incident occurred when Haig came from Washington to Germany to become supreme commander of allied forces in Europe and chief of the U.S. European Command in Stuttgart.

The spokesman said Haig

had the dog flown from the United States on a commercial plane at his own expense and arrived in Frankfurt himself a few hours later without knowing the dog had been taken off the plane at Frankfurt and been driven to Stuttgart.

Instead, the statement said, an officer handling Haig's arrival arrangements ordered the staff car on his own initiative when he received a telephone call from Frankfurt that the dog had arrived there.

The case recalled the 1944 furor over claims that President Franklin D. Roosevelt had sent a Navy destroyer to transport his dog Fala from Alaska. Roosevelt, referring to the matter in a speech at a Teamsters din-

ner, said: "Republican fiction writers in Congress and out had concocted" the story. "I don't resent attacks and my family doesn't resent attacks, but Fala does resent them," he said.

When directed to drive a military station wagon to pick up Duncan, a beagle-dachshund mongrel, Lopez said:

"I told the motor pool dispatcher, Specialist 5 Charles Risch, I wouldn't go. He told me not to worry, that he'd send the paperwork to Senator Proxmire." Senator William Proxmire (Dem-Wis.) is from the same party and state as Representative Aspin, who made the matter public.

Associated Press