Ford Choice Told To Quit Air Force

Washington

Lieutenant General Brent Scowcroft has been advised by the White House counsel's office that he should retire from the Air Force before serving as President Ford's special assistant for national security affairs.

The announcement was made yesterday by deputy White House press secretary William I. Greener Jr., who said, however, that Scowcroft had not been directed to resign his commission.

Scowcroft's case thus apparently would be similar to that of Army General Alexander M. Haig Jr., who retired to become former President Nixon's staff chief. Haig did not resign his commission and thus was able to return to active duty and assume command of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

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