Tunney Reaction On Alioto Hearing

Washington

U.S. Senator John V. Tunney (Dem-Calif.) yesterday said he was "deeply disturbed" by the report linking the FBI and Look magazine writers in the case of the magazine's article about San Francisco Mayor Joseph L. Alioto.

Tunney's comments came during a hearing by the Senate subcommittee on constitutional rights — of which Tunney is a member — into Alioto's charges that five federal agencies had leaked "raw" (unverified) confidential information to the authors of the Look article, which claimed to link Alioto to the Mafia.

Referring to the fact that FBI agent Herbert Mudd, of San Francisco, had been the subject of departmental action because of information he gave to the authors of the Look article, Tunney said, his voice rising:

"I am very deeply disturbed by the coincidence of events wherein magazine reporters were able to get confidential information from five separate government investigative agencies and the worst thing that happened is one man (Mudd) being required to take an early retirement."

Assistant Attorney General William Rehnquist said he was not prepared to answer questions about the Alioto case.

Tunney expressed surprise at Rehnquist's statement, saying several other Justice Department officers had been notified the question would come up at the hearing.

No date was set for the resumption of the subcommittee's investigation.

Our Correspondent