



By Linda Wheeler—The Washington Post

General Alexander M. Haig with his mother, Regina Haig, and wife, Patricia, Wednesday night.

A Tribute to the New Chief of Staff

By Dorothy McCardle

Reprinted from yesterday's late editions

Gen. Alexander Haig, the new chief of staff at the White House, ignored the problems that Watergate has created for the President Wednesday night and instead gave a detailed account of how the Nixon Doctrine can help solve the problems of the world.

Gen. Haig spoke after he was given the Brien McMahon Memorial Award by the Fordham University Club of Washington at a dinner at the Mayflower Hotel. The award is given for "distinguished public service."

In his remarks, Haig urged that the United States not become so obsessed with problems at home that it forgets its role as a "force

for peace and stability in the world."

Haig played a key role during Vietnam cease-fire negotiations, as a deputy to Dr. Henry Kissinger, the President's chief foreign policy adviser. He relinquished that role six months ago to become vice chief of staff of the Army.

But when Watergate developments forced the resignation of H. R. (Bob) Halde- man as the President's chief of staff last month, Haig was summoned to replace Haldeman temporarily.

Haig spoke Wednesday night of the "lowered profile" of the United States under the Nixon Doctrine. "The changes in our approach to foreign affairs do not mean that we can afford to turn our backs on the vital in-

terests of America abroad," he said.

He said he feels that the U.S. cannot now "turn inward" and concern itself only with such problems as the environment at home. "We will remain a factor on this globe," he said, "as a force for peace and stability. We must achieve a consensus for stability on this globe."

It had been expected that Haig, who is not a Fordham alumnus, would arrive late, accept the award, speak briefly and then hurry back to his White House duties.

But he arrived in time for the cocktail hour accompanied by his wife, Patricia; his mother, Regina Haig, a widow of Pennington, N.J.; his sister, Mrs. Edward Meredith, also of Pennington,

and his brother, a Jesuit priest, the Rev. Frank Haig, a professor of physics at Loyola College in Baltimore.

Haig sat through dinner and about two hours of speeches, listening to a history of the present state of the campus at Fordham from the dean, the Rev. George T. McMahon, and a report on the Fordham alumni from the Rev. John L. Connolly. He was then presented by Col. Martin Sullivan, the club president.

In the audience was the Baroness Silvercrucys, widow of the late Sen. McMahon of Connecticut, for whom the award was named, and Sen. McMahon's daughter, Mrs. Richard Lane. Mrs. Lane had to hurry home because of baby-sitting problems and did not get to stay for the presentation of the award.