

Haig's Job —Officially, Is Illegal

WASHINGTON — (UPI) — Comptroller General Elm-Staats has ruled that Gen. Alexander M. Haig Jr. is violating federal law by serving as President Nixon's staff aide while still on active military duty.

Rep. John Moss, (D-Sacramento, Calif.) said today he has written Attorney General Elliot L. Richardson demanding that Haig be ordered to leave the White House.

Moss originally questioned Haig's civilian role several weeks ago. The White House then announced Haig would retire from the Army on Aug. 1.

'Violation'

In answer to Moss' questions about the legality of Haig's post, Staats said in a written reply dated June 15 that "it now is our view that a violation of the statute is indicated."

Nixon announced on May 4 that Haig, a four star general who is vice chief of staff of the Army, was succeeding H. R. Haldeman.

Reviews Law

Staats, after reviewing the law and the official announcements of Haig's appointment and duties, told Moss: "While . . . we cannot categorically say that General Haig is exercising the functions of a civil office, it now is our view that a violation of the statute is indicated."

Moss, in his letter to Richardson, said: "If the present status of General Haig is unlawful, and the Comptroller General's letter indicates that it is, we are observing a serious evasion of law by our er Staats has ruled that Gen. highest authority."