

Cranston Urges Ford to Block

Senator Alan Cranston urged President Ford last night to "take immediate steps" to prevent a Watergate-style coverup of Congressional investigations into alleged domestic spying by the CIA and FBI.

"It is the President's responsibility to see to it that

all relevant files, tapes, and documents are fully safeguarded," the California Democrat told a gathering of 400 newspaper publishers at the Hilton Hotel.

Cranston called on the President to appoint a special White House counselor to insure that the agencies

"do not destroy evidence and that witnesses do not take advantage of secrecy classifications to withhold relevant information."

"You might call him a counter-coverup adviser," said Cranston. "A kind of anti-Haldeman."

Cranston was the principal

CIA Probe Coverup

opening day speaker at the California Newspaper Publisher Convention.

Cranston praised the press for publishing allegations about the domestic spying activities of the intelligence agencies.

"The American people again owe the press a vote

of thanks," he said.

"We must root out all traces of totalitarian, police-state tactics from our espionage operations. We must not stoop to using the lawless, immoral techniques of dictatorship in trying to defend our democracy from dictatorships,"