

## A NEW HOT SEAT FOR KISSINGER'S KISSINGER



Haig: Model major general

AP

The man chosen last week to be Richard Nixon's new Bob Haldeman first rose to prominence as Henry Kissinger's Henry Kissinger. Gen. Alexander Meigs Haig Jr.—only recently promoted to the post of Army Vice Chief of Staff and now the emergency chief of staff for the President—served for three and a half years as Kissinger's top deputy at the White House National Security Council. While Kissinger ran the nation's foreign policy, Haig, 48, ran the NSC, impressing officials from the President on down with his quick grasp, administrative finesse and capacity for hard work. "When you see the lights burning late in Kissinger's office, it's usually Haig," President Nixon once remarked.

Haig's appeal is bipartisan, and he tries to keep it that way. In the early '60s, the young officer won the respect of Kennedy troubleshooter Cyrus Vance and also impressed Joseph Califano, who was then serving as the Army's general counsel. Haig went on to become deputy special assistant to Secretary of Defense

Robert McNamara before taking a troop command in Vietnam. In 1969—at Califano's suggestion—Kissinger took Colonel Haig into the NSC. There, he developed into the very model of a modern major general—flying to Peking to set up the President's visit and persuading South Vietnamese President Nguyen Van Thieu to support Mr. Nixon's peace proposals. Even after his promotion to Vice Chief of Staff last January, Haig continued to handle delicate Presidential assignments in Southeast Asia.

His usual White House regimen of fourteen-hour days, six- and seven-day weeks, does not leave much private life for Haig to enjoy with his wife, two college-age sons and teen-age daughter. What free moments there are he generally devotes to tennis or other sports. Above all, he remains a military man at heart, and sees no conflict in his work at the highest levels of the government. "It's been no problem for me," Haig told one reporter. "I know what the President expects of me. I think I do all right."