

Of Haig on Cox Ouster

Associated Press

Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield said yesterday that President Nixon's chief of staff, Alexander M. Haig Jr. should be called before the Senate Judiciary Committee to explain his view of the firing of Watergate Special Prosecutor Archibald Cox.

The President and Haig have said that then-Attorney General Elliott L. Richardson had supported a plan to limit Cox's investigation, particularly his pursuit in court of the White House tape recordings related to the Watergate case.

But Richardson, who resigned last month rather than fire Cox, disputed this view in sworn testimony before the Senate committee.

Asked if he thought Haig should also testify, Mansfield, appearing on the television show "Meet The Press" (NBC, WRC), said: "I certainly do and I don't think executive privilege should apply."

He also said Cox and Richardson should be called to testify again to help clear up the differences.