Kissinger Initiates Own Probe

By Laurence Stern Washington Post Staff Writer

Henry A. Kissinger has asked his chief State Department legal adviser to investigate all charges bearing on the Secretary of State's connection with the national security wiretaps and the Watergate case.

Carlyle E. Maw, the State Department's legal adviser and confidant of the Secretary, said yesterday he was instructed to look into "everything relevant to anying anybody has said on Mr.

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Principally, Maw is gathering information bearing on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee's review of Kissinger's role in the wiretapping of 17 government officials and newsmen.

The committee is looking

The committee is looking into the question—as chairman J. W. Fulbright put it in writing this week—of "the truthfulness of Dr. Kissinger's testimony under oath before the committee during the hearings on his nomination."

Speaking yesterday of Kissinger's mandate to him, Maw said "he wants the full and complete story in the hands of the Foreign Relations Committee. He wants everything out."

Maw sought and received yesterday from U.S. District Court Judge John Lewis Smith Jr. permission to examine documents impounded in the suit against Kissinger by former National Security Council staffer Morton H. Halperin, one of the 17 wiretap targets. Maw sought access to the documents for himself and his special assistant, Oliver T. Johnson, in Kissinger's behalf.

The question of whether

The question of whether Kissinger had consulted or retained counsel in preparation of a defense against possible perjury action growing out of his Senate testimony came up at the secretary's June 6 press conference.

"I have not retained counsel," Kissinger testily replied, "and I am not conducting my office as if it were a conspirate."

Maw said he did not know whether Kissinger's private counsel, the New York firm of Cravath, Swaine and Moore, has entered the case. Maw was a member of that firm and handled private legal matters for the secretary before joining him at the State Department, according to department officials. He also helped in the planning of Kissinger's wed-

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ding and was the only State Department official present at the ceremony.

The entry of Maw into the case signified that Kissinger, who has been preoccupied with his own as well as the President's Middle East travels, is organizing a rebuttal to the allegations in FBI logs and summaries that he initiated the request for wiretap surveillance of some subordinates and newsmen.

Kissinger, along with other governmental defendants, is already being represented in the Halperin suit by Justice Department attorneys. Maw said his role is primarily to represent Kissinger's interests in the Foreign Relations Committee proceedings, the only one in which the truthfulness of the secretary's sworn testimony is at issue.

Fulbright, in behalf of the committee, also requested access on Wednesday to Justice Department authorizations and FBI records bearing on the 17 wiretaps—excluding the contents of overheard conversations. He made the request in writing to Attorney General William B. Saxbe.

In view of recent news stories bearing on Kissinger's role in the wiretaps, Fulbright wrote, "It is the responsibility of this committee, both to the public and to Dr. Kissinger, to obtain the tullest documentation available within the government concerning Dr. Kissinger's role in the initiation, operation, and termination of the wiretap program."

Fulbright received a re-

Fulbright received a response yesterday from Deputy Attorney General Lawrence Silberman described as "cooperative" in spirit. A committee source said it could lead to negotiations resulting in transmission of the information.

In other developments yesterday the Secretary of State received new expressions of support in the Senate with the total number of signatories to a resolution of confidence in Kissinger reaching 51. The measure, introduced by Sen. James B. Allen (D-Ala.) says that Kissinger's integrity and veracity is "above represseh"

James B. Allen (D-Ala.) says that Kissinger's integrity and veracity is "above reproach." It was sponsored after Kissinger's dramatic declaration Tuesday in a press conference at Salzburg, Austria, that he would resign unless questions of his "character and credibility" growing out of the wire-

tapping incluent are cleared

Kissinger has maintained that he did not specifically request whetap surveillance of the 13 government officials and four newsmen although he did provide names of persons to the FBI knowing of the probability that they would be placed under electronic surveillance.

FBI memoranda, including those of the late FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover, which have been examined by members of the House Judiciary Committee portray Kissinger as a prime mover in the wiretap surveillance program.

In the Senate yesterday, Minority Leader Hugh Scott (R-Pa.) criticized news stories on the Kissinger wiretap controversy. "Let's not continue to hound, harass and pursue the Secretary of State as he pursues the foreign policy of the United States," Scott declared. But Sen. Lowell P. Weicker

But Sen. Lowell P. Weicker Jr. (R-Conn.), a member of the Senate Watergate committee, responded that Kissinger "is not a victim of a biased news media, the Watergate or the House Judiciary Committees. Dr. Kissinger is a victim of his own administration, which has chosen to withhold information from the committee and the public."

There were indications yesterday that the Watergate special prosecutor's office will go into the national security wiretap episode as an extension of the investigation of the White House "plumbers" operation. So far the special prosecutor's investigation is described as having reached no conclusion on the question of Kissinger's role in the wiretaps as described in the conflicting versions.

Capitol Hill sources said yesterday that members of

Capitol Hill sources said yesterday that members of the special prosecutor's office might be available to testify before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on the wiretap case. But the office was expected to provide no documents in the matter, as were requested by Fulbright.