

Haldeman Asks Probe Of Leaks

Washington

Former White House chief of staff H. R. Haldeman asked a federal court yesterday to call a hearing to learn to what extent the special prosecutor's office and other government branches have been responsible for leaks about the Watergate coverup.

Haldeman asked that reporters, columnists and TV and radio newscasters be called at the hearing as witnesses.

Haldeman is one of six defendants in the Watergate coverup conspiracy case scheduled to be tried before U.E. District Judge John Sirica September 17.

He attached an affidavit listing 123 instances of news reports in all media between January 6 and May 20 of this year.

"Government leaks have been pervasive and damaging to the rights of the defendants in this case," the motion said.

Statements have emanated to the newspapers from "sources familiar with the investigation" or "close to the case," or "sources close to the Watergate investigation," the motion said.

Associated Press