

2 Nixon Ex-Aides Lose Lawyer

By John P. MacKenzie
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Two former White House aides who are suing former President Nixon over wiretapping lost their lawyer when Mr. Nixon retained Washington attorney Herbert J. (Jack) Miller to defend him against possible criminal charges.

William A. Lake and Richard M. Moose, who have sued Mr. Nixon, Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger and other top officials, have been without legal counsel since late last month.

The two men and their wives had been represented by Miller's law partner, Nathan Lewin, who obtained their permission to withdraw from the civil case.

Both men said they were disappointed but not bitter at the loss of Lewin and the inconvenience of seeking a new lawyer. They said they recognize that a possible conflict of interest would be created if Miller's firm worked both for and against Mr. Nixon.

Lake said the agreement to release Lewin came shortly before the announcement that Miller would have Mr. Nixon as a client.

Lewin, an expert on wiretapping, is the author of an article in The New Republic magazine that strongly recommended the prosecution of Mr. Nixon. The article also appeared before Miller was retained.

While representing Lake, Lewin wrote an extensive legal brief opposing a govern-

ment motion to drop Mr. Nixon as a defendant in the civil suit, which seeks damages for allegedly illegally tapping Lake's telephone.

The taps were among 17 surveillances triggered by Kissinger and others who said they sought the source of White House news leaks. Lake and Moose were members of Kissinger's National Security Council staff.

Moose, now on the staff of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, asked the U.S. District Court to dismiss his suit shortly after he filed it, subject to re-filing after the committee disposed of a controversy over Kissinger's role in the taps. Moose said he intends to file the suit again soon.

Miller's law partner, Nathan

no continuation