

F 024 10/24/73

Agnew Busy Cleaning Out Office

WASHINGTON (AP)—Spiro T. Agnew has been at work in the Executive Office building every day since his resignation as vice president, overseeing "the winding down process," a member of his staff said Tuesday.

"We couldn't describe him as a broken man," said the staffer, who asked to remain unidentified. "He's been seeing people and his attitude is very, very good. He's a very strong person."

Another staff member said Agnew has held a series of meetings with a number of persons on the staff and had gone to lunch with a few of them at a downtown restaurant.

"He's quite interested in the staff's future plans," the aide said. "He's offered anything he can do to help."

The aide added, however, that Agnew had not gone into detail about his legal problems or his future.

Agnew resigned Oct. 10 after pleading no contest to a federal charge of tax evasion. A federal grand jury in Baltimore had been investigating Agnew in connection with an alleged kickback scheme involving contractors and Maryland political figures.

Agnew's staff includes about 60 persons, two-third of them on the executive payroll and the remainder paid by the Senate. The day Agnew resigned, the Senate passed a resolution keeping the Senate staff members on salary until Nov. 10. The executive salaries will continue until Nov. 15.

In addition, President Nixon

has given Agnew a "minimal transition after his regular people are gone," according to Gerald Warren, deputy White House news secretary.

Agnew is expected to move sometime this week from the Executive Office Building to a "transitional office." There, he and his staff will complete the massive job of deciding which vice presidential papers and files he will keep and which will go in the National Archives.

While staff members hunt for new jobs, Agnew is considering his future.

Since his resignation, staffers said, the former vice president has received numerous speaking invitations at colleges and law schools, as well as requests for television appearances.

There is also talk among aides and close friends that Agnew is thinking about writing a book or a newspaper column.

Close associates in Baltimore County, where Agnew served as

county executive before being elected Maryland governor in 1966, said he has discussed plans to sell his \$190,000 home in suburban Bethesda, Md.

But friends expressed doubt that Agnew would move back to the Baltimore area.

"He hasn't got family connections here," one Baltimore friend said. "And if he can't practice law here, there's nothing for him."

Agnew could face disbarment because of his legal difficulties.