

President Rebuffs Agnew on Student

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Vice President Agnew yesterday called for the resignation of Joseph Rhodes Jr., from the presidential commission on campus unrest but the White House said that the Vice President's advice would not be taken.

Rhodes is a 22-year-old Harvard graduate student and one of nine persons President Nixon named to the special commission to investigate campus unrest.

The Vice President's attack was prompted by an interview Rhodes gave to The New York Times, in which he said that "one of the things I want to try to figure out is who gave what orders to send police on campus (at Kent State University and Jackson State) and were they thinking about 'campus bums' when they pulled the trigger."

The President used the term "bums" last month in describing students who burn buildings and books.

Agnew said that Rhodes' comments showed "a transparent bias that will make him counter-productive to the work of the commission. He

sees his role as that of an advocate, a role incompatible with his appointment."

The interview indicates that Rhodes "clearly does not possess the maturity, the objectivity and the judgment to serve on a fact-finding body of national importance," Agnew said.

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Associated Press

Joseph Rhodes: "I've got an avenue to vent my protest."

Agnew Asks Resignation of Student From Commission on Campus Unrest

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He emphasized that his statement "should in no way be interpreted as an implied criticism of a presidential appointment."

Rhodes is the youngest member of the commission and is a black.

When asked about the Vice President's criticism, White House press secretary Ronald L. Ziegler said that Rhodes was selected for the commission "to have a wide range of views represented.

"We have no plans to change the makeup of the commission. The President pointed out that there would be a wide diversity of opinion on the commission."

Ziegler said that Agnew did not discuss his statement on Rhodes with the White House before he released it to the press.

Ziegler would not comment when asked if the President approved of the Vice President criticizing appointments made by the President. But Ziegler emphasized, as the Vice President did, that the criticism was directed at statements Rhodes made in the interview.

In Cambridge, Mass., yesterday, Rhodes said he had no intention to resign. "I was asked by the President to serve on this commission," he said. "I have no intention of resigning. I will serve unless asked otherwise by the President.

"I must presume that the President appointed me to this commission because of my

strong views, including the fact that I do not necessarily agree with much of administration policy. I must presume that the President does not want a whitewash. I must also presume that he wants us to find the facts, unpleasant though these may be to the Vice President."

Presidential assistant John D. Ehrlichman has interviewed Rhodes on several occasions in recent months in

seeking information on campus problems.

In the interview, Rhodes also was quoted as saying that as long as White House officials "keep talking to me, I ought to be shot if I don't use the opportunity.

"I've got an avenue to vent my protest. But I feel these kids are right and we ought to do everything needed to protect them and the people who have to protect them."