VP's Son, Wife Separate

By JACK ANDERSON
WASHINGTON — Vice President Spiro Agnew is deeply troubled about his son Randy, who has broken up with his wife and has been living for the past month with a male hairdresser in Baltimore.

Randy, whose full name is James Rand Agnew, is a handsome, clean-cut 24-year-old Vietnam war veteran who works as a weightlifting instructor in a suburban health salon.

He left his wife, Ann, 22, about six months ago. Their daughter, three-year-old Michelle Ann, is the vice president's only grandchild. He named his 1968 campaign plane after her.

Randy has been staying with Buddy Hash, a pleasant, dark-haired man of 27 with a moustache and goatee. He and his mother operate La Triole, a profitable East Baltimore beauty parlor.

Hash was arrested Jan. 25, 1964, for allegedly maintaining a "disorderly house" and again Sept. 28, 1964, on a charge of marijuana possession. He was cleared of both charges.

For Spiro Agnew, a proudly sensitive man, his son's difficulties are all the more painful because the vice president has lectured the nation on handling young people and has boasted of his own family life.

"I don't have any trouble with my children," he recently told the Miami Herald. "We communicate very well, and there is an easy, relaxed attitude among the family."

IN HIS speeches, Agnew has been sharply critical of "affluent, permissive, upper-middle-class parents who learn, as Dr. Spock and I have pointed out, that

window when they should have done the opposite."

The vice president acknowledged to this column that Randy and his wife had separated but insisted that it was amicable.

"Randy takes the baby some of the time," said the vice president. "His wife will bring the baby to us, and we will deliver the baby back to her parents. There is no rancor."

AGNEW SAW he keeps in close touch with his son. "I don't see him from day to day but he comes down once a week or so. He is living in a converted garage. I have never seen this place, but I know where he is living."

This column found Randy in Hash's apartment "about a month," that he had been separated from his brunette wife for "about half a year."

Asked about the possibilities of a reconciliation, he replied: "I'd rather not comment about that. A lot can happen during a separation."

He also was reluctant to discuss his father's reaction to his situation. "It's completely in my hands," young Agnew said.

This column also spoke with Hash, who put to rest a rumor that Randy had dropped out of society to pursue a hippie existence. "Randy's nowhere near the hippie type," said Hash. "He's really very goody-goody."

THE HAIRDRESSER said he had allowed Agnew, whom he had known for some years, to stay with him because he was in debt. "He's got a lot of debts," said Hash. "I guess it's because he's got a wife and kid. Everyone thinks because his father's the vice president, he should have a lot of money, but it just isn't that way."

Hash said his two arrests involved former roommates. The "disorderly house" charge, he said was brought in Towson after a roommate allegedly roughed up a young boy. "It was a ridiculous charge and it was dismissed," he said.

His marijuana arrest occurred when police came to his former Baltimore residence looking for a roommate. "It didn't stand up in court," he said. Police records show the case against him was dismissed at a preliminary hearing.

Randy told this column he knew nothing of Hash's arrest record.