

INQUIRER

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Agnew, as TV Guest, Kids Own Exploits On Fairways, Court

NEW YORK, July 17 (AP).—"I like to get out and play golf and tennis," said Spiro T. Agnew. "It gives me a chance to apologize." Grinning and wisecracking about his famous slips on links and court, the Vice President of the United States made bantering small talk with golfer Arnold Palmer as a Friday guest on the NBC-TV "Tonight" show.

Agnew walked onto the stage at an afternoon taping of the show, which is aired late at night, carrying a tennis racquet and two golf clubs. The self-ridicule reference was to his pinging the neck of golf pro Doug Sanders with a shot in the Bob Hope Classic and his hitting his own partner, Joseph Blatchford, with a serve in a tennis doubles match.

Palmer was acting as substitute host on the show, which usually is run by Johnny Carson.

"I brought my weapons with me," Agnew said as he walked on, "and that's no joke as far as I'm concerned."

Then he got in a jolt in what some consider his running bicker with certain newspapers and newscasters.

"I came through the lobby

just now, and I said: 'Where's the greenhouse?' They said: 'We don't have any greenhouse at NBC,' and I said: 'I thought any place where Chet Huntley walked there'd be something growing.'"

As for President Nixon and golf he said: "The President doesn't kid me. He just keeps a respectful distance."

Palmer showed a series of pictures of the Vice President and himself at golf in Florida: "Here we're teeing up — watching the Secret Service run for cover . . . Here he looks like he has a pretty good stance—of course, I'm well out of the way."

"I've been waiting for you to say something about my watch, Arnold," Agnew put in. "The other night I saw a Mickey Mouse cartoon on NBC, and I'd be here to ask for equal time."

The reference was to Agnew's giving \$25,000 to charities in royalties from watches and T-shirts bearing amiable caricatures of him.