Rockefeller Panel To Probe CIA Plots

By William Greider Washington Post Staff Writer

Vice President Rockefeller confirmed yesterday that the eight-member commission investigating the CIA is going to explore the domestic implications of alleged plots to assassinate foreign leaders.

"As I've said, we are concentrating on violations of domestic statutes," said Rockefeller, who chairs the presidential commission.

The investigation, according to one White House source, will focus particularly on allegations that the CIA recruited Americans to lead assassination attempts aimed at Cuban Premier Fidel Castro, that case would represent the most explicit example of a domestic conspiracy, if the allegations are established as true.

The commission heard yesterday from former Defense Secretary Clark Clifford, who helped draft the original CIA legislation in 1947 when he was counsel to President Truman and who served for seven years on the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board.

After 24 hours of private testimony. Clittord told reporters he had never heard any discussion of assassination in his years of association with the CIA.

"Now there were times that, from time to time, we would send a team to a foreign power with which we did not have friendly relations," Clifford said, "but the purpose of that team was to get lodged there so that they could produce intelligence information that would be valuable to our country."

Clifford said he favors revision of the orginal National Security Act to enact new controls over the intelligence agency. "It does not do the job that needs to be done today," he said. "The world has changed."



CLARK CLIFFORD
... favors changes