

Agnew Slips, 'Rebukes' Ticket Mate

By a Washington Post Staff Writer

LAS VEGAS, Nev., Sept. 19—Republican vice presidential candidate Spiro T. Agnew puzzled newsmen Wednesday with what appeared to be a rebuke of his running mate, Richard M. Nixon, for charging "collusion" between Southern Democrats and supporters of George C. Wallace.

"That charge is not sufficiently dignified to require a comment," Agnew said when asked about it at a press conference. "The word 'collusion' has nasty connotations. It's as bad as 'soft on communism'—a phrase that got Agnew in hot water recently.

It turned out that Agnew thought the collusion charge had been made by Hubert H. Humphrey and directed at Republicans and Wallace supporters.

The charge actually was made by Nixon, who said there was collusion between Wallace and backers of Humphrey in some states to try to deny Nixon a plurality.