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# President will make report on CIA public

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Ford said Monday he will make public the Rockefeller Commission report on domestic Central Intelligence Agency activities and send it and the panel's findings on alleged assassination plots to the Justice Department for possible prosecution.

Ford told a nationally broadcast news conference he believes the report will restore the credibility of the spy agency, but said "I believe there can be internal improvement in the CIA."

Answering questions at a session in the White House Rose Garden, Ford refused to second-guess any of his presidential predecessors about decisions which may have been linked with possible assassination plans.

Ford said he will not make public now the commission's findings on the assassination plot reports, which named such foreign leaders as Fidel Castro of Cuba and Rafael Trujillo of the Dominican Republic as targets.

He said he would, under procedures "that will be in the national interest," make the findings available to Senate and House select committees which are probing the CIA.

Ford said other materials being gathered by the White House also will be made available to the congressional probers.

On other topics, Ford said:

—He is optimistic that the recession soon will "bottom out" and that "we will have a lot more good news than bad

news." He said the 9.2 per cent unemployment rate in May was bad news, but said he was encouraged that total employment in the economy increased for the second month in a row.

—He will get Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's assessment of the Middle East situation and discuss various options, including recommendations for reconvening a Geneva peace conference. The two leaders meet here Wednesday.

—"I did enjoy my opportunity to get acquainted with (Egyptian) President (Anwar) Sadat ... but I have the same relationship with Prime Minister Rabin. I've known him longer. This will be my

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second chance to meet with him."

—East-West European Security Conference is "getting closer and closer" and could be held soon in Helsinki, Finland.

—The delayed visit to Washington by Soviet party leader Leonid I. Brezhnev hopefully will be accomplished this fall, when the President hopes a second strategic arms limitation agreement can be signed with the Soviet Union.

—The time is getting closer and closer to a specific announcement of his candidacy for president in 1976.

—If Congress ignores the desire on the part of the President — "to be responsible fiscally then of course we will have more vetoes." But he said there would be no need for a series of veto confrontations if Congress "acts responsibly."

—"There are a number of lessons that can be learned from Vietnam." The President said one of them is that the United States must work with other governments which believe in protecting their own freedom. "We cannot however fight their battles for them," he said.

"We can help them not with U.S. military personnel but with arms and other ways to protect the interests of their citizens."

—He said the policy of keeping 38,000 American troops in Korea is "constantly under review," Ford said, "I believe it's

highly desirable to maintain a U.S. contingent in South Korea. I think it's keeping the peace ... and I think it's important that we stay."

On the CIA report, the subject of angry exchanges between reporters and White House spokesmen the past several days, Ford said "none of us should jump to conclusions as to events that may have occurred in the past."

With respect to decisions made in the area of political assassinations 15 and 20 years ago, "Under no circumstances do I want to sit in 1975 passing judgment on decisions made by honorable people," Ford said.

"We shouldn't be Monday morning quarterbacks," he said.

As before, Ford said, "I am opposed to political assassinations," and "this administration has not and will not use such means as instruments of national policy."

Ford said that after he has further studied the commission recommendations he will send Congress "the necessary measures to insure that the intelligence community functions in a way designed to protect the constitutional rights of all Americans."

He also expressed his "deep personal conviction" that the CIA and other units of the intelligence community "are vital to the survival of this country." It is necessary that the United States "maintains the intelligence capability

necessary for the full protection of our national interests," he said.

At a briefing earlier in the day, Roderick M. Hills, White House counsel coordinating various investigations of the CIA, told newsmen that the President would forward the material to the attorney general as soon as possible.

Justice Department spokesman Robert Havel said the department will investigate the case. Department officials have not determined which federal statutes, if any, would apply and that is one question they will review, he said.

Atty. Gen. Edward H. Levi has not yet determined whether the investigation will go beyond that question. Although Hills did not mention any Justice Department investigation of the facts of the case, Havel said, "I don't see how we could prosecute without investigating."

Ford refused to second-guess past

presidents, saying he'd leave that to historians.

"I'm not passing judgment on whether they were right or wrong," he said. "I think it better to let history tell the story."

In response to several questions about why the Rockefeller Commission didn't continue to probe alleged political assassinations, Ford said the commission itself decided to stop short.

He said the original task of the commission had been to consider only domestic involvements of the spy agency. When the commission asked for one time extension, said Ford, "I gave them 60 days. Then in early May, the commission decided it wanted to conclude its original assignment."

Ford would not lay out the specific commission recommendations in advance of their release Tuesday. But he said, "There will be certain recommendations for legislative and administrative action that ought to be taken to make certain and positive the agency does its job and the rights of Americans are protected."

Hills briefed newsmen in advance of a nationally broadcast news conference in which the President was to reveal plans to make public Tuesday the report on CIA domestic spying. Hills said Ford would not make public at this time a summary report prepared by the Rockefeller Commission on allegations that the CIA was involved in plots to assassinate certain foreign leaders.

He said this information will be turned over to a select Senate committee headed by Sen. Frank Church, D-Idaho, which is conducting a broad investigation of CIA and other intelligence

activities.

Asked if this procedure was Ford's way of dumping a political hot potato into the lap of a Democratic committee, Hills replied, "I assure you the President has no intent of dumping this into anyone's lap."

The presidential counsel said Ford wants to obtain all the details on the alleged assassination plots and he feels that he will receive a sufficient and satisfactory report from three sources: The Rockefeller Commission, the Church committee and an independent investigation being conducted by Hill's office.

In recent weeks, news organizations have printed and broadcast allegations that assassination plots were hatched in the Kennedy and other administrations against Cuban Premier Fidel Castro and several other foreign leaders.

Asked if the Rockefeller Commission report indicates that the origin of some plots might go back to the Eisenhower administration, Hills said "it is quite true that the investigation of alleged assassination plots goes back before Kennedy's administration."

But he cautioned that the allegations are ambivalent about "the role some people played in these matters."

"I don't know if we'll be able to know with any degree of certainty what orally was said between certain individuals in these matters that took place 15 years or so ago," Hills said.

The counsel said, "This President is reluctant to second-guess administrations 15 years ago. I don't believe he wants to be a Monday morning quarterback."

"He wants to take steps to make certain nothing of this type would ever happen in his administration or in the future."

"The President makes it clear that political assassinations will not be part of his administration," Hills said.