

Agnew's Official Papers Given to a University

College Park, Md.

Former Vice President Spiro T. Agnew donated 600 boxes of his official papers, tapes and memorabilia to the University of Maryland on the condition that the materials will not be made public until January, 1977, the school announced yesterday.

A spokesman said the dollar value of the gift apparently has been determined, but school officials were not told what it is. The boxes include papers covering Ag-

new's service of nearly five years as vice president of the U.S., two years as governor of Maryland and four years as Baltimore county executive.

The boxes of papers were delivered to the school library Wednesday when Agnew officially closed his government office one block from the White House. It also coincided with the end of his government franking privileges.

Agnew resigned from the

vice presidency on Oct. 10, 1973, after pleading "no contest" to income-tax evasion charges stemming from an investigation of a political kickback scheme in Maryland.

A school spokesman said the Maryland Board of Regents voted recently to accept Agnew's gift. But it was not known when Agnew made the offer.

The spokesman said it was "not unusual" for a public official who donates papers to set a certain date when they can be made public. "How he happened to choose that date, I don't know," the spokesman said.

The date Agnew chose, January, 1977, is when Agnew's term as vice president would have expired had he not resigned.

An inventory of the boxes that Agnew donated showed that they include chronological files beginning December, 1968, a month before Agnew became vice president, and concluding October, 1973, when he resigned.

The inventory also listed photographs, medals, awards, programs, speeches, press files, newspaper clippings, research files, plaques, gifts, papers dealing with foreign trips, domestic affairs briefing books and papers related to an investigation of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

Agnew was not legally entitled to a tax deduction for the gift of his papers.

Congress prohibited such deductions after July 25, 1969, and a congressional committee staff recently released a report questioning the legality of President Nixon's gift of his pre-presidential papers to the National Archives on grounds that it was not officially consummated before the cutoff date.

NYT: all I found was a brief note, April 13, p. 15; no description of the papers.
S.F. EXAMINER - no substantive report.
WASH. POST was not yet in when I checked.

PLH