

Rocky Favorable on CIA

'Massive' U.S. Spying Doubted

Washington

Vice President Nelson Rockefeller, chairman of an eight-member commission named by President Ford to examine Central Intelligence Agency activities, said yesterday that allegations of "massive" spying on Americans by the CIA have not been borne out in his panel's initial investigation.

"I do not want to make any conclusions but that's not the impression left so far," Rockefeller said.

Former CIA Director Richard Helms, commenting to reporters after testifying in the commission's second day of closed hearings, acknowledged a public report that Presidents Johnson and Nixon each expressed to him their extreme concern about dissident anti-war demonstrations in the late 1960s.

But Helms did not answer when asked if that concern led to domestic spying operations by the CIA.

Johnson first spoke to him about his worry in 1967, Helms said.

"He expressed concern about dissident organizations and their foreign connections," Helms said. "I was only concerned about their foreign connections."

Helms said that Mr. Nixon later expressed the same concerns to him.

"It was something he expressed to me in person — I don't know if there was any written direction," Helms said.

Rockefeller said for the first time that he feels certain the eight-member commission will make recommendations to strengthen the prohibition in the CIA charter against domestic



AP Wirephoto

Bundling Up

Former CIA Director John McCone pulled on his rubbers yesterday before venturing into Washington's snowy streets after hearings on whether the CIA carried out mas-

sive spying on Americans. McCone testified for 2½ hours. He said that he knew of no domestic spying while he headed the agency from 1961 to 1965.

spying.

Former CIA Director John McCone, who testified before the commission for 2½ hours yesterday, told reporters that to his knowledge there were no domestic spying activities when he headed the agency from 1961 to 1965.

"There were none that I

knew about," McCone said. "You will note of all the accusations that have been made, none were in the time frame that I was director. If any instance arises that was taken during my regime I'd be very glad to discuss that with the commission — but there are none that I know of."

McCone said he believes the CIA probe is necessary because "a mere denial by the agency will not satisfy public opinion. When all the information is developed and the facts are known, it will be constructive and beneficial instead of a destructive backlash."

United Press