

Rockefeller Calls CIA Probe Thorough as Unit Ends Work

By George Lardner Jr.
Washington Post Staff Writer

Vice President Rockefeller, concluding his commission's five-month investigation of the Central Intelligence Agency, said yesterday he is confident the probe left no stones unturned.

Reiterating a theme expressed earlier by the CIA and other members of the Rockefeller commission itself, the Vice President said the spy agency had broken the law on occasion, but not on what he would consider a massive scale.

He said a comprehensive report to be submitted by the commission to President Ford Friday will include extensive recommendations to curb the abuses that were found.

"We've done a good job, I think," Rockefeller told reporters. "There've been no stones left unturned, there's no punches pulled."

Named by Mr. Ford in January as chairman of a special commission to investigate the CIA's domestic operations, Rockefeller declined, however, to say whether any prosecutions were likely as a result of the evidence the panel has

compiled. "That would be up to the Justice Department," he said.

Asked whether the testimony and other evidence underlying the commission's report will be made available to the Justice Department, the Vice President was equally noncommittal. "That's up to the White House," he said.

Rockefeller made his remarks at the outset of a final commission meeting to review the 350-page report to the President. It is expected to be made public Sunday.

"There are things which have been done which are in contradiction to the statutes," Rockefeller said of the CIA's secret domestic activities, "but

in comparison to the total [CIA] effort, they are not major."

"I think you're going to be surprised and pleased by the comprehensive nature of the material that's in here," he added, holding up a voluminous typewritten draft of the commission's findings. "I don't think there is very much that hasn't been uncovered and discussed in this report."

Rockefeller said the CIA has not seen it yet and will not get a copy before it goes to the White House.

Commission aides indicated that the names of undercover agents and other sensitive details have already been left out of the document to avoid

See CIA, A7, Col. 1



Sato Dies in Tokyo

Eisaku Sato, former premier of Japan and a winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, died yesterday in a Tokyo hospital at the age of 74. He had been in serious condition since suffering a stroke May 19 in a Tokyo restaurant.

Details on page C6.

CIA, From A1

compromising any CIA operations.

The commission itself heard from 51 witnesses at closed-door hearings that began Jan. 13, and its staff took additional testimony from several hundred individuals on issues ranging from domestically hatched assassination schemes directed at foreign leaders to CIA spying on American citizens.

The testimony and documentary evidence compiled in the investigation will be turned over to the White House, but Rockefeller indicated that only the final report will be made public. He said the commission is making no recommendation about what should be done with the evidence or whether it should ever be released.

PRIORITY PRIORITY

Commission aides also said there was no plan at present to make public the names of all those from whom testimony was taken.

Another commission member, former California Gov.

Ronald Reagan, said Sunday he had no serious misgivings about the CIA's domestic operations.

"I believe there have been violations, of course," he said on "Face the Nation" (CBS, WTOP). But Reagan, who attended 10 of the commission's 26 meetings, said he felt that "in any bureaucracy of about 16,000 people there are going to be individuals who make mistakes and do things they shouldn't do."

What he thought "most important," Reagan said, was to maintain a strong counterintelligence system "because we are being spied upon, beyond anything that the American people can possibly conceive, not internally, not by our own people, but by potential enemies."

Both Rockefeller and Reagan said the findings in the report drew nearly unanimous support from the commission's eight members. It will include a few dissenting footnotes here and there but, Rockefeller said, nothing "of an earthshaking nature."



Associated Press

Rockefeller holds up draft of report on CIA.