

Spiro Agnew Accused by Justice Dept.

Baltimore

A federal judge released a Justice Department report yesterday accusing former Vice President Spiro Agnew of a minor violation of his three-year probation.

At the same time U.S. District Judge Roszel C. Thomsen set a hearing for March 14 for Agnew to answer another allegation, by a Miami lawyer, that he violated his probation by engaging in pro-Arab activities.

The attorney, Sam Polur, also seconded the Justice Department's charge that Agnew violated his probation by failing to make "timely delivery" to the State Department of gifts given him by foreign countries when he was vice president.

The Justice Department report said Agnew technically violated the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act by not surrendering gifts to the State Department until 1974.

Agnew had resigned as vice president Oct. 10, 1973, after pleading no contest to income tax evasion charges growing from a kickback scandal while he was governor of Maryland.

The Justice Department report was signed by Richard L. Thornburgh, who was an acting deputy attorney general during the Ford Administration. He said the law set no deadline for surrendering gifts, and he recommended that no action be taken against Agnew.

Polur said Agnew used an organization called Education for Democracy to transmit pro-Arab propaganda in the United States and to send national security secrets to the Arabs.

However, Thornburgh's report said the Justice Department "determined that there was no reason to believe that Mr. Agnew, through Education for Democracy, has acted on behalf or in the interest of any foreign principal."

Thomsen ordered the review after Polur filed suit last year. Although Agnew's probation expired Oct. 10, 1976, the judge retained jurisdiction until 1978.

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