

HILLS APPOINTMENT

BEING CONSIDERED

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WASHINGTON, March 21—
A spokesman for the White House acknowledged today that Roderick Hills, chairman of the Republic Corporation, was "under consideration" for appointment as deputy counsel to President Ford, but that he would not have "a specific responsibility" to deal with the various investigations of the intelligence community.

Ron Nessen, the President's press secretary, told reporters that "a number of approaches" had been considered for dealing with the Congressional investigations, but that there would not be a single coordinator within the White House. He said that legal matters involved with intelligence investigations would be handled by the Presidential counsel's office, of which Mr. Hills is expected to be part.

Mr. Nessen said that Mr. Hills, the husband of Carla Hills, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, has been working as a counsel to the President, since last Monday, pending completion of security clearances for a permanent appointment. (17 MAR

The New York Times reported today that Mr. Ford was expected to appoint a special assistant within the present White House structure to deal with the intelligence investigations after having considered creation of a "virtual czar" over the intelligence community.