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In an attempt to defuse the controversy over the Rockefeller commission's report on activities of the CIA, White House sources insisted yesterday that President Ford intends to make the report public, and may announce that intention at a news conference he has called for Monday night.

Despite prodding from a number of reporters, White House press secretary Ron Nessen consistently refused to say that was Mr. Ford's intention at an acrimonious news conference Friday. He said Mr. Ford would read the report first, and then decide whether to make it public.

Nessen amended his position yesterday, saying he assumed from the beginning that the President would decide to make the report public, and "I have heard nothing that changes that assumption."

Sources on the presidential staff blamed Vice President Rockefeller for producing confusion and suspicion, both by jumping ahead of the President in announcing that the report would be made public, and by issuing misleading public statements on whether the report would cover CIA involvement in assassinations.

These sources said the Vice President called the White House legal office last week, while President Ford was in Europe, and announced that the report was being prepared for release this weekend.

The Vice President's office also alerted the press to expect release this weekend. But those moves apparently caused the White House,

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## President May Issue CIA Report

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which had been confirming weekend release as late as Wednesday, to switch signals.

Rockefeller had also insisted as late as Wednesday afternoon that the question of CIA participation in assassinations would be in the final report.

On Thursday evening, the Vice President's office announced that the issue would not be covered by the report after all. Instead, the material which had been gathered on that subject would be turned over to President Ford separately.

Rockefeller told reporters Friday that the commission's 11-member investigate staff did not have time to do a complete job on the subject of assassinations and still meet the June 6 deadline set by the President. Both White House and commission sources said the decision not to include as-

sassinations was made three weeks ago.

A White House source said, however, that the assassination material turned over to Mr. Ford is an 80-to-90-page report written by commission Executive Director David Belin, and not raw investigative files, as Nessen said on Friday.\*

White House sources are now saying it is possible that Mr. Ford could release the report by next weekend, and the President is also planning a speech at some later date to discuss the recommendations contained in the 299-page report.

Mr. Ford's Monday news conference is scheduled for 7:30 p.m., and is to be held outdoors in the Rose Garden.

Nessen said yesterday that the President has been reading the report, and expects to finish it over the weekend.

In other matters, the President met yesterday with a bipartisan group of Northeastern and Midwestern governors to talk about ways of propping

up financially troubled railroads in their areas.

Gov. William Milliken of Michigan suggested the meeting. Those attending include Marvin Mandel of Maryland and Mills Godwin of Virginia, as well as the governors of Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Indiana, Illinois, Maine, Vermont, New Jersey and Connecticut. Massachusetts sent Lt. Gov. Tom O'Neill.

Transportation Secretary William T. Coleman and the President's top economic advisers joined in the conference.

The President played a round of golf in the afternoon. He also accepted "with deepest regret" the resignation of Peter Dominick as ambassador to Switzerland for health reasons.

Dominick, 59, a former Republican senator from Colorado, was appointed Feb. 3. In announcing the resignation, the White House did not say what Dominick's health problem were.

\* SEE SFEX 8 JUN 75

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