

Agnew Denies Campaign Gift Report

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WASHINGTON, Aug. 1 —

Former Vice President Spiro T. Agnew said today that he wanted to tell the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence that he knows of no contributions to the Nixon-Agnew campaign from rulers of the Greek military junta.

In a crisp, prepared statement issued by his office in Crofton, Md., Mr. Agnew said, "So far as I then knew, and now know, the members of the Greek Government did not participate, either financially or otherwise, in the Nixon-Agnew campaign efforts, and up until this very moment, I have no knowledge of any contacts being made between any representatives of the Papadopoulos Government and anyone interested in the Nixon-Agnew campaign of either 1968 or 1972."

The members of the select committee, at a closed session yesterday, discussed Mr. Agnew's interest in testifying, but no decision was made on whether to schedule an appearance by the former Vice President. In a letter to the

committee chairman, Senator Frank Church, Democrat of Idaho, Mr. Agnew cited charges made in a syndicated column by Rowland Evans and Robert Novak, Washington political reporters. *16 f22*

According to the column, the Senate select committee was investigating the Central Intelligence Agency's role in the 1967 coup d'état, led by Col. George Papadopoulos, that put a military dictatorship in control in Greece. The column said that the committee was investigating why Mr. Agnew abruptly came out in favor of the military regime a few weeks before the 1968 election. And it quoted allegations that the military junta in Greece may have contributed to the Nixon-Agnew campaign.

'Irresponsible Rumors'

Without mentioning the article in his statement today, Mr. Agnew said his desire to testify was in response to "irresponsible rumors and publicity about my having knowledge involving the former Greek Government with contributions through the C.I.A. to the Nixon-Agnew campaign."

Much of the suspicion surrounding whether the Greek

leaders made secret political contributions here have surrounded Thomas Pappas, a prominent Boston businessman who has dual Greek-American citizenship and substantial investments in Greece. Mr. Pappas was an important fund raiser for the Nixon-Agnew campaigns.

Mr. Agnew did not mention Mr. Pappas in today's statement. Like many American visitors to Greece, Mr. Agnew met privately with Mr. Pappas on two occasions during an official visit to Greece while he was Vice President, authoritative sources said. He, naturally, had known Mr. Pappas through Republican party affairs.

Meanwhile, the Senate committee has voted to continue its hearings on the question of C.I.A. involvement in assassinations of foreign leaders during the Congressional recess that began today. Secretary of State Kissinger is among a half dozen witnesses scheduled to testify next week. The committee did not issue a complete list of witnesses and has withheld the names of several who reportedly are current employees of the C.I.A.