

Agnew Blasts Press Techniques

Charlottesville, Va.

Vice President Spiro T. Agnew said last night that while he applauded the role of the media in the Watergate scandal, some reporting techniques used have been "a very short jump from McCarthyism."

He sharply criticized the media for what he termed its prolific use of hearsay material and for utilizing unnamed sources in an effort to substantiate its widespread allegations in the Watergate incident.

In a question and answer period at the University of Virginia, Agnew said the media had made a contribution in the Watergate scandal, but:

"I think this contribution has been overblown by the overadulation of some of the media. I applaud the efforts and I applaud the results, but I cannot applaud the technique being used.

"It's a very short jump from McCarthyism to what is going on now."

Associated Press