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Florida Is Weighing Deals on Turnpike Extension Land

By MARTIN WALDRON

ecial to The New York Times

BALTIMORE, Aug. 9—A consulting engineering company involved in th investigation of Vice President Agnew is also under inquiry in Florida.

Speculators there made several hundred thousand dollars profit by taking options on land where an extension of a Florida turnpike was to be built at Miami.

J. E. Greiner Company, Inc., of Baltimore and Tampa, was the consulting engineer on the project and acted as agent for the state in buying \$1-million of dirt from the speculators.

A source close to the investigation said that the state could have bought all the land itself for much less than it paid for dirt to be used as fill.

Jerome B. Wolff, a Greiner vice president in the company's Baltimore office, is reported to have implicated Mr. Agnew in the alleged kickback scheme that is under investigation by Federal officials in Maryland.

The Florida investigation, which is being performed by the state, began last October. The Governor's office said in Tallahassee today that a state auditor had called the situation at Miami to the attention of Gov. Reubin Askew, and that the Governor had asked the Miami State Attorney, Richard Gerstein, to investigate.

Don Pride, an aide to Governor Askew, said that up to 15 parcels of land were involved. He said the investigation was to determine if confidential information about the toll road's extension had been given to the speculators.

In one instance, the same day that one of the speculators acquired an option to buy one of the plots of land for \$180, Greiner corporation, signed a contract to buy \$240,000 worth of dirt from the plot. The dirt was taken in such a way as to create a small lake that resulted in an enhancement of the value of the remaining land.

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Efforts to reach Greiner officials for comments were unavailing. Their offices reported them to be on "long vacation."