

Nixon Wants 'All Steps Taken' in Agnew Inquiry

By R. W. APPLE Jr.
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Aug. 14—The White House said today that President Nixon "is interested in making sure that all appropriate steps are taken" by Federal investigators who are looking into allegations against Vice President Agnew.

Mr. Agnew is under investigation by the United States Attorney to Baltimore in connection with a bribery and kick-back scheme alleged to have taken place in the nineteen hundred and sixties.

Gerald L. Warren, the deputy White House press secretary, reported the President's attitude this morning after talking with Mr. Nixon. He emphasized that Mr. Nixon was in no way intervening in the Agnew case and had not sought reports from the Justice Department on it.

Although the spokesman reiterated the President's confidence in the Vice President, his comments appeared to constitute a continuation of an effort to keep Mr. Nixon insulated from the potentially ex-

plosive impact of the Agnew matter.

Mr. Warren also denied a series of reports arising from Mr. Nixon's meeting with Mr. Agnew and Mr. Agnew's subsequent news conference last week. The articles, he said, were all "totally wrong."

Specifically, Mr. Warren denied the following reports:

¶That Mr. Nixon and Mr. Agnew had discussed the possibility of the Vice President resigning, particularly if a Baltimore grand jury should indict him.

¶That Mr. Nixon had urged Mr. Agnew not to hold the news conference, and had "hit the roof," as one report had it, when Mr. Agnew went ahead with it and evoked articles comparing Mr. Nixon's conduct unfavorably with that of the Vice President.

¶That Mr. Nixon had urged Mr. Agnew not to turn personal papers over to the investigators on the ground that doing so might set a precedent harmful to Mr. Nixon's own refusal to produce tape recordings and certain documents in the Watergate scandal.

Mr. Warren refused to comment when asked whether the White House had undertaken any contingency planning for the possibility that Mr. Agnew would be forced from office. But he denied that a list of possible successors had been prepared in the White House. Present plans call for Mr.

Nixon to leave Washington on Monday for his California home where he will stay for about two weeks and probably hold his first news conference since March 15. He may stop in New Orleans on the way for a speech to a Veterans of Foreign Wars convention there.