Ruckelshaus for More From Nixon

Washington

Deputy Attorney General William D. Ruckelshaus suggested yesterday President Nixon should answer more specifically some of the questions surrounding the Watergate break - in and the subsequent coverup.

He added, however, that given the conflicting testimony, he was not sure that it ever would be possible to resolve the doubts of even a "bare" majority of the majority of the American people.

Ruckelshaus strongly defended the decision of Attorney General Eliot L. Richardson early this month to brief Vice President Spiro Agnew about charges against him that are under investigation by the office of George Beall, the U.S. attorney for Maryland.

RESPONSE

The suggestion that the President should be more specific was made by Ruckelshaus yesterday, in a somewhat tentative form, in response to a question during a breakfast meeting with a group of newsmen about his opinion of Mr. Nixon's speech on Wednesday evening. The President has scheduled a news conference for next week.

Responding to the question about his opinion of the

President's latest address on Watergate, Ruckelshaus said that he felt it was "a strong speech which won't satisfy his critics." He added that "some questions should be addressed with more specificity" but that there was no way "all the questions could be appeared. questions could be answered without a news conference that went on for two days."

VIEW

Ruckelshaus said that he did not know "if there is any way the President can satisfy his critics. I don't know if it will be possible to satisfy a bare majority of the American people — given the conflicting testimony."

Ruckelshaus said he sympathized "with the President's wish to get on with the business of government."

Ruckelshaus refused to comment on the investigation of Vice President Agnew. He strongly defended, however, the propriety of the meeting between Agnew and Richardson.

"It is by no means unusual in the process of an investigation for the prosecutor to sit down and listen to what the potential defendant has to say or apprise him of the charges that are pending against him."

New York Times