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2nd Payoff Linked To Agnew

WASHINGTON — (UPI) — A trade weekly says Vice President Spiro T. Agnew has been linked to reports that a grand jury indictment was squelched against a Maryland contractor accused of trying to pay off some members of Congress.

The reports was published yesterday by Engineering News-Record, a construction weekly put out by McGraw-Hill.

"The name of Vice President Agnew is now being mentioned in connection with squelching a grand jury indictment of a Baltimore contractor who allegedly sought to pay off U.S. congressmen to win a favorable claims settlement" Enr said.

Garages

It said the case involved Victor Frenkil, president of Baltimore Contractors Inc., the general contractor for two large underground parking garages on the U.S. Capitol grounds.

"Agnew's exact role in the case still is undetermined, but one Baltimore area contractors say. 'I know they (Federal Agents) are looking into it again, and this is the one that will blow the lid off the whole state,'" the weekly reported.

George Beall, the present U.S. district attorney for Maryland, and Stephen H. Sachs, the former district attorney, both have said they were instructed by U.S. Attorney General Witchell, not to sign an indictment against the contractor.

"As you'll remember," Beall said yesterday, "I was not allowed to sign the indictment by the attorney general. He wouldn't allow it."

Boosted Price

The weekly report said Frenkil was given the contract for the Capitol parking garages in 1964 for a bid of \$11.8 million. He increased his price by later claims, which were approved by the Capitol architect, to \$13.5 million, but an additional \$5 million claim was rejected.

According to the report, the federal grand jury in Baltimore said Frenkel offered to pay 5 percent of the additional claim to Sen. Russell Long (D-La.) and former Sen. Daniel Brewster (D-Md.) for their support. Brewster is appealing a conviction for accepting a \$25,000 bribe in a postal legislation case.

Also mentioned in the case were former House Speaker John N. McCormack (D-Mass.), the late House Democratic leader Hale Boggs of Louisiana and Rep. Clarence Long and former Rep. Samuel Fridel, both Maryland Democrats. McGraw-Hill said their roles were not pinpointed.