

Lie Test Reported In Agnew Case

New York

Time magazine said yesterday a key witness against Vice President Spiro T. Agnew in an investigation of an alleged kickback scandal has taken a lie detector test.

Time said the test showed that the witness, Jerome Wolff, "told the truth about delivering funds extorted from contractors to Agnew."

Time said that in exchange for a promise of limited immunity, Wolff has agreed to testify that "Agnew has extorted bribes from state and federal contractors."

Time said Wolff, president of Greiner Environmental Systems, Inc., has turned over to prosecutors a diary listing some of the payoffs he allegedly delivered to Agnew while the vice president was governor of Maryland.

The diary covers a period from 1967 to 1968 when Agnew was governor and Wolff was head of the state road

commission — a job to which he was appointed by Agnew, Time said.

Wolff's firm has been named as one of eight contractors that made illegal payoffs, according to the magazine.

Time said the lie detector test came after the Justice Department's chief criminal prosecutor, Henry E. Peterson, visited Baltimore, where the investigation is being conducted.

The magazine said the polygraph findings probably will not be admissible in any court proceedings, but noted that "government witnesses are frequently asked to take lie detector tests as a means of convincing prosecutors that there is a strong case against a prospective defendant."

U.S. Attorney George Beall, who is heading the probe, has asked other witnesses to take similar tests, Time said.

Associated Press