

NYTimes  
Text of Nixon Statement

WASHINGTON, Sept. BE  
(AP) Following is the text of  
a statement by President  
Nixon regarding the allega-  
tions against Vice President  
Agnew:

I held discussion with the  
Vice President this morning  
about the charges that have  
been made against him in  
the course of an investigation  
being conducted in Baltimore  
under the direction of the  
United States attorney for  
Maryland.

This discussion followed an  
assessment of the situation  
which was presented to me  
by Attorney General Elliot  
Richardson and Assistant  
Attorney General Henry E.  
Petersen.

During our discussion, the  
Vice President again—as he  
had done in our previous  
meetings—denied the charges  
that have been made against  
him. He also informed me

that he intended to request  
that the House of Represent-  
atives undertake an inquiry  
into the matter.

I wish to emphasize my  
strong belief that during  
these proceedings the Vice  
President is entitled to the  
same presumption of inno-  
cence which is the right of  
any citizen, and which lies  
at the heart of our system of  
justice. During these past  
four-and-a-half years, the  
Vice President has served his  
country with dedication and  
distinction. He has won the  
respect of millions of Amer-  
icans for the candor and  
courage with which he has  
addressed the controversial  
issues of our time. As he  
moves through this difficult  
period, I urge all Americans  
to accord the Vice President  
the basic, decent considera-  
tion and presumption of in-  
nocence that are both his  
right and his due.

9-26-73