

The Jury Investigating Spiro Agnew

Baltimore

Last December U.S. District Judge C. Stanley Blair impaneled a special grand jury in Baltimore and directed it to seek out corruption in government in the state of Maryland.

Yesterday that special grand jury began hearing evidence on allegations that Judge Blair's mentor and political sponsor, Spiro T. Agnew, took kickbacks from consulting engineers, contractors and real estate developers when he was a state and local official in Maryland.

Blair is no longer directing the jury's operation. He withdrew on August 15 after it was announced that Vice President Agnew was one of the targets of the inquiry.

The grand jury investigating the vice president is one of four federal grand juries making inquiries in Baltimore. A second special grand jury is investigating organized crime and gambling, and a third is investigating narcotics. A regular federal grand jury handles routine federal investigations.

MEMBERS

The Agnew grand jury has 22 members — 13 men and nine women.

Edward S. Northrop, the chief U.S. district judge in Baltimore, has ordered newsmen not to publish the names of members of the panel.

The jurors, who were selected by computer, range in age from 29 to 68. Three are over 60, seven are between 50 and 60, seven between 40 and 50, and four between 30 and 40. One is 29.

All members of the Agnew grand jury are married, but one man, a 47-year-old truck driver for the Model Cities program, is separated from his wife.

Three of the women are housewives. One, who is 48, is married to a Frederick, Md., plumber. One is 44 and married to a trucker in Baltimore, and the third is 50. Her husband is a national beer salesman.

WOMEN

The other women on the panel are:

- A 29-year-old assistant resident manager whose husband is listed as a supervisor.
- A 34-year-old sewing machine operator whose husband is a Baltimore city fireman.
- A 40-year-old library clerk at the University of Maryland whose husband is in the carpet business.
- A computer systems

analyst at the National Library of Medicine in Bethesda. She is 34. Her husband is listed as being self-employed.

- A Washington claims examiner, who is 52. She and her electrician husband live at Hyattsville.

- A 50-year-old cashier at a supermarket. Her husband is a taxi driver.

In addition to the truck driver, who is separated from his wife, the men on the grand jury are:

- A 47-year-old microbiologist who works at the Edgewood arsenal. He is the jury foreman.

- A 40-year-old man who is a staff specialist at automation industries.

- A program analyst at the Social Security Administration in Baltimore. He is 38. His wife is a social insurance specialist.

- The head kiln burner at the Lehigh Portland Cement Works at Union Bridge. He is 45. His wife is a textile worker.

- A 50-year-old Green Belt resident who works in plant maintenance.

- A construction foreman for Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Co. He is 63.

- A 60-year-old fireman and guard at the Martin-Marietta Co. in Baltimore.

- A 59-year-old dockhand at Curtis Bay Towing Co. in Baltimore.

- A 36-year-old employee of the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Co. in Washington. His wife is a medical assistant.

- A 68-year-old Westminster resident who works at the Palmer Petroleum Products Co.

- A city of Baltimore laborer. He is 57.

Federal grand juries in Maryland are chosen from lists of registered voters. Each year computers pick every hundredth name from about 1.8 million voters to make up a jury list of 18,000.

Grand jury members are paid \$20 a day and expenses for the days they are in session. Since being impaneled the Agnew grand jury has met on Thursdays.

The grand jury has indicted only one official so far in its investigation of Maryland corruption — Baltimore County Executive N. Dale Anderson.

Sixteen of the 22 members of the jury must vote an indictment.

U.S. Attorney George Beall has said that he expects the grand jury to indict other public officials.

New York Times