



ATTORNEY GENERAL ELLIOT RICHARDSON AT A PRESS CONFERENCE YESTERDAY. He said the former vice president faces long negotiations with the Internal Revenue Service.

The Trouble

Washington

Attorney General Elliot L. Richardson said yesterday that Spiro T. Agnew's legal ordeals are far from over.

Agnew pleaded no contest Wednesday to a tax evasion charge in U.S. District Court in Baltimore, was fined \$10,000 and placed on three years' unsupervised probation.

Richardson said Agnew will not lose any of his civil rights because of the deci-

sion. "He can continue to vote, according to the views of the assistant attorney general," Richardson said.

"There will be no conflict with respect to property rights, and there will be no prohibition against his holding office under the Maryland Constitution."

ISSUE

But Richardson said Agnew and his lawyers face long negotiations with the Internal Revenue Service

Ahead for Agnew

over the tax evasion issue.

Agnew's plea of no contest was to the specific charge that he evaded about \$13,000 in income taxes for the calendar year 1967.

An IRS official said the back taxes he owes were not included in the fine and a person in Agnew's position would still owe the taxes plus a 50 per cent penalty.

An IRS spokesman said later that it is virtually certain the IRS will try to collect all of Agnew's unpaid taxes.

FIVE

Any government pension benefits were not affected

because Agnew was not yet eligible for them. The Civil Service Commission says any federal employee must have held a civilian position for at least five years to be eligible.

Agnew's years as vice president fell short of the requirement by about three months.

Agnew presumably is subject to disbarment, which would prohibit him from earning a living by practicing law.

FIGHT

The Maryland Bar Association would have to initiate disbarment proceed-

ings, which Agnew could fight in court.

The U.S. Constitution sets no clear limits on the activities of felons, although some state constitutions do. Agnew would be prohibited from voting or holding public office in some states, but not in Maryland.

In addition, some federal and state laws set bounds on felons. For example, Agnew probably could not purchase a pistol because the federal Gun Control Act prohibits the sale of a gun to anyone convicted of a felony.

I.P. & A.P.