

Agnew Novel Rejected

New York

Former Vice President Spiro T. Agnew offered the outline of a novel he is writing to Random House, but the proposed book was rejected, the president of the publishing firm said yesterday.

"It is absolutely and totally untrue that Random House will publish a novel written by . . . Agnew," Robert L. Bernstein, the president, said in a statement.

Bernstein said the outline of the proposed novel

"roughly" concerned a future vice president of the United States who turns out to have been programmed for disaster by Chinese Communists.

Bernstein said Joseph Fox, a senior editor with the firm, was contacted by a mutual friend about Agnew's book and met with the former vice president at the Park Lane Hotel here over a week ago.

Fox "was given an outline, one chapter and some character sketches of a proposed novel which Mr. Ag-

new said he was writing," Bernstein said.

"Fox took the material back to Random House, read it, and showed it to James Silberman, vice president and editor in chief. The novel then was rejected because the Random House editors believed it was not suitable for the Random House list," Bernstein said.

He said the firm had agreed prior to the meeting "to keep it confidential. We were distressed that the information had leaked."

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