

Nixon Refuses To 'Kick' Agnew

Washington

President Nixon said yesterday that he would not kick former Vice President Spiro T. Agnew "when he is down."

Mr. Nixon praised Agnew for "dedicated service" rendered the administration before he resigned.

It would "be very easy for me to jump on the vice president when he is down," Mr. Nixon said when asked at his news conference whether he thought Agnew

had dishonored the office of vice president when he pleaded no contest to one count of income tax evasion.

Mr. Nixon said Agnew — and his family — went through a very "difficult time" when he decided to resign. But Mr. Nixon said he agreed with that decision.

"At this point I am not going to join anyone else in kicking him when he is down," Mr. Nixon said.

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