

Wed., September 26, 1973  
Stuart Novins

**SPIRO AGNEW**

Good evening. In the tangled affairs of Spiro Agnew - a House turndown today. Speaker Carl Albert rejected the Vice President's request - for a full inquiry into the allegations leveled against him. Albert says the Agnew plea - "relates to matters before the courts." And he adds, "In view of that fact - I, as Speaker, will not take any action at this time."

Albert's refusal - drew a speedy reaction from House Minority Leader Gerald Ford. "The Vice President is being tried in the news media" - he said - "due to the many leaks concerning the charges against him." Ford went on to say: "It would be impossible - that he could get a fair hearing in the courts under the circumstances." Speaking for Republicans in general though, Ford said: "I don't think there is anything we can do - since we're in the minority."

(over)

Meanwhile, the White House disclosed that the possibility of the Vice President's resignation - had come up during his meeting yesterday with the President. The Vice President later insisted, however - the subject was never really discussed. He said further: "I want to make it very clear - I am not resigning."

## WATERGATE

*Today's witness in the Senate Watergate hearings was Pat Buchanan, the President's chief speechwriter.*

*Buchanan started out with a prepared statement - taking the committee to task for numerous leaks; especially those attempting to picture him - as, quote, "the chief architect of a campaign of political espionage or dirty tricks!" Nothing could be further from the truth - said Buchanan. And he continued: "How can this select committee set itself up as the ultimate arbiter of American political ethics - if it cannot even control character-assassins within its own ranks?"*

*In later testimony, Buchanan also said "it would have been nothing short of a catastrophe" - if Senator McGovern or Senator Muskie had been elected President. He added that he would have done virtually anything the President asked - to assure the Nixon reelection. Buchanan declared, however, the President would never ask him to do anything - that was "illicit, unethical, improper or unprecedented."*

## PRICES

*In the Middle West - a sharp decline in live cattle prices led to a prediction today - that lower retail beef prices will soon be here. Director John Dunlop of the President's Cost of Living Council - said the decline will shortly filter through. He added that the turnaround is - "from a consumer's point of view - delightful."*

## **SAN DIEGO**

*For the men of Skylab-Two - a return today to U. S. soil. Astronauts Alan Bean, Owen Garriott and Jack Lousma - arrived in San Diego aboard the aircraft carrier New Orleans. They head next - for Houston, perhaps tomorrow.*

*The three astronauts - will remain in quarantine for at least a week. They will be allowed to see their families, however.*

**ROME**

*Famed Italian actress Anna Magnani died in Rome today following a series of operations - the victim of cancer.*

*Originally a stage comedienne - Miss Magnani went on to score her greatest success in films. She won an Academy Award in Nineteen-fifty-Six - for her starring role in "The Rose Tattoo."*

**WHITE HOUSE**

*President Nixon today signed into law - a new Vocational Rehabilitation Bill. This a scaled-down version - of two bills he earlier vetoed. The new program is budgeted at more than a Billion-and-a-Half dollars. The President said that the new bill - "keeps the Federal Vocational Rehabilitation program focused on its original and proper purpose; that of preparing people for meaningful jobs - rather than" setting up "broad new medical or welfare functions better performed elsewhere."*

## POINT CLEAR

*At the Southern Governor's Conference at Point Clear, Alabama today, a blunt warning came from the nation's three major gas-producing states. The Governors of Oklahoma, Louisiana and Texas - threatened to refuse to supply fuel to certain other states; those that are, "holding back" on exploration and refinery operations - for environmental reasons. Governor Briscoe of Texas, added that henceforth - "Texas will decide who gets Texas gas."*

*Governor Evans of the Virgin Islands - was elected next year's chairman. He's the first black official ever to head the Southern Governors Conference. Governor Evans says he foresees no problems - in his new post. "I have been the first black in so many things before" - he said - "I suppose the novelty has worn off."*

## PORTLAND

*In the great forests of the Pacific Northwest - a massive invasion by tussock moth. The results were viewed by Agriculture Secretary Earl Butz - in a personal visit to the stricken area. Butz said on return to Portland - he was "shocked by the devastation" he saw. He said he plans to seek permission - for the emergency use of the banned pesticide DDT. "The dying forests" - said he - "are reminders that we were a little precipitous in banning the only effective control method - before we had found effective substitutes."*

**UNITED NATIONS**

*At the United Nations - an address today by  
Chancellor<sup>+</sup> Willy Brandt of West Germany; the first ever  
by a German official - from the East or West. Brandt  
described a new balance of world power - involving "the  
specific weight of China, Japan and the European Community"  
Brandt declared, "We shall seek to create a state of peace  
in Europe - in which the German people can regain their  
unity in free self-determination."*

**TEL AVIV**

*As of sundown tonight - a sudden stillness over the whole of Israel. Virtually the entire Jewish state - and, indeed, Jews right around the globe - marked the advent of Rosh Hashana, the Jewish New Year.*

*Israeli President Ephraim Katzir in a holiday message said Israel's hope for the coming year - "is that the greatest and most oppressive of its problems, the attainment of peace - will find its satisfactory solution."*

## **SUPERSONIC**

*The Anglo-French supersonic airliner Concorde flew from Washington to Paris today in three hours and thirty-nine minutes.*

**SUGGESTED LEAD IN TO THOMAS TAPE "FISH"**

*And now - it's time again for Lowell Thomas.*

*Subject tonight: Fish. Lowell..*

SUGGESTED FOLLOW TO THOMAS TAPE "YISS"

Thank you, Lowell, - I think. A final story - 15

Lowell

**SUGGESTED FOLLOW TO THOMAS TAPE "FISH"**

**Thank you, Lowell - I think. A final story - in  
a moment...**

**LONDON**

*At London's Heathrow Airport - a blown fuse today;  
with the result that all pay phones - were suddenly toll free.*

*The news got around in a matter of minutes - whereupon  
the phones were jammed. At least one man - called New  
York. The "free speech" - lasted two hours, in all.*

*Stuart Novins, CBS News sitting in for Lowell Thomas.*