

# Agnew will appeal \$248,000 judgment

**United Press International**  
ANNAPOLIS, Md. — The attorney for former Vice President Spiro T. Agnew says his client will appeal a ruling by Maryland's second highest court upholding a quarter-million dollar judgment against Agnew for taking bribes.

Attorney T. Rogers Harrison said he had not yet seen Tuesday's opinion by the Court of Special Appeals, but when told of the verdict he said he undoubtedly would appeal the decision.

The three-judge panel of Maryland's intermediate appellate court unanimously upheld the \$248,735 judgment levied against Agnew for accepting bribes from highway contractors while Maryland's governor and

later as vice president.

Harrison said the decision would be made within the next 30 days whether to appeal the case to the state's highest court, the Court of Appeals, or to the U.S. Supreme Court.

The Court of Special Appeals rejected Harrison's six arguments that it overturn Anne Arundel County Circuit Judge Bruce Williams' decision of April 27, 1981, ordering Agnew to repay the state \$147,500 he had accepted as kickbacks plus \$101,235 in interest.

Harrison attempted to discredit sworn statements by four men involved in the kickback scheme: Jerome Wolff, who headed the State Roads Commission under Agnew; highway engineers Lester Matz and Allen

I. Green, who paid kickbacks in exchange for state highway contracts; and I.H. Hammerman, a prominent Baltimore developer who solicited the kickbacks on behalf of Agnew and Wolff.

The statements and testimony during the trial depicted a scheme in which payoffs, ranging from 1 percent to 10 percent of contract amounts, were made to Hammerman, who then gave half to Agnew and 25 percent to Wolff; he kept 25 percent.

As a result of the scandal, Agnew, who was elected governor in 1966 but resigned in January 1969 to become Richard Nixon's vice president, pleaded "nolo contendere" to federal tax evasion charges in October 1973.

# Oil-price hikes point to end of global glut

**United Press International**  
The first in what was expected to be a series of price hikes for North Sea oil indicates the global oil glut should disappear in a matter of weeks, industry observers say.

British Petroleum Ltd. said Tuesday that it opposes the proposed \$2.50-a-barrel increase in Britain's North Sea crude oil prices. But Norway lifted its North Sea oil by \$2.50 to an average \$33.50 a barrel amid signs the price could rise again July 1.

Industry observers said the North Sea price moves indicated the global oil glut should disappear in a few weeks when surplus oil inventories are depleted and the consuming nations are forced to restock.

Analysts said Britain and Norway, major U.S. sources of non-OPEC crude, are prepared to go only halfway at this point in raising their prices, which could

reach \$35 or \$35.50 a barrel this summer as the glut ends.

Meanwhile, Tokyo sources said Japan will resume imports of about 100,000 barrels a day of Iranian oil next month under long-term contracts at a fixed price of \$30.20 a barrel. Japan suspended oil imports from Iran last year because of a price dispute and the Iran-Iraq war.

The British National Oil Corp., which slashed its North Sea crude by \$4, to \$31 a barrel March 2 and prompted OPEC to impose a production ceiling to defend its prices, has asked customers to re-open negotiations on a suggested price rise of \$2.50, to \$33.50 a barrel.

But British Petroleum Ltd., a major buyer of North Sea crude, said petroleum product prices in the U.K. and Europe do not support a price increase of this magnitude. BP has not formally responded to the BNOC proposal, which must be accepted by its

customers.

BNOC had agreed to keep prices at \$31 a barrel through June 1 barring extraordinary market developments.

But an analyst said: "The Falklands conflict has probably reinforced Britain's desire to raise prices."

Statoil, Norway's national oil company, followed the lead of BNOC and boosted its North Sea crude by \$2.50, to an average \$33.50 a barrel June 1.

The Norwegian action came a day after former OPEC President Mana Said al Otaiba, the United Arab Emirates' oil minister, urged Britain and Norway to raise their prices to \$36.50 — the current level for OPEC's best-quality African oil that competes with North Sea crude.

Otaiba said OPEC may decide to increase its production ceiling of 17.5 million barrels a day if the 13-nation cartel finds the glut has vanished.

# Man, 43, charged in Dallas with impersonating officer

**United Press International**  
DALLAS — A man, 43, has been indicted on a charge he impersonated a policeman in

trying to solicit a bribe from a real police officer who was posing as a drunk.

If convicted of the indictment

returned Tuesday, Willie James Mitchell faces two to 10 years in prison and a fine up to \$5,000.

Prosecutors said officer Stephen Ledbetter was working undercover in an area plagued by robberies and feigning intoxication when he was approached by a man May 6. The man said he was a police officer but offered to leave Ledbetter alone in exchange for \$50, police said.

But Ledbetter revealed his identity and arrested Mitchell.

# Inmates can't be guards, judge says

**United Press International**  
HOUSTON — A federal judge has given final approval to a measure prohibiting the Texas Department of Corrections from using inmates as guards in prisons but allowing them to serve as clerks, orderlies and janitors.

U.S. District Judge William Wayne Justice of Tyler Tuesday ruled that an agreement among parties in the Texas prison lawsuit regarding use of inmates as guards would take effect immediately.

The agreement was reached among lawyers for TDC, plaintiff prisoners and the U.S. Justice Department.

The plan specifies that inmates may work as clerks, orderlies, field service workers and janitors, but cannot "exercise supervisory or administrative authority over fellow prisoners."

Justice tentatively approved the agreement in April, but delayed final approval to give TDC inmates time to comment on the proposal. An attorney for the inmates said they doubted the state would abide by the agreement.

"After having perused the objections, I am very impressed with the acuteness of the inmates," Justice said in issuing the order. "But the fact that the special master (an officer appointed by the court to over-

see TDC operations) will be available to monitor the situation makes the agreement satisfactory."

Special Master Vincent Nathan would have power to monitor TDC's compliance with the latest order. Another portion of the agreement requires TDC to improve its inmate-guard ratio.

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