

"This interim office will be manned by seasoned political workers, and its operations will be financed exclusively from funds raised by volunteer efforts throughout the country. The functions can easily be transferred when a permanent national organization is established."

The Governor said there is an urgent and immediate need for such an office.

"We cannot wait for a formal declaration of candidacy by Governor Rockefeller since the time factor is critical," Governor Agnew said.

"There are dozens of committees already formed throughout the nation to work for the Rockefeller candidacy, and more are being formed daily."

"These groups, many of them lacking substantial political experience, have no place to turn for direction and guidance of the collective energies, talent and resources they have volunteered for an effort that is now rapidly gaining momentum.

"In Maryland alone we have two such major committees, with several others of a special or professional nature to be formed within the next few weeks. Many individual citizens have also volunteered their services.

"Because of my early involvement in the Draft Rockefeller movement, my office has received a flood of correspondence from throughout the nation that has had to go unanswered because of State business. The volume increases daily.

"I have found from my talks with political leaders in other states that they too have urgent need of a central coordinating point for the referral of inquiries.

"The new office will fill such a need. It will be staffed and in operation within a few days.

"Inquiries may be addressed to the National Rockefeller '68 Committee, P. O. Box 864, Annapolis, Maryland 21404."

NEWS CONFERENCE ON ROCKEFELLER HEADQUARTERS

March 15, 1968

Governor Agnew: Gentlemen, the purpose of this news conference is to allow you to explore to some extent the news release that was given out for 6:00 p.m. release last night concerning the formation of