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ROCKEFELLER
BY JIM ADAMS

WASHINGTON (AP) -- SENATE DEMOCRATIC LEADER MIKE MANSFIELD PROMISED QUICK ACTION TODAY ON NELSON A. ROCKEFELLER'S NOMINATION TO BE VICE PRESIDENT.

"THERE WILL BE NO DELAY OR POSTPONEMENT," MANSFIELD TOLD REPORTERS. HE SAID EVERY EFFORT WOULD BE MADE "TO GET IT DONE BEFORE WE GO OUT IN OCTOBER."

WITH OVERWHELMING PRAISE EXCEPT FROM SOME LONGSTANDING REPUBLICAN FOES, ROCKEFELLER'S CONFIRMATION BY CONGRESS IS VIRTUALLY ASSURED, BUT THERE IS SOME QUESTION ABOUT HOW LONG IT WILL TAKE.

CHAIRMEN OF BOTH THE HOUSE AND SENATE COMMITTEES WHICH WILL REVIEW THE NOMINATION HAVE REFUSED TO COMMIT THEMSELVES TO ANY TARGET DATE. HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN PETER W. RODINO JR., D-N.J., SUGGESTED AGAIN TODAY THAT THE CONFIRMATION WOULD TAKE LONGER THAN THE TWO MONTHS BETWEEN NOW AND THE NOV. 7 ELECTIONS.

"WHETHER IT'S GOING TO TAKE EIGHT WEEKS OR TEN WEEKS, WHATEVER TIME IT'S GOING TO TAKE, I THINK THE COMMITTEE WILL DO IT AS QUICKLY AS WE POSSIBLY CAN," RODINO SAID.

BUT REP. EDWARD HUTCHINSON OF MICHIGAN, RANKING REPUBLICAN ON THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE, SAID PRESIDENT FORD'S CONFIRMATION AS VICE PRESIDENT LAST YEAR TOOK EIGHT WEEKS AND IF ROCKEFELLER'S TAKES ANY LONGER "SOMEBODY'S GOING TO BE GUILTY OF FOOT DRAGGING."

RODINO AND HUTCHINSON WERE INTERVIEWED ON NBC'S "TODAY" PROGRAM. CONGRESS PLANS TO MEET ONLY ABOUT SIX MORE WEEKS BETWEEN NOW AND NOVEMBER. CONGRESS IS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN A LABOR DAY RECESS THURSDAY AND IS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED TO RECESS AGAIN IN OCTOBER FOR RE-ELECTION CAMPAIGNING.