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51< ^AP-Mikva<,0329<White House Counsel Resigns< DENVER (AP) _ White House counsel Abner Mikva has resigned to spend more time with his family and will return to the private sector, the White House said Wednesday. Mikva becomes the third White House counsel to leave the Clinton White House. Mikva, 69, will be succeeded by Jack Quinn, who is chief of staff in Vice President Al Gore's office, an administration source said. Deputy White House counsel Bruce Lindsey told reporters here that Mikva had notified his staff earlier Wednesday that he had decided to resign. "I have come to respect both his political judgment and his legal judgment," Lindsey said. Clinton's first counsel, Bernard Nussbaum, resigned after being criticized for his role in handling contacts between the White House and the Justice Department in the Whitewater affair and in steps taken by his office in the aftermath of the suicide in 1993 of deputy counsel Vincent Foster. He was succeeded by veteran Washington lawyer Lloyd Cutler, who served during an interim period and helped the White House respond to various Whitewater allegations. Mikva, a former appeals court judge and former member of Congress, was hired last year. The White House did not formally announce Mikva's resignation, but Lindsey, here with President Clinton, confirmed reports that Mikva had stepped down. Lindsey said he himself had not been a candidate for the post. He said that Mikva's decision to step down was "entirely his judgment" and that he had been a valued member of the top White House staff. "I just think the grueling day-to-day schedule was more than he thought there would be going into it," Lindsey said. "This has been a more active counsel's office because of the nature of the controversies," Lindsey said. One administration official said Mikva probably will do some teaching at the college level in the spring. AP-NY-09-20-95 1313 EDT<END OF FILE-> WIRE READY NEWSWIRE SYSTEMS INC. _____ Copyright 1995,

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