

The original documents are located in Box 7, folder “Secret Service Protection for Vice President and Secretary of State: December, 1976 - January, 1977 (1)” of the White House Special Files Unit Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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Eileen -
I understood this
letter was re-written.
Attached for deposital.
Gene.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Dear Mr. President:

I am transmitting for consideration by the Congress urgent legislation, the "Special Protective Services Act of 1977," which would authorize the President to direct that protection be provided for the Vice President of the United States and any other Federal Government official after they leave office.

The lives of the Vice President and the Secretary of State have been threatened because of their service to the United States and the American people. The number of threats against prominent Federal officials normally declines after they leave office. The emergence in recent years of numerous and mobile foreign terrorist groups, however, has created an uncertain degree of risk for the Vice President and the Secretary of State; they are natural targets for individuals and groups prone to violence. Threats against Secretary Kissinger's life are current and continuing.

We cannot in good conscience subject any departing Vice President, Secretary of State, or any other Federal official to possible harm because of his or her service to the United States. Because this danger results directly from the high visibility of their positions, I believe that the Federal Government has an obligation to provide them and their immediate families with protection as long as there is significant danger to their lives.

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The legislation I am proposing would cover both present and future Vice Presidents and other Federal officials after they leave office. It would authorize the President to direct Secret Service protection for the Vice President and other Federal officials for so long as the President considers that they are in significant danger as a result of the discharge of their responsibilities while in office. Similar

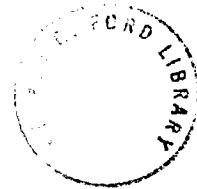


protection could be extended to their families. Protection could be provided by the Secret Service, other Federal law enforcement personnel, or private contractors. Finally, this legislation would provide that such protection be reviewed and specifically reauthorized by the President every six months until finally terminated.

I urge the Congress to act swiftly on this proposal.

[REDACTED]

The Honorable Thomas P. O'Neill
Speaker of the House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515



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To authorize the protection of the Vice President and of other Federal Government officials after they leave office.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act may be cited as the "Special Protective Services Act of 1977."

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(c). The President may direct that protection be provided by: (1) the Secretary of the Treasury through the Secret Service; or (2) the head of the department or agency in which the official has served, either by United States Government employees or by contract.



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- Director's Chron
- Director
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- Mr. Kearney
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EGD:JMullinix/BMartin:lkt:1/5/77

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TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-442882) FROM: SENATOR NELSON A. ROCKEFELLER (100-442882) RE: PROTECTION OF PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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IMM.

PRECEDENCE

UNCLAS
CLASSIFICATION

FOR COMMCENTER USE ONLY

FROM: Jim ~~Hyman~~
TO: Dick Cheney
Jim Kavanaugh

DEX _____

DAC 186

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PAGES 10

TTY _____

CITE _____

INFO:

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

To Vail

*G. Should the
Conor memo
go back to
Conor for
Pres. records?
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WHITE HOUSE
ADMIN ROOM

1976 DEC 29 23 48

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

December 29, 1976

MR PRESIDENT:

Protection of Vice President and Secretary
of State

The attached memorandum from Jim Lynn was staffed to Ed Schmults and Jack Marsh.

Ed Schmults had some extensive comments on this subject and they are attached. Jack Marsh deferred to Ed Schmults.

Jim Lynn asked that this be dexed to you in Vail.

Jim Connor





EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

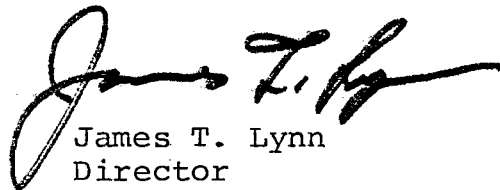
SUBJECT: Protection of Vice President and Secretary
of State

Attached for your approval is the proposed "Special Protective Services Act of 1977," which would authorize the President to direct that the Secret Service provide protection for current and future Vice Presidents and Secretaries of State after they leave office. Transmittal letters to the Speaker and the Vice President are also attached for your signature.

The proposed legislation carries out your decisions. You indicated that you wanted this legislation to be transmitted promptly so that the Congress will have the opportunity to pass a bill before January 20.

The bill and transmittal letters have been approved by State, Treasury, and the National Security Council.

Also consistent with your decision, I recommend that Brent Scowcroft be assigned lead responsibility for coordinating the necessary Executive branch contacts with the Congress on the legislation.


James T. Lynn
Director

Attachment



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Sec. 2. Section 3056 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by redesignating subsection (b) as subsection (c) and inserting the following new subsection:

"(b) (1) In addition to the persons listed in subsection (a), the President is authorized to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to provide protection by the United States Secret Service to the person of the Vice President of the United States or the Secretary of State, or both, after they leave office for so long as the President is satisfied that there is significant danger to such persons as a consequence of their discharge of responsibilities while in office. The President may also extend such protection as may be necessary to members of their immediate families.

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Edward C. Schmults 

SUBJECT: Protection of the Vice President and Secretary of State

I offer the following comments regarding Jim Lynn's memorandum on extending Secret Service protection:

1. I agree with the purpose of this legislation to authorize Secret Service protection for the Vice President and the Secretary of State after they leave office. However, I recommend that only the Vice President be listed by title in the proposed bill. Only recently has a Secretary of State received protection from the Secret Service and it remains uncertain whether this practice will continue. The State Department has its own security force. In addition, future situations might require protection for a former Attorney General or Director of Central Intelligence. I would, therefore, have the bill authorize the President to direct Secret Service protection for a former Vice President and any other former government official, or their families, whose safety is in "significant danger" as a consequence of the discharge of the official's responsibilities while in office. This achieves the same result in the instant situation, while providing discretion that may be needed at a later date. The letter of transmittal to Congress could make clear that protection is contemplated for the outgoing Secretary of State.
2. You should be aware of the cost estimates. The Treasury Department estimates the cost of protection for the first year out of office (without foreign travel) to range between

\$1.48 and \$2.64 million for a former official and between \$2.16 and \$3.32 million for a former official with a wife and two children. The primary variables are the nature and number of threats and the level of protection required.

3. While I agree with the purpose of the legislation, I believe the Treasury cost estimates require one "political" observation -- critics will profess shock at the cost to the taxpayers and will assert (a) the Vice President can pay for his own protection and (b) the Secretary of State wishes to retain one of his official "perks." A generic bill would tend to mitigate this criticism.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Show to
Bob after
Talk to
Jim Conanough



ask Jim

Caranough

nothing done on this as of
1/3/77

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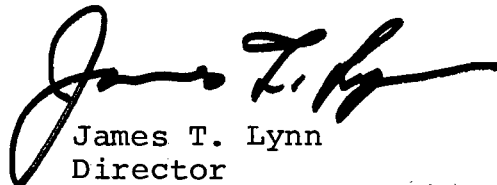
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The proposed legislation carries out your decisions. You indicated that you wanted this legislation to be transmitted promptly so that the Congress will have the opportunity to pass a bill before January 20.

The bill and transmittal letters have been approved by State, Treasury, and the National Security Council.

Also consistent with your decision, I recommend that Brent Scowcroft be assigned lead responsibility for coordinating the necessary Executive branch contacts with the Congress on the legislation.


James T. Lynn
Director

Attachment



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON



Dear Mr. President:

I am transmitting for consideration by the Congress urgent legislation, the "Special Protective Services Act of 1977," which would authorize the President to direct that the Secret Service provide protection for the Vice President of the United States and the Secretary of State after they leave office.

The lives of the Vice President and the Secretary of State have been threatened because of their service to the United States and the American people. The number of threats against prominent Federal officials normally declines after they leave office. The emergence in recent years of numerous and mobile foreign terrorist groups, however, has created an uncertain degree of risk for the Vice President and the Secretary of State; they are natural targets for individuals and groups prone to violence. Threats against Secretary Kissinger's life are current and continuing.

We cannot in good conscience subject any departing Vice President or Secretary of State to possible harm because of his or her service to the United States. Because this danger results directly from the high visibility of their positions, I believe that the Federal Government has an obligation to provide them and their immediate families with Secret Service protection as long as there is significant danger to their lives.

Existing statutory authority is not adequate for this purpose. Consequently, unless the Congress acts, protective services necessary to ensure the continued safety of the Vice President and the Secretary of State until threats against them cease cannot be provided after they leave office on January 20.

The legislation I am proposing would cover both present and future Vice Presidents and Secretaries of State. It would authorize the President to direct Secret Service protection

for the Vice President and the Secretary of State after they leave office for so long as the President considers their life or safety to be in danger. Similar protection could be extended to their families. Finally, this legislation would provide that such protection be reviewed and specifically reauthorized by the President every six months until finally terminated.

I urge the Congress to act swiftly on this proposal.

Sincerely,

The Honorable Nelson A. Rockefeller
President of the Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510



AN ACT

To authorize protection of the Vice President of the United States and the Secretary of State after they leave office.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act may be cited as the "Special Protective Services Act of 1977."

Sec. 2. Section 3056 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by redesignating subsection (b) as subsection (c) and inserting the following new subsection:

"(b) (1) In addition to the persons listed in subsection (a), the President is authorized to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to provide protection by the United States Secret Service to the person of the Vice President of the United States or the Secretary of State, or both, after they leave office for so long as the President is satisfied that there is significant danger to such persons as a consequence of their discharge of responsibilities while in office. The President may also extend such protection as may be necessary to members of their immediate families.

(2) The protection authorized by this subsection shall be subject to review by the President at the end of each six month period beginning with the date of the original authorization. If the President remains satisfied that there is significant danger, protection may be continued. Persons for whom protection has been authorized by the President may decline such protection."

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Speaker of the
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Washington, D.C. 20515

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 29, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Edward C. Schmults 

SUBJECT: Protection of the Vice President and Secretary of State

I offer the following comments regarding Jim Lynn's memorandum on extending Secret Service protection:

1. I agree with the purpose of this legislation to authorize Secret Service protection for the Vice President and the Secretary of State after they leave office. However, I recommend that only the Vice President be listed by title in the proposed bill. Only recently has a Secretary of State received protection from the Secret Service and it remains uncertain whether this practice will continue. The State Department has its own security force. In addition, future situations might require protection for a former Attorney General or Director of Central Intelligence. I would, therefore, have the bill authorize the President to direct Secret Service protection for a former Vice President and any other former government official, or their families, whose safety is in "significant danger" as a consequence of the discharge of the official's responsibilities while in office. This achieves the same result in the instant situation, while providing discretion that may be needed at a later date. The letter of transmittal to Congress could make clear that protection is contemplated for the outgoing Secretary of State.
2. You should be aware of the cost estimates. The Treasury Department estimates the cost of protection for the first year out of office (without foreign travel) to range between

\$1.48 and \$2.64 million for a former official and between \$2.16 and \$3.32 million for a former official with a wife and two children. The primary variables are the nature and number of threats and the level of protection required.

3. While I agree with the purpose of the legislation, I believe the Treasury cost estimates require one "political" observation -- critics will profess shock at the cost to the taxpayers and will assert (a) the Vice President can pay for his own protection and (b) the Secretary of State wishes to retain one of his official "perks." A generic bill would tend to mitigate this criticism.



Mr Webster - Records
CHD + 3553

Sandy Protection

Jan Fm/DJE

12/14

12/23

THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.:

Date: December 29, 1976

Time:

FOR ACTION:

cc (for information):

Phil Buchen (Ed Schmults)
Jack Marsh

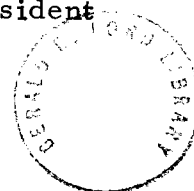
FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: Today Please

Time:

SUBJECT:

Jim Lynn memo re: Protection of Vice President
And Secretary of State



ACTION REQUESTED:

- For Necessary Action
- For Your Recommendations
- Prepare Agenda and Brief
- Draft Reply
- For Your Comments
- Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

Jim Lynn is anxious to have this memorandum dexed to the President --- we would like your comments as soon as possible.

See attached memo
Ed Schmults

PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

Jim Connor
For the President

THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.:

Date: December 29, 1976

Time:

FOR ACTION:

cc (for information):

✓ Phil Buchen (Ed Schmults)
Jack Marsh

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X For Your Recommendations

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Schmults (see comments)

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For the President

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