



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MEMORANDUM FOR CORRESPONDENTS:

September 23, 1975

Secretary of the Treasury William E. Simon announced today that an evaluation of the Secret Service protective intelligence function has been intensified as a result of the two recent alleged assassination attempts on the President. In this connection, an outside evaluation of protective intelligence procedures has been redirected toward these incidents.

He said that over the years since the Warren Commission first made its recommendations in 1964, the Treasury Department and the Secret Service have had numerous outside organizations (including psychiatric, criminal, behavioral psychologists and other specialists from the academic and Government community) review all aspects of the Secret Service protective function.

To give some perspective to the magnitude of the task facing the Secret Service, the Secretary noted that the Secret Service in a normal year screens 200,000 pieces of information regarding persons of possible protective interest; as a result of this input, it interviews 4,000 people in connection with its protective responsibilities; it arrests approximately 60 people as a result of distinct threats made against protected officials; identifies 275-300 people who merit special attention in connection with each trip of a protected official.

Secretary Simon noted that "in striving to perfect procedures, neither the Secret Service nor we at Treasury are ever satisfied with the job we are doing in this area, and this is particularly true when two back-to-back incidents like this occur. The public can be sure that the Secret Service will continue to operate in as effective a manner as is humanly possible in a free society."

o0o