

Supreme Court of the United States
Memorandum

Feb. 14, 1964

Sam -

Here is the copy of Secretary Dillon's letter. Apparently the memo to Chief Rowley was enclosed with this letter.

McH

R73-COR. 10



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON

January 23, 1964

Dear Mr. Chairman:

On January 10, 1964 the Commission's General Counsel J. Lee Rankin wrote to James J. Rowley, Chief, United States Secret Service, requesting information concerning steps which have been taken, or which are planned, to improve protection provided the President. Since this is a critical area of national security, I believe it would be prudent, before the Commission receives data about present and future Presidential protection, to establish clearly the procedures for the use to be made of such data and for recommendations made thereon.

Much of the material on this subject is highly classified. Publication of detailed description of current procedures or of recommendations pointing out the shortcomings of such procedures would, of course, materially increase the danger to the President. I understand that those on the Commission and its staff having access to the material will qualify for and receive appropriate security clearances. I would further suggest that access to this type of material be limited to those staff members actually participating in this phase of the Commission's activities. I would further suggest that no publicity be given to this portion of the Commission's activities and that any recommendations or comments which the Commission may care to make be classified as appropriate and made directly to the agency or agencies concerned or to the President.

I should like to say that in my view the Commission could perform a very useful service to the President and the country by reviewing the procedures in this area. However, since the terms of the Executive Order do not make it entirely clear how far the Commission's responsibilities extend, I should like to discuss this matter with the President and would appreciate your advice as to whether my suggestions as to the Commission's participation are acceptable.

CLASSIFICATION CANCELED

By authority of *Trans. Dept. Sec. 9/31/73*

Name and title of *mmf*

Date *6/22/73*

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December 20, 1963

MEMORANDUM TO CHIEF ROWLEY, U. S. SECRET SERVICE

(Through Assistant Secretary Wallace)

Re: Study of Procedures for Protecting the President

You have reported to me from time to time since the assassination of President Kennedy concerning steps taken to revise the procedures of the Secret Service in protecting the President. I recognize that any changes in these procedures involve the difficult question of striking an appropriate balance between the mission of the Secret Service and the demands of our open society. Nevertheless, I believe it would be helpful for you to continue your review and place it on a formal basis. Therefore, would you please initiate a formal study for submission to me to determine what changes from your point of view may be appropriate in your equipment, personnel or procedures, or in those of other agencies. The study should include, but not be limited to, the following areas:

- 1) the security of the Presidential vehicle and/or accompanying vehicles;
- 2) advance preparations for a Presidential visit in the United States or abroad including selection of routes and release of information to the public;
- 3) procedures followed when the President is in travel status;
- 4) Protective Research Section file and other procedures for identifying individuals possibly dangerous to the President and neutralization of such persons;
- 5) liaison with other law enforcement or intelligence agencies.

Not on signature list.

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You should not be deterred from making appropriate recommendations for changes in areas which may go beyond the prerogatives of the Secret Service (which is merely authorized to protect the President) and may ultimately require a decision by the President. It is also possible that some recommendations may require legislation or reassignment of present responsibilities.

The requested study may be submitted in parts, as appropriate, and if you determine during the course of the study that changes in your procedures should be made, they should not be delayed until the study or any portion of it is completed. Your report should also state what added costs or personnel may be required for each recommendation made or adopted.

/s/ Douglas Dillon

Douglas Dillon

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