

*K.P.
H. J. Egan*

NR/bh

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE HONORABLE GERALD R. FORD

Attached are the relevant pages from the testimony of Mr. Hoover. Although this copy is not clear, please note that on page 656~~7~~ the entire next to last paragraph has been deleted with the exception of the last two words, i.e. "Secret Service."

Norman Radlich

Attachment

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to your recommendations, do you think you have adequately taken into account that the President is not only the Chief Executive but also necessarily a politician under our system?

Mr. Hoover. I have taken that into account, and I would like to say this off the record.

(Discussion off the record.)

Mr. Rankin. That is all I have, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman. Any other questions, gentlemen?

Rep. Boggs. I would just like to thank the Director again for all the help he has given us.

Mr. Hoover. I am happy to.

The Chairman. I would, too, on behalf of the Commission, Mr. Director, I would not only like to thank you for your testimony but for your cooperation that your people have given us throughout this entire investigation.

Mr. Hoover. Thank you very much.

The Chairman. I also want to add one other thing, having in mind the testimony you gave that this is still an open investigation, that should anything come to your attention that you believe this Commission has either overlooked or should look into you feel free to ask us to do it.

Mr. Hoover. I would most certainly do that.

The Chairman. To do it.

Mr. Hoover. I want to give all the cooperation I can to this most difficult task you have.

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Date 3-11-69

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Rep. Ford: One question.

The other day when we had the House, Justice, Judiciary
appropriation bill, before the full Committee on appropriations --

Mr. Hoover: Yes.

Rep. Ford: -- and I am not a member of that subcommittee,
I noticed a provision in the bill, as I recall, to the effect
funds for or something of that content, of FBI responsibilities
for the protection of the President.

Mr. Hoover: There is a provision for funds that we can use
for the apprehension of a man who has been declared a
fugitive from justice, and if there a man has committed a
crime, a warrant is due and he has fled or where he has
escaped from a penitentiary, and I recall other, any speci-
fic appropriation for the protection of the President.

There used to be a provision in the appropriation years
ago that gave us authority for the protection to the President
and to the Vice President.

That was taken out, I think, about ten years ago,
the full authority now is in the hands of the Secret Service.
I will look at the appropriation bill, I may be wrong there
but I am quite certain that is so.

Rep. Ford: It was my recollection as I was looking
at the bill in Committee there was a phrase to this effect
in the language of the bill. I think it might be helpful for
the record to get whatever the history is of that if it is still

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a matter of the bill or the law.

Mr. Hoover. I remember that at the time Mr. Curtis was Vice President, he was Senator and then Vice President, at that time he insisted that he wanted FBI agents with him and nobody else, and there was a provision made for, giving us the authority part of which prior to that time it had been entirely in the Secret Service hands.

As years went on that was later changed and we do not have the authority to protect the President nor the Vice President, and when Mr. Nixon came in he was protected by the Secret Service at his house, and when Mr. Johnson, it was the same thing.

That goes back, I think nearly maybe 15, 20 years, but I will look up that because I remember Senator Curtis, I was a very close friend of the Senator's and when he became Vice President he wanted to have FBI men, if it was necessary. Sometimes when he was going out to some public function where he would have people bother you or try to press up too close to you he felt it desirable to have somebody with him and he asked for FBI and there was then placed in the appropriation bill which had not been in there before that provision we could furnish that protection but I am quite certain that has been removed and we have no authority to protect the President except that which we are doing more as a matter of courtesy at the request of the Secret Service.

They asked us to let them have additional manpower and we

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