

# House Group Backs Bigger Secret Service

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The House Appropriations Committee cleared funds yesterday for a major expansion of the Secret Service.

But the Committee warned that "adequate protection of the President is not to be found in numbers of personnel only, but in the quality of protective measures and in the wholehearted cooperation among law-enforcement agencies as well."

The Committee recommended a \$12.6-million budget for the Secret Service in fiscal 1966 — nearly 70 per cent above the \$5.1 million originally appropriated for the agency last year.

The buildup, which includes 233 additional agents and the introduction of automation in processing security records, is an outgrowth of the Warren Commission's report on the assassination of President Kennedy 16 months ago.

The Committee's warning that numbers alone cannot assure adequate presidential protection also springs from the Warren report. The Com-

mission was sharply critical of the lack of coordination among the Secret Service, the FBI and other law enforcement agencies prior to the assassination.

Secret Service Chief James J. Rowley told an appropriations subcommittee at hearings earlier that a written agreement has been signed with the FBI to assure closer cooperation.

He said the Secret Service is getting about 6000 referrals a month, most of them from the FBI, on people or groups that could be a danger to the President.

The Service has 240,000 index cards in its protective research files now and expects the number to grow to 365,000 by the end of next year, he said.

Nearly 100 additional agents are to be assigned to the Service's 65 field offices to check out potentially dangerous individuals and take charge of advance work and provide protection during trips by the President.