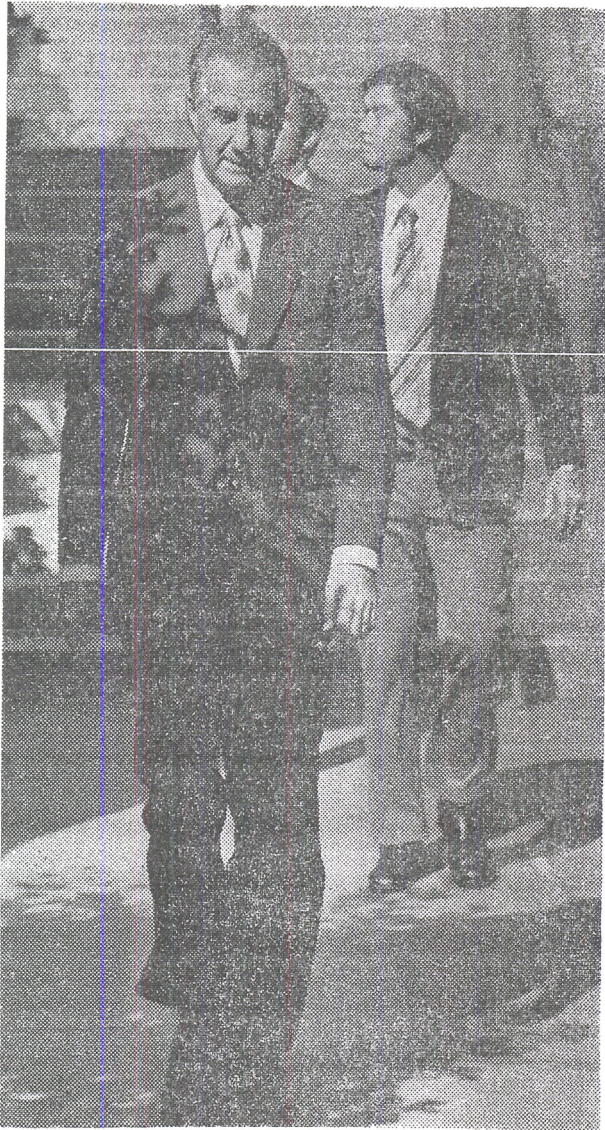


Farewell Lunch at Trader Vic's

10/19/73 By Maxine Cheshire



Photos by Douglas Chevalier—The Washington Post

Spiro T. Agnew arrives for lunch at Trader Vic's yesterday with Secret Service escort.

Spiro T. Agnew might feel conspicuous lunching these days at the Sans Souci, but Trader Vic's is so dark that he managed to slip in and out of the restaurant yesterday afternoon unnoticed by other customers.

He was invited by one of his former assistants, John Damgard, to join him and a small group of other Agnew staffers for a farewell lunch.

Agnew, accompanied by seven Secret Service agents, arrived nearly an hour late. For him, the party was brief and the lunch light. He stayed only about 45 minutes, nibbling a salad tossed with shrimp and sipping a rum-laced "Navy Grog."

Thanks to the Secret Service, the group had the entire Kure Room to themselves and the agents placed themselves so they could fend off a reporter who spotted the former Vice President.

The entourage arrived in two limousines. Agnew's was a cognac-colored Lincoln, a conspicuous contrast to the somber black back-up car.

Trader Vic's, always popular with the Nixon administration, has continued this popularity among those who have left office under a cloud and would just as soon avoid public attention.

Former Attorney General John Mitchell ate there every night with his lawyers before and during his Watergate testimony on Capitol Hill.

Former White House aides John Ehrlichman and H. R. (Bob) Haldeman took someone (the waiters did not know who) there for a birthday celebration just before the two moved away.

Jeb Stuart Magruder, who still lunches at the Sans Souci when he doesn't mind being seen, was at Trader Vic's for lunch the other day at a table for three. It isn't only the "outs" though who like the place.

Julie and David Eisenhower took a party of six there last week before the President's announcement party for Gerald Ford at the White House.

If Agnew had been there the day before he might have run into special prosecutor Archibald Cox.