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Agnew Receives

Permit For Gun

WASHINGTON (AP)—Former Vice President Spiro T. Agnew, who used to rely on the Secret Service for protection, won government approval Wednesday to own a gun.

The special permission of the Treasury Department's Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms was required because of Agnew's status as a convicted felon.

The former vice president pleaded no contest to income tax evasion on Oct. 10, 1973, the day he resigned as vice president.

Rex D. Davis, director of the firearms bureau, said Agnew sought permission to own a firearm and claimed he had seen trespassers on his property and received threats.

Following Agnew's request, government agents conducted what was described as "an abbreviated field investigation" to determine whether he would be "a menace to society" if he was allowed to own a gun, said a spokesman for the bureau.

Davis also noted that Agnew's ownership of a firearm would not violate the laws of Maryland. The former vice president recently purchased a \$160,000 home in Indian Hills, Md., just north of Annapolis.

Agnew also recently moved into new offices in an industrial park near Crofton, Md., but he won't say what he's using the suite for.

The Maryland Court of Appeals, the highest tribunal in the state, has disbarred Agnew from practicing law.

The Treasury Department ended Secret Service protection of Agnew last February following a General Accounting Office ruling that there was no legal basis for providing that service.

In approving his gun request, the firearms bureau said Agnew would be permitted to own any kind of weapon that is otherwise legal.

The former vice president's application did not specify what kind of gun he desired or whether he intended to carry it with him.