

The agent's incredible justification, as attested by a copy of the receipt, was that they were counterfeit "foreign" currency. About the same time, another agent grabbed off a bill in a Salt Lake City shop, charging that it resembled U.S. currency.

The poster-sized Nixon bills, even in this day of the inflated dollar, have no resemblance to real cash. They are printed on one side only and signed by "Hava Flower, Treasurer of the Secretaries." Their maker, Gemini Rising, Inc., is clearly identified.

Yet the humorless Secret Service agents charged that the Louisville shop had violated federal laws carrying a \$5,000 fine and five years in jail.

After we began investigating the seizures of the Nixon bills, the Louisville U.S. attorney's office and the Secret Service began pointing fingers at each other. Finally, the Secret Service in Washington admitted their case had no more value than the phony \$3 bills.

"We do not regard them as a violation," conceded a spokesman. He denied the confiscations were carried out to harass those who make fun of the President.

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#### Protecting The President—

The Secret Service, in its zeal to protect President Nixon, has been seizing giant-sized \$3 bills that poke a little gentle fun at him.

A stern-faced agent named Richard Stokes moved in on a novelty shop in Louisville, Ky., and alarmed its workers by confiscating huge one-by-two foot \$3 bills, carrying Mr. Nixon's picture.

Anderson 11/13/73