

Security Review At White House



AP Wirephoto
MARSHALL FIELDS
Psychiatric tests

Washington

The Secret Service began reviewing White House security measures yesterday after a young man clad like an Arab crashed his car through a gate leading to the mansion on Christmas morning.

"We feel our security is as tight as it can be," said George Coper, a spokesman for the Secret Service. "However, every incident demands a review of how it might possibly be made better."

Meanwhile, the intruder identified as Marshall H. Fields, underwent a series of psychological and psychiatric tests yesterday at St. Elizabeth's Hospital where he had been taken after holding the police and security officers at bay for nearly four hours Wednesday morning, just a few feet from the north portico of the White House.

A hospital spokesman said that such tests and observations generally take about a week. Fields was placed in the maximum security section of the hospital after the secret Service asked that he

be classified as "an unusual risk."

Coper said yesterday that the Secret Service has been in consultation with the US Attorney's office but that no charges have been filed, pending the outcome of the hospital tests.

Coper did not rule out the possibility that newer, more secure gates may be installed at the six entrances to the White House grounds. The gates are made of cast iron and were strengthened most recently during the administration of the late President Johnson in the mid-1960s.

The Christmas morning crash knocked down the right half of the electronically operated gate on Pennsylvania avenue. The left half was badly battered and knocked partly off its hinges.

A uniformed officer stood guard yesterday over a make-shift barrier. On duty inside the nearby guard house adjoining the gate were four other uniformed officers, members of the Executive Protection Service, formerly called the White

House police force.

Aside from the broken gate, there was little evidence yesterday of Wednesday's bizarre incident. There were no extra officers on duty and, with President Ford and his family vacationing in Vail, Colo., many of the White House offices were operating with skeleton staffs.

Fields, 25 years old, was the son of a deceased American diplomat.

New York Times

Trade Agreement

Miami, Fla.

Switzerland and Cuba have extended their joint trade agreement through next year, Havana Radio reported yesterday.

Associated Press