

White House Intruder Undergoes Mental Test

By Lawrence Feinberg
Washington Post Staff Writer

Marshall H. Fields, the young man who crashed his car through a White House gate on Christmas morning and threatened to blow himself up with what turned out to be bogus explosives, was examined yesterday by psychiatrists at St. Elizabeths Hospital.

Prosecutors said they were awaiting the psychiatrists' report before deciding whether to file criminal charges against Fields.

Fields, 25, of Silver Spring, is the son of a deceased U.S. government official. He was taken to St. Elizabeths Wednesday afternoon; several

hours after he surrendered quietly to authorities on the grounds of the White House.

During his four-hour siege just 20 feet from the front door of the White House, Fields kept police and security guards at bay because of several satchels and cylinders wired to his body. They appeared to contain explosives but later were found to be highway flares.

Yesterday the leader of the Islamic Party in North America, a Moslem group whose headquarters are at 770 Park Road NW, told reporters that

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Fields had signed up as an "applicant" to the group on Oct. 8, and attended its services almost daily until early this month.

Muzaffaruddin Hamid, the Moslem leader, said Fields "abruptly" stopped coming to group's mosque about Dec. 2.

About 10 days later, Hamid said, he received a packet of

material from Fields in the mail. It included the declaration, "I am the Messiah," said Fields would "take actions against the government of the United States," and said, "I will denounce my citizenship to this country (?) on Dec. 25, 1974."

The packet, which also included pictures of Fields, old newspaper clippings and innocuous old diplomatic cables,

was similar to one Fields sent in mid-December to several news organizations.

Hamid said that when he received the packet he "officially removed (Fields) from the status of applicant"

to the Islamic Party because his beliefs "ran counter to the basic beliefs of Islam."

When Fields became a Moslem applicant, he took the Arabic name Abdur Rahim, meaning "servant of the Mer-

cidental," Hamid said, and also often wore a white Arab-style headdress.

Fields wore the same sort of Arab headdress at the White House on Christmas and also referred to himself by his Arabic name.

Hamid said that even though Fields appeared to be a sincere Moslem for about two months, "there was a kind of air about him that something was disturbing him, that something was wrong."

Several persons who knew Fields said that his behavior had become erratic after his father, an official of the Agency for International Development, died of cancer in May.

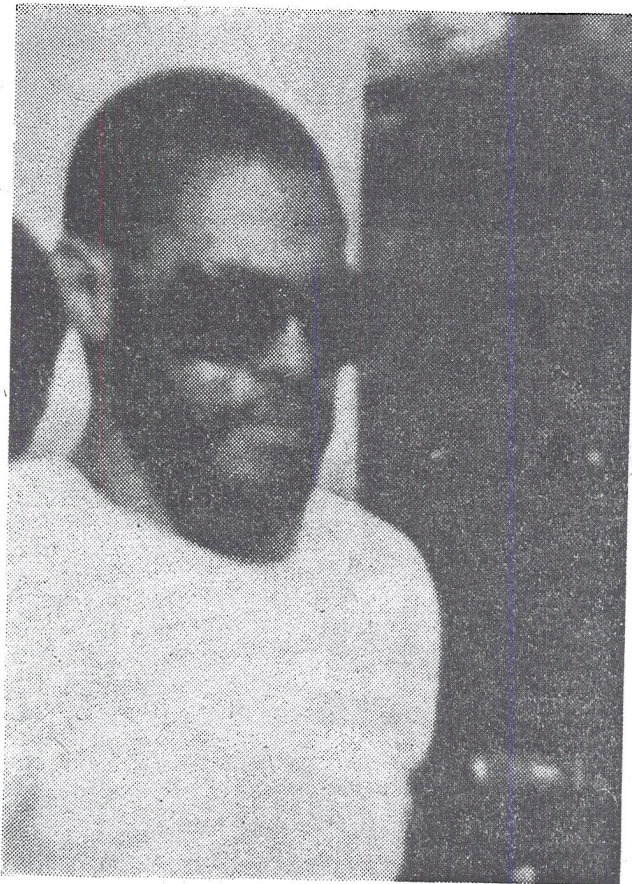
Some people who knew him before that said he was quite different—a "nice guy" with many plans for making money who supported himself by driving a taxicab and playing guitar in jazz groups.

"He was a very nice guy, but sometimes he was really weird," said Gordon Berl, who played wit Fields in 1971 and 1972 in a blues group called J.B. Hutot and the Hawks.

The group was organized by Topper Carew, director of the New Thing art center. In one review of a concert at Howard University, Fields was identified as Marshall (Twangy) Fields.

In December, 1973, Fields and a group of friends incorporated a firm called Universal Enterprises of the People, Inc.

Damien Einstein, a disc jockey at radio station WHFS-FM, who knew Fields, said the company promoted several



United Press International

Marshall H. Fields of Silver Spring is led between buildings at St. Elizabeth's Hospital yesterday where he is undergoing examination by psychiatrists.



By Joe Heiberger—The Washington Post

Muzaffaruddin Hamid holds packet of materials he said he received from Marshall Fields earlier this month. At left is Kareen Abdulghani, foreign secretary of the Islamic Party in North America. Hamid is the leader of the group.

soul and rock concerts in Washington last summer but apparently has been out of business since then.

Fields referred to himself as president of Universal Enterprises in the statements he issued about two weeks ago.

Yesterday a spokesman for the Secret Service declined to provide more information

about what the agency knew about Fields before he crashed through the White House gate. On Wednesday the agency confirmed that Fields had been in its files as a person who had made a threat against government officials.

Spokesman George Cospers said the Secret Service had not had Fields under surveil-

lance "because we did not feel he was a direct threat to the President or our other protee-

tees." Harold Thomas, a spokesman for St. Elizabeths Hospital, said Fields appeared "very calm" when he was brought in on Wednesday but later was "rambling in his speech and disjointed."