

Complete story filed Secret Service

INFORMATION DRIVE BY SECRET SERVICE COULD AFFECT MANY

by Richard D. Lyons
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Washington, Nov. 7 - The Secret Service has issued to the nation's Federal and local law enforcement agencies a set of guidelines which, if literally interpreted, would have them collect negative information about vast numbers of Americans.

Labeled "For Official Use Only," the guidelines were apparently issued last summer to supplant another set that had stemmed from the Warren Commission's recommendations dealing with the protection of the President.

But the current guidelines apparently go far beyond those envisioned by the Warren Commission, which investigated the assassination of President Kennedy.

To Protect Officials

Jack Warner, an assistant to the Secret Service director, said the guidelines were intended to facilitate the gathering of information to be used to protect the President and other high officials.

Yet the wording of the "U.S. Secret Service Liaison Guidelines" requests not only information about obvious threats to the President and others protected by the service, but also this other information:

- About attempts to "embarrass" high officials.
- "Regarding civil disturbances."
- On people seeking "redress of imaginary grievances, etc."
- On people making "irrational" or "abusive statements" about high Government officials.
- "Regarding anti-American or anti-U.S. Government demonstrations."

A Secret Service official, who requested anonymity, commented: "The choice of language is certainly unfortunate and could mislead less sophisticated people into ~~in~~thinking that they should collect and send us information that certainly wasn't desired."

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Mr. Warner said the service routinely processed 6,000 to 7,000 pieces of information a month and had assessments of their potential value and importance.

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When two lawyers who served on the Warren Commission staff were asked for comment about the guidelines and the intent of the commission's recommendations, they replied that the guidelines appeared to have gone beyond the commission's intent.

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