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**Nixon** Ⓢ

# Security Adequate

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Because security is adequate the two top U.S. Secret Service officials say it doesn't seem likely that the President would have to use an escape tunnel if a mob attempted to storm the White House.

James J. Rowley the Secret Service director and Thomas J. Kelley assistant director testified yesterday in U.S. District Court where the American Civil Liberties Union is challenging the legality of a regulation limiting the number of demonstrators in front of the White House.

"If the President was in the White House they (a violent crowd) probably couldn't get to him" Kelley said. Preventing harm to the President would require "stringent and possibly violent action" by police he added.

#### No Tunnel Use

"I don't believe the tunnel would have to be used at all today," said Rowley "because we (have) adequate protection."

The Secret Service would not elaborate on Rowley's reference to the tunnel, but, according to a book written by Michael F. Reilly, an agent who was one of Franklin Roosevelt's bodyguards, a zig-zag tunnel was built early in World War II between the White House and the Treasury building across the street where a huge vault had been converted into a bomb shelter.

ACLU attorneys contended that there is no history of radical demonstrators attempting to storm the White House and that, even if it happened, there are adequate safeguards to protect the President.

#### 'Protest Motive'

Interior Department regulations limit demonstrators to 100 on the sidewalk in front of the White House on Pennsylvania Avenue and to 500 in adjacent Lafayette Park.

The ACLU contends the numerical limit imposed in 1967 is not to prevent harm to the President but to prevent protests against him.