

White House Agent Linked To Taking of Protest Sign

WASHINGTON, July 12 (AP) —The Secret Service said today that a White House volunteer, not one of its agents, was responsible for tearing down a protest sign during a visit to Pekin, Ill., last month by President Nixon.

"A photographer and numerous witnesses drew attention to a particular individual who allegedly tore down a citizen's protest banner," the Secret Service said in a statement. "The Secret Service, in conjunction with the White House, has identified the man in this photograph as a volunteer White House advance man, Peter C. Murphy of Eugene, Ore."

A spokesman for the Secret Service said Illinois Senators Adlai E. Stevenson 3d, a Democrat, and Charles H. Percy, a Republican, had requested the investigation.