

# AGNEW'S STAFFS TOLD AT MEETINGS

Assistant Says Mrs. Agnew  
Retains Her Composure—  
Official's Salary Ends

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WASHINGTON, Oct. 10 —

The big fieldstone house at the corner of Sunset and Shadow in the well-upholstered suburb of Kenwood had the shades drawn to the sills at 10 of its 12 front windows today.

The master of the house, Vice President Agnew, left his recently purchased \$190,000 home this morning for his office.

By late afternoon he had still not returned because, according to the turtle-necked Secret Service agent keeping watch from a plastic lawn chair beside the front door, Mr. Agnew had gone to Baltimore for a wake for his half-brother, W. Roy Pollard Jr., who died yesterday.

Mrs. Agnew had gone to her Washington office, too, this morning. She, however, told her staff — Mary Dee Beall, an old friend who has served as Mrs. Agnew's personal secretary, and her assistant — that her husband was resigning his office.

"She's done beautifully," Mrs. Beall said of Judy Agnew's composure during the recent difficult months of unwavering public scrutiny and, sometimes, official humiliation—as when she and the Vice President were recently ushered into a state dinner at the White House almost by the back door. And today, Mrs. Beall said, Mrs. Agnew "held up" through the difficult moments of telling her staff the news.

Mr. Agnew's staff learned of his resignation at about the same moment that the rest of the world did, in a staff meeting called at 2 P.M.

Mr. Agnew's statement was read to his staff by Maj. Gen. John M. Dunn, one of Mr. Agnew's senior assistants.

By then, Mr. Agnew was on his way to Baltimore in the "protective security" limousine that he may keep, along with the rest of the protective paraphernalia that surrounded him during his 4½-year Vice Presidency, for "a period of time," according to a Secret Service spokesman. How long a period of time the Service wasn't saying, but former Vice President Hubert Humphrey was under their protection for six months after he left office by the more conventional route of losing an election.

## Yell into Microphones

So the agents, three of them visible, and with undoubtedly more colleagues out of sight, were still there around the 12-room house. It boasts a tree-studded 40-foot lawn and a driveway newly widened and seeded many electronic sensing devices in the interests of vice presidential security. There is a brick guardhouse, and two brick guardhouse, and two brick gateposts with electric eyes and acoustical devices that have been a delight to neighborhood kids. Just to bedevil the agents, one of them confided this afternoon, "We used to run up and then yell into the microphones and run."

At the Baltimore funeral home where Mrs. Agnew and their daughter Susan reportedly went this morning, to be joined by Mr. Agnew after he left the courthouse, their presence was denied totally. They were not there, they had not been there, was the response to inquiries.

Mrs. Beall said she was "sure" the Vice President informed his family last night, when he also informed Mr. Nixon. But Mrs. Agnew may have known—or at least suspected—earlier. At a surprise luncheon given for her yesterday by a group of Senate wives, she was reportedly in tears. Mrs. Beall said that the Agnew children who are not, like Susan, living at home, have been informed. They include his youngest daughter, Kim, a freshman at Williams College, another daughter, Pamela, and a son, Randy.

Because of the expected press of legal business, Mr. Agnew's engagement calendar was nearly empty, anyway, for the rest of the month. A meeting tomorrow with Felix Houphuet-Boigny, the President of Ivory Coast, has been canceled; his wife, likewise, bowed out of a commitment to lunch with the visitor's wife today. Mr. Agnew's next scheduled appearance, according to his staff, is Oct. 29th in Pittsburgh.

And at 4:30 P.M. today, the Secret Service began its 24-hour watch on the man who is temporarily next in line, House Speaker Carl Albert a Democrat. It was Mr. Albert who, last month, was introduced at a dinner in Oklahoma—to his evident embarrassment and distress—as the man who was only two indictments away from the Presidency.