

# The Cost of Agnew

## Washington

The General Accounting Office revealed yesterday that at least \$100,000 has been spent to provide offices, aides and other privileges for Spiro T. Agnew since he resigned as vice president.

The GAO said the esti-

mate include costs only through December 4 and does not include the salaries of Secret Service agents who have provided round-the-clock protection for Agnew since he left office on October 10.

In a preliminary report to Representative John F. Moss (Dem-Calif.), the GAO

said there was no legal basis for assigning agents to Agnew and questioned the funds used to pay the aides.

Comptroller General Elmer B. Staats said attempts to elicit more information were blocked, at least temporarily, by the White

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House, and that the Secret Service has refused to answer a request for detailed data.

The preliminary report said that salaries for personnel assigned to Agnew from October 10 to December 4 total \$89,132.75.

In addition, \$287.12 was spent for free mailing privileges; \$877.61 for office supplies; and \$960 to move various files from the executive office building.

After Agnew resigned, President Nixon ordered continued Secret Service protection for an unspecified length of time.

But the GAO said Mr. Nixon's instructions "may be immaterial since we are not aware of any specific authority of law for providing Secret Service protection for former vice presidents."

*United Press*