

Ruling on Agnew's Guards

Washington

Comptroller, General Elmer B. Staats has ruled for the second time in two weeks that President Nixon has no legal authority to provide continued Secret Service protection for former Vice President Spiro T. Agnew.

Staats said in a letter to Representative John Moss (Dem-Calif.), which Moss released yesterday, that a Treasury Department claim that the president's authority "is based on his inherent executive powers" is without foundation.

Moss immediately wrote Treasury Secretary George Shultz demanding that Agnew's protection be ended. He also wrote Chairman George Mahon of the House appropriations committee requesting that panel to investigate expenditure of funds for Agnew which were neither authorized nor appropriated.

Deputy White House Press Secretary Gerald Warren said the White House had "no change" to announce in terms of Secret Service protection for Agnew.

United Press