

Treasury Cuts Off Guard for Agnew

Washington

The Treasury Department said yesterday that it is lifting Secret Service protection for former Vice President Spiro T. Agnew.

A spokesman for the department said the decision to end federal protection for the resigned vice president was made by Treasury Secretary George P. Shultz with knowledge of the White House.

The spokesman, Charles Arnold, said Agnew's Secret Service guard will "end before midnight."

The decision comes two

days after U.S. Comptroller Elmer B. Staats said that payments for the agents for Agnew were not authorized by law. Staats said in a letter sent to Shultz that the General Accounting Office would not pay for Agnew's Secret Service protection after yesterday.

Commenting on Staat's letter, Arnold said the Treasury Department still believes there is presidential authority to order Secret Service protection in cases not specifically covered by statutes — such as the Agnew case.

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