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DOC NO	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions	
1	LETTER	WHITE HOUSE ARMY SIGNAL CORPS DETACHMENT (OPEN IN WHOLE)	2	9/16/1946	B2 B6	868 B7(A)

UFRY - Reagan Presidential Record

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

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OFFICE OF THE CHIEF  
U. S. SECRET SERVICE

*Handwritten signature*

REFER TO FILE NO.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON, D. C.

September 16, 1946

Filed by  
MR. BAWSON

MAY 8 1952

PERMANENT FILE

PERMANENT FILE

WH 6

WH 7

WH 8-2

COPY - Reagan Presidential Record

Major General Harry H. Vaughan  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Vaughan:

I have been advised of the recent decision to discontinue the White House Army Signal Corps Detachment and its various duties.

Inasmuch as this causes great concern on the part of the U. S. Secret Service in connection with security measures which have been in effect since the beginning of the war and which in my opinion should be continued in the future, possibly to a limited degree, I have inquired into the matter with a view to determining whether there would be any way of maintaining a minimum amount of security similar to that given by the Signal Corps without their aid or assistance. It develops that even in the event that the Signal Corps would turn over to the Secret Service the complete installations of two-way radios, it does not appear that we could carry on their duties for the following reasons.

Immediately upon the withdrawal of the Signal Corps, we would come under the jurisdiction of the Federal Communications Commission, and we would have to abide by the rules and regulations of the FCC which require that highly licensed personnel be on duty at all fixed stations and to a lesser degree at all mobile stations. It is my opinion that this type of personnel is not available, and we have no possibility of training such personnel. At the present time we have main stations at the White House and in the following cities: New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington (Secret Service Field Office), Chicago and Kansas City.

The benefits of these radio stations when the President is in any of these cities can be readily realized, and I believe that what has been accomplished in the past by use of them is self-evident.

3 - Gen. Vaughan - 9-16-46

Any installations now in effect in any private homes or offices which you deem unnecessary could be readily removed. However, any that you approve could be retained and operated from the same board without additional cost or service.

Although I have discussed this matter with Major McMally in a limited manner, I am not in a position at this time to recommend the total number of personnel that would be necessary to maintain the radio set-up in its entirety and to service the equipment for a modified set-up. However, I am of the opinion that a reduced number of personnel could be agreed upon.

It would be appreciated if reconsideration could be given to the decision set forth in the memorandum of September 3, 1946. It will be noted that I am making no mention of the Map Room or the communications train car or any of the personal services that are extended to the Presidential party in connection with confidential messages which in the past have been part of the duties performed by the Signal Corps Detachment. I do not believe that I am in a position to discuss this aspect of the memorandum of September 3.

Very truly yours,



Acting Chief, U. S. Secret Service

cc: Mr. Schoeneman  
SA Rowley