

A. Protective Survey Reports

The Secret Service's Protective Research Section compiled reports for each trip the President took outside of Washington, D.C. Trip reports primarily consisted of a preliminary survey report and a final survey report. They are a detailed source for President Kennedy's travel, whereabouts, associations, and activities. They also document a complete picture of the Secret Service's protection of President Kennedy. Another name for these reports are "protective survey reports." By describing several different settings and a variety of circumstances, the trip reports establish a basis for comparing the protection the President Kennedy received in Dallas. Also describe what other entities provided presidential protection. Two reasons for these: Researchers will be able to gauge not only what information came to the Secret Service but also how successfully the Secret Service used that information to protect President Kennedy before his trip to Texas. These were written by members of the White House Detail who advanced the President's trip. Some visits required additional documentation for special notices or changes in plans. These reports contain standard descriptions of protective methods for presidential security, that do not vary much in format. The Protective Surveys contain names from Protective Research Section's files.

Accession No. 87-75-4, completed in 1974, described approximately 210 U.S. Secret Service protective survey files in 6 boxes that were categorized as "permanent retention." Beginning in August 1993, the Secret Service and the National Archives rescheduled these files for selective destruction. Before ARRB staff had an opportunity to view these records, the contents of Box 1 and Box 6 had been destroyed. Box 1 contained 25 folders of material dated 1961 - 1963. Box 6 included 25 folders dated 9-24-63 to 11-8-63. The remaining four boxes contain approximately 160 files, as well as five folders pertaining to Mrs. Kennedy's trips abroad.

B. Dinneen Memoranda

HSCA staff member, Eileen Dinneen, viewed President Kennedy's trip files at the Secret Service. Dinneen then prepared a memorandum which summarized her study of the protective surveys. Dinneen reviewed surveys from the time period of March, 1963 through December 1963. The HSCA requested or viewed approximately 70-75 protective surveys for the March through November 1963 time period and additional surveys from April, 1961.

The following trip reports are opened at the National Archives: