

President continues touring

Ford won't become 'hostage of his office'

Associated Press
WASHINGTON — While President Ford insisted Tuesday he will not become a hostage of his office, an investigating senator said the woman accused of trying to assassinate him had pleaded to be arrested so she wouldn't start "testing the system."
That disclosure promised congressional controversy about the protection of the President, and Secretary of the Treasury William E. Simon said the Secret Service already is looking to an overhaul of its protective system.
Congressional leaders suggested immediate Secret Service protection for the 1976 presidential candidates, rather than waiting until Jan. 1.
As Sara Jane Moore, charged

with attempting to kill Ford Monday in San Francisco, awaited a hearing for a possible psychiatric examination. Sen. Joseph M. Montoya, D-N.M., told of her request Sunday to be placed in protective custody.
He said it was that request that prompted the Secret Service to interview her Sunday night, the day before the shot aimed at the President. The Secret Service said it found "she was not of sufficient protective interest to warrant surveillance during the President's visit."
No follow-up
"The fact is that they did not follow up," said Montoya, head of the committee that handles Secret Service funds. He announced his panel will begin hearings next Tuesday or Wednesday.

Although official Treasury spokesmen declined to expand on Simon's statement, other sources said the departmental evaluation is focusing on the Secret Service system for determining in advance who might be a threat to the President or other officials.
The evaluation, which will be conducted by consultants from outside the federal government, will go into how the Secret Service collects information on potential threats and what criteria it uses to weed out people who don't seem like serious threats.
Ford is tentatively scheduled to speak in Chicago and Evanston, Ill., on Tuesday.

Still travelling
Press Secretary Ron Nessen said Monday's incident, in front of the St. Francis Hotel in San Francisco, has not changed the President's belief that he should continue travel.
The alternative, Nessen said, would be "putting the President in the Oval Office and keeping him hostage there for four years."
If the President needed to take refuge in the White House and other prominent government figures followed that lead, Nessen said, "it would mean that all public officials would hide in a bunker."
The attempted assassination was the second in 17 days.
Nessen said Ford feels "the action represents a tiny, tiny

minority of Americans and the actions of such a tiny minority cannot be allowed to keep the President, the vice president and other public officials hostage."
Ford not 'flaunting'
Nessen said Ford has done nothing that "could be considered as flaunting himself or his office in front of people who might belong to this tiny minority."
"Nor does he feel that anything he's said or done represents in any way a dare or an egging on of these individuals," added Nessen.
Sen. Montoya said neither Mrs. Moore nor Lynette Alice Fromme, arrested and charged

in the apparent assassination attempt in Sacramento, Calif., was listed in the 47,000-name computer listing of persons considered possibly dangerous to the President.
Montoya read a memorandum that he said his staff prepared on the basis of information from the Secret Service. It said that on Sunday night, after her arrest for carrying a revolver, Mrs. Moore "phoned an inspector of the San Francisco police department and requested that he retain her in custody."
"The inspector knew Mrs. Moore as an informant and asked her what the charge for continued custody could be," Montoya said. "She replied that she had been a part of the pro-

test movement for some time and that she might just start 'testing the system.'"
The police inspector alerted the Secret Service, Montoya said, and agents interviewed the 45-year-old woman.
Hearing Witnesses
The New Mexico senator said he will call Stuart Knight, director of the Secret Service, as a witness at next week's hearings.
Simon, in his written statement, said: "In striving to perfect procedures, neither the Secret Service nor we at Treasury are ever satisfied with the job we are doing in this area and this is particularly true when two back-to-back incidents like this occur."

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Regents

(from page 1)
An additional \$271,600 was awarded for the preliminary design of an addition to the library, for expansion of the waste water treatment plant, and for the design of a facility for laboratory animal research and resources.
Other contracts given by the Regents included \$246,750 to Sentry Construction Co. of Bryan for a new water utilities classroom building at the Research and Extension Center, and \$67,485 to R. B. Butler, Inc. for a mock-up to be used in fire-fighting exercises.
A total of \$214,621 was awarded for the purchase of furniture and special equipment for the new Prairie View A&M health center.
Tarleton State University received appropriations totaling \$81,000. The contracts dealt with sidewalk construction, repair of a steam tunnel, landscaping a central mall area and repairing a rock wall around the campus.
Williams reported that twelfth day class figures stood at 7,182 women and 18,065 men at A&M, for a total enrollment of 25,247. This represents a 17.6 per cent increase in student enrollment over last year. Dr. Haskell Monroe, dean of faculties, said the figure was nearly double the enrollment of the entire university in 1968.
The regents voted to name the Architecture Building and the adjacent building under construction in honor of Ernest Langford, a 1913 A&M graduate, who was head of the Architecture Department from 1929 to 1956. He also served for 25 years as councilman and mayor of College Station.
The facilities will be called the Ernest Langford Architectural Center. The building under construction and the renovation of the present Architecture Building has been contracted for \$6,438,100.

SG conducts park poll

Texas A&M Student Government is conducting a poll among students and apartment dwellers to determine if they feel there is adequate park acreage in the community.
The poll also asks whether apartment dwellers would be willing to incur a rent increase of one per cent or less in order to increase available park land. Developers in the city have said the costs of dedicating more land would have to be passed on to apartment renters.
Persons may participate in the poll by going by room 216C of the Memorial Student Center.

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