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During this period the only police protection given the District of Columbia was done by several country Constables appointed by Prince George and Montgomery Counties in Maryland, and a small night watch in Alexandria.

President John Adams was the first President to officially live in Washington. He arrived in the city on June 3, 1800, and was met by a large body of citizens on horseback, and escorted to Georgetown where he lived until moving into the partially-completed White House a short time later. Every President from that time on has officially used the White House as his principal residence and Executive Office.

John Adams received the usual annoying and threatening letters. An example of one is cited below:

President Adams -

Myself and my family are ruined by the French.
If you do not procure satisfaction for my
 losses, when a treaty is made with them, I
 am undone forever and you must be a villain
 to your country!!! Assassination shall be
 your lot, if restitution is lost to America
 through your means, or if ever you agree to
 a peace without it. The subsistence of thou-
 sands, who have lost their all, depends upon
it.

A ruined merchant
Alas! With ten children!!!
Made beggars by the French

Threats against the early Presidents were not given serious consideration, and practically no provisions were made to protect the Chief Executives or the White House. It is reported that even on Jefferson's inauguration day, he walked to the Capitol to take his Oath of Office, without being accompanied by a guard of any kind.

With the new Government established in Washington, it became apparent that additional police protection was needed, and accordingly in 1802 the Mayor of Washington was given general police authority. He made no immediate use of this power, however, and it was not until three years later that he appointed a high constable and forty Deputy constables, to police the capitol city.

In 1814, the British Army invaded Washington and burned many of the Government buildings. Very little effort was made to protect the city or the Government. Apparently L'Enfant's defense circles were forgotten about in the haste to evacuate

the city before the British arrived. President Madison was forced to flee for safety and the White House was looted and set on fire. Almost the entire interior of the building was gutted, and cost the Government over \$300,000.00 to repair the damage.

It is reported that frequently President John Quincy Adams was faced with dangerous cranks, and threatening letters were received daily. On one occasion a court-martialed Army Sergeant walked into the White House and demanded that Adams have him reinstated. He was told to offer proof that the court had erred, but he could not do so, and his request was turned down. A few days later he again came to the President and informed him that he could have his choice of either being assassinated or ordering the reinstatement. The President paid no attention to the threat and continued to walk about unguarded, both during the daytime and at night. The would-be assassin hung around in the vicinity of the White House, and finally one day he came up to Adams and stated that his threat had been a joke, and he requested that the President give him enough money to pay his way home. The President gave him the money.

The Administration of President Jackson was particularly outstanding in its threats and dangers to the life of the Chief Executive. Jackson was continually receiving threats of assassination.

During the first part of 1833 Jackson made a trip to Fredericksburg, Virginia, to lay a corner stone of a monument to Washington's Mother. While the steamboat was at the dock at Alexandria, a young Naval Lieutenant named Robert B. Randolph came up to the President and hit him in the face so violently with his fist that it caused Jackson to kick over a nearby table. Bystanders stepped in immediately and overpowered the attacker.

On January 30, 1835, Jackson attended the funeral services of a member of the House of Representatives at the Capitol. After the sermon, the President filed past the casket with the cabinet members and started to leave. When he entered the rotunda of the Capitol, a man stepped forward from the crowd and pointed a small bright pistol at the Chief Executive's breast. He pulled the trigger and the cap exploded, but the charge failed to fire. Before anyone realized what was happening, the attacker produced another pistol and fired a second time. Again the cap exploded but the charge failed to fire. The President lunged for the attacker and was aided by friends in capturing him.

The two guns were later examined by an expert on small arms, and were found to have been loaded properly in every respect.

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THE ATTEMPT TO ASSASSINATE PRESIDENT HARRY S. TRUMAN

of the United States. Believing the President to be the source of all his difficulties, he was still fixed in his purpose to kill him, and if his successor followed the same course, he would put him out of the way. He declared that no power in this country could punish him, because it would be resented by the powers of Europe as well as of this country. The assassin appeared tranquil and unconcerned as to the final result and to anticipate no punishment for his deed."

The physicians examining him found him to be insane. He was tried and found not guilty, and was then committed to an insane asylum. It is a point of considerable interest that among Jackson's many threatening letters was one signed in the name of the father of the assassin who was to take Lincoln's life three decades later, as follows:

Brower's Hotel, Philadelphia
July 4, 1835

"You dam'd old scoundrel if you don't sign the pardon of your fellow men, now under sentence of death, De Ruiz (?) and De Solo, I will cut your throat whilst you are sleeping. I wrote to you repeated cautions; so look out or damn you I'll have you burnt at the stake in the city of Washington."

Your master
Junius Brutus Booth

"You know me! Look Out!"

In spite of these dangers which constantly confronted the President, there is no evidence of any steps being taken to provide protection for the Chief Executive.

In 1842, during John Tyler's administration, the President's political opponent would march past the White House and hoot; and some even went so far as to disfigure the front of the House. One Sunday morning while the President was taking a walk in the grounds south of the White House, an intoxicated painter threw rocks at him.

As a result, on August 23, 1842, Congress passed an act "to establish an auxiliary watch for the protection of the public and private property in the City of Washington." The force was to consist of a Captain and fifteen men. This action was also considered necessary because of the fear of incendiaries.

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On November 1, 1950, at about 2:20 P. M., Private Leslie Coffelt, White House Police, proved that a Cying man can make words come alive. A succinct paragraph of the Secret Service Manual reads, in part, "Members of the Secret Service must be ready and willing to sacrifice their own lives if necessary in protecting the life of the President..." and it was into those words that Private Coffelt put the breath of life as his final conscious act. The brave words had been written long before the day on which Griselio Torresola and Oscar Coliango attempted to kill President Harry S. Truman but such bold words must be tempered in blood before they ring true. Private Coffelt so tempered them, in his own blood and that of his assassin, and he did it calmly and deliberately as though underlining the key-words in the Manual's command: ready, willing, to sacrifice, if necessary.

Equally ready and willing to sacrifice their lives were the other men on duty with Private Coffelt that fateful day -- Privates Donald T. Birdzell, Joseph O. Davidson, Private Technician Joseph H. Downs, and Special Agent Floyd M. Boring of the White House Detail. But Private Coffelt was the only one whose name on the roll of honor would be marked, "Killed in the performance of his duty."

Private Coffelt was a cheerful and friendly man. He liked his job and he was grateful for having it. Assigned to the Blair House, then the temporary residence of the President of the United States, his post placed him but an arm's length from the stream of pedestrians, many of them sightseers, who strolled along Pennsylvania Avenue in passing the Blair House. Hundreds of the passers-by stopped to ask him a question or two, and each was rewarded with a courteous reply delivered with an engaging smile. But Griselio Torresola was no sightseer, nor did he have any questions to ask. He approached Private Coffelt's guard booth casually. He whipped out a Luger automatic pistol and began shooting -- shooting with deadly accuracy and shooting to kill. Private Coffelt slumped in his chair as three 9mm slugs tore into his vital organs in as rapid succession as the deadly Luger automatic pistol could deliver them. Torresola, sure of his kill, turreted and fired three quick shots at Private Technician Joseph H. Downs,

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scored a leg wound. But Torresola's orgy of marksmanship--seven shots with seven hits--was over. Private Coffelt had Torresola in his sights. Private Coffelt squeezed the shot off with his rapidly waning strength, the revolver bucked in his hand, and Torresola's head jerked in the unmistakable sign that a brain shot had been scored. Torresola was dead before his gun had cooled.

Collazo, his clip expended, crouched down on the steps of the Blair House to re-load. He was partially screened from the view of Special Agent Boring and Private Davidson by an iron picket fence. The two officers assumed that Collazo had been hit and that the battle with a lone gunman was over. At that time, neither knew that a second assassin had been in action. Private Davidson glanced across the meager front lawn of the Blair House toward Private Coffelt's guard booth and he saw a strange sight. A deadly grim Private Coffelt was leveling his revolver on the crouched form of Collazo.

Private Davidson had seen blood on Collazo's chest. He figured the fight was over.

"Hold it, Coffelt!" Davidson shouted.

Private Coffelt slumped and Death began to take over.

Boring and Davidson had been joined by Special Agent Vincent P. Wroz, and all had fired at Collazo. But, while he was wounded, Collazo was not ready to quit. He came up firing--and then collapsed at the base of the steps which he had chosen so illogically as the road to glory.

Only seconds had elapsed from first shot to last. Private Davidson grabbed the White House Police phone. "Send everything--ambulance!" he shouted.

Special Agent Stewart G. Stout, Jr., holding his post at the foot of the main stairway inside Blair House, re-set the safety on his sub-machine gun.

Chief U. E. Baughman, Assistant Chief Carl Dickson, and all available Inspectors, Special Agents in Charge, and Special Agents proceeded to Blair House at the first word of the shooting. Chief Baughman took personal charge of the investigation as to the attempt to assassinate the President and Metropolitan Police officers began their investigation as to the homicide phases of the case.

The President, in his room on the second floor of the Blair House, continued his preparations to proceed to Arlington National Cemetery where he was scheduled to speak at the

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dedication of a monument and, in a few minutes and on schedule, he did depart to keep this appointment. His automobile and the accompanying Secret Service car had to leave by a rear driveway, however, as Private Davidson's cryptic "Send everything!" had accomplished just that. Pennsylvania Avenue, in front of the Blair House, swarmed with people, ambulances, police cars, police motorcycles, and traffic-stalled motor vehicles of almost every description.

Chief Baughman began a systematic gathering of facts and, though starting from scratch, he was, in about an hour, able to hold a press conference at which he disclosed the basis for the attack.

Although the basis for the attempted assassination was quickly established, a still continuing investigation, almost two years later, was day by day bringing to light additional side lights and facets as to the activities of the Nationalist Party of Puerto Rico, the organization responsible for the attempted assassination.

Though no rational man could be expected to understand the violent machinations of the Nationalist Party of Puerto Rico, it was once described as "the lengthened shadow of one man" and that man was, of course, Pedro Albizu Campos, once affectionately known to his few but fanatic followers as "Don Pedro." The angry flame which projected his shadow and inflamed his followers was sustained by his burning hatred for the United States. But, until November 1, 1950, no trained evaluator in the investigating agencies of the Government believed that this little man's hatred was sufficiently intense to ignite a political powder keg which, for a few seconds, projected his shadow all the way from Puerto Rico to the steps of the Blair House, where it fleetingly appeared as a pall of death. President Harry S. Truman, the object of the mad attack by Campos' henchmen, was unscathed and unruffled but Campos, who at the time of the attack on the President, was being besieged by Insular Police in his headquarters at San Juan, was on the road to complete madness, a condition which has since caused some of his followers to dub him "Don Quixote."

To understand the many acts of violence perpetrated by the Nationalist Party of Puerto Rico, it is necessary to know something as to the background of Pedro Albizu Campos, from whom all this violence stemmed. It has been said that Campos hates the United States and that, of course, he has adequately proven by his acts of violence against it. In an objective appraisal of these acts of violence on the part of the Nationalist Party of Puerto Rico, it becomes apparent that the rank and file members of the Nationalist Party of Puerto Rico have been exploited by Campos, in the name of liberty, to act as instruments of his personal hatred.

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