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052672

April 30, 1981 JL003-01 WHOO6 JL007

Mr. J. Fred Haley Ordway Building One Kaiser Plaza Oakland, California 94612

Dear Mr. Haley:

Your letter of April 3, 1981, to Counsellor to the President Edwin Meese, has been referred to the Secret Service for response. We are indeed grateful for your support and your tribute to Special Agent McCarthy.

Although we are still investigating the events surrounding the assassination attempt, it appears that Agent McCarthy acted in accordance with the requirements of his position and the training he has received. Obviously, we in the Secret Service are extremely proud of his actions. We expect that in due course his actions will be appropriately recognized.

Your thoughtfulness in writing is very much appreciated.

Alacerely,

John W. Whether, Jr. Assistant to the Director

AD-Protective Operations

Mr. Hickey - The White House

Mr. Meese (Attn: Ellen Strichartz, The White House)

Official Files

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LAW OFFICES OF J. FREDERICK HALEY ORDWAY BUILDING-ONE KAISER PLAZA OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA 94612 (415) 834-9977 April 3, 1981 Mr. Edwin Meese Counsel to the President White House Washington, D. C. Dear Ed: After viewing the film (several times) on the shooting of March 30, 1981, I want to add my voice to the voices of those who feel that the courage of the Secret Service agent McCarthy should be specially recognized. He deliberately placed his own life in jeopardy when he advanced on the assailant and took one of the rounds that from all appearances was intended for the President. Had he laid his life on the line in such a selfless gesture during wartime, he would certainly have been a candidate for the Congressional Medal of Honor. My point is that it takes an awful lot of "guts" (the maximum) to do what he did; it was really a beautiful thing to behold, and he should be appropriately recognized for his valor. All the best. Very truly yours, JFH: ct