

White House Contract Given Without Bidding

WASHINGTON, Jan. 17 (AP)—The White House acknowledged today that a computer concern controlled by H. Ross Perot, a Texas millionaire and a friend of President Nixon, received without competitive bidding a \$62,000 contract for work for the President's Domestic Council.

The President's press secretary, Ronald L. Ziegler, said that the contract had not been handled through the usual competitive bidding process because the Perot concern, a subsidiary of his Electronic Data Systems Corporation, was the only company that "had the basis of information and knowledge" for the study involving health care costs.

The same Perot concern has come under criticism in Congress for costs incurred in its processing of Medicare and Medicaid claims.

Asked about that, Mr. Ziegler said that the White House contract had been granted before the issue was raised on Capitol Hill.