

House Probes

Doubts on Nixon Home Finances

Washington

Evidence unearthed by a congressional inquiry into the use of government funds at President Nixon's private estates in Florida and California has raised "serious questions of propriety," according to the chairman of the house subcommittee conducting the investigation.

Representative Jack Brooks (Dem-Tex.), chairman of the House Government Activities subcommittee, said after the first week on hearings on the use of government funds for the President's homes at San Clemente, Calif., and Key Biscayne, Fla. that he will seek legislation to block abuse of what he considers virtually unregulated access by presidents to public funds for their private residences.

Brooks said the record thus far indicates that part

of the money ostensibly used to provide "security" for the President at his residences had actually added to the opulence of Mr. Nixon's properties without serving any discernible security functions.

The first three days of hearings produced disclosures that private citizens representing Mr. Nixon had made purchases for the President's home and then sent the bills to the government for payment.

The purchases were charged to the Secret Service and the General Services Administration. Brooks asserted in an interview that neither of these agencies had had "the guts" to resist pressures by Mr. Nixon's representatives.

The hearings resume today with testimony from the Department of Defense.

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