

Housing Expenses Are Higher These Days, Even

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WASHINGTON, Jan. 24—As every householder knows, the cost of running a house has been steadily going up. The White House is no exception.

President Nixon, in his budget submitted to Congress today, asked for \$1.3-million "for the care, maintenance, and operation of the Executive Residence." That is \$96,000 more than last year's total. The budget also calls for

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\$408-million to provide "pensions and office staff for former Presidents Truman and Johnson and a pension for Mrs. Eisenhower," wid-

ow of the President. That is \$10-million less than the figure in the current budget.

There is something in the budget for Presidential hopefuls in this election year. The Secret Service asked for \$60.8-million, up \$3.7-million, "for Presidential and candidate protection."

And, if President Nixon is not re-elected, the budget provides for \$900,000 to pay for the offices and staff of the new Administration in the transition period after the election and before the inauguration. If Mr. Nixon gets a second term, that money will be returned to the Treasury.

Not everything is going up. The book in which the budget was printed contains 570 pages, down from 593 pages a year ago, a 4.04 per cent decrease.

The Selective Service System has asked for \$80-million, which is \$450,000 less than the amount in the present budget. That, the budget said, "reflects a continuing reduction in draft call levels."

The reversion of Okinawa and the other Ryukyu Islands to Japan May 15 will save the United States \$4.6-million, the amount that it paid for administering the islands in this fiscal year. Japan must pick up the tab after that date.

Another phase-out involves the "indexing and microfilming of the Russian Orthodox Greek Catholic Church records in Alaska." This will be completed this year and save the taxpayers \$2,000.

There is mystery even in the dry old

budget. The entire request for the Central Intelligence Agency was zero, \$10,000 less than for the construction of a printing plant last year. The real figures, estimated to be about \$500-million, were hidden by scattering them in somebody else's budget.

There is a plaintive note here and there. One line in the Department of Transportation's budget says, "Civil Supersonic Aircraft Development Termi-

nation." The space for the 1973 fiscal year figure is blank. Next to it, in the increase or decrease column, are minus \$58-million and the notation: "Payments continue for termination of this program." It was killed by Congress after a fierce battle last year.

And there is a warning to be found in the Internal Revenue Service budget. Under "compliance" is a request for \$637.9-million, an increase of \$28.7-mil-

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for the President

lion, "for additional manpower to strengthen the program for audit of tax returns."

The budget contains a number of clues to specific issues in politics and diplomacy.

The President did not ask for new funds for "payment of Vietnam and U.S.S. Pueblo prisoner of war claims." The notation says that "prior years' balances should be sufficient for the current program."

The budget calls for \$706,000 for the controversial Subversive Activities Control Board, \$256,000 more than the present figure, because "activities of the board will be appreciably expanded by the requirement to update the Attorney General's list of subversive organizations."

The American Revolution Bicentennial Commission has put in for \$6.7-million, an increase of \$2.9-million, to get ready for the 1976 celebration. The figure includes funds to help states and communities with their planning.

In the midst of requests for money to fight wars, disease and poverty, the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities looks on the brighter side of life. It has asked for \$82.9-million, up \$21.9-million, to "support an expanded effort to disseminate and foster the arts and humanities throughout the nation."

The budget of \$246.3-billion means an expenditure of \$1,172.86 for every man, woman and child in the country.... With the national debt owed to the public estimated to be \$371.3-billion by the end of the 1973 fiscal year, each individual's share will be \$1,768.10.... The Treasury estimated that its total workload for the coming fiscal year would include processing 655 million checks.... The number of employes on the Federal payroll in the 1973 fiscal year will be 2,551,800, an increase of 20,300 over the current average.... Administering wage-price controls will cost \$25.3-million in the new fiscal year.... Even though the United States Postal Service became a quasi-independent corporation last year, it has asked for a subsidy of \$1.4-billion to carry 90.8 billion pieces of mail.