



SIGN FORBIDS DOCKING
But it's on public property now

—AP Photo

'No Visitors' on U.S. Owned Isle

ADAMS KEY (Fla.)— (AP) — This tiny island 28 miles from Miami is part of the Biscayne National Monument.

But the sign on the docks says, "No docking permitted without written consent of owners," and according to Miami Herald reporter Gene Miller, visitors have a tough time landing.

Guardian of the island is Charles G. "Bebe" Rebozo's brother-in-law Howard Bouterse, 64, who patrols the island wearing a park ranger uniform he bought by mail from Kansas City.

When Miller tried to land on the island yesterday he was told by Bouterse, a former tenor saxophone player, "You can't dock here... you need a letter from the owners."

Taxpayer

"I am the owner!" said Miller. "I'm a taxpayer."

According to Miller's story, published in the Miami Herald, Bouterse apparently was unaware that the island was public property.

Dale Enquist, supervisor of the Biscayne National Monument, told

Miller anyone could go ashore.

Bouterse, who is married to Rebozo's sister Mary, has lived on Adams Key since 1955.

The 77-acre island was owned by Rebozo, former Sen. George Smathers (D-Fla.), and two associates until last year when it was bought by the federal government for \$550,000.

The group is reported to have received "kid glove" treatment when the property was purchased.

\$2.76 an Hour

Bouterse is paid \$2.76 an hour by the Department of Interior for his caretaking duties, and the former owners rent the lodge for 350 a year.

Rebozo comes about "once every six weeks when no one is going to be here," Miller quoted Bouterse as saying.

He said President Nixon, a close friend of Rebozo, once visited Adams Key.

"He just looked at the place for a few hours," Bouterse said.

"Can't blame him for going off to the Bahamas. All those walkie-talkies and too many boats going through here."