

Nixon Home Improvement --New Figure

Washington

The General Services Administration will disclose this week the spending of considerably more than the nearly \$2 million already reported on President Nixon's properties in Florida and California, reliable sources reported.

Federal expenditures of \$1.9 million have been disclosed up to now on the President's "security" at his private residences at Key Biscayne, Fla., and San Clemente.

However, government officials looking into public spending by all federal agencies on all facilities for the security of the President estimate that the funds may eventually add up to \$10 million or more.

Further, the GSA will tell of previously undisclosed spending in the name of security for various projects at the private residences of two of Mr. Nixon's close friends. This will include a Maryland house being rented by Mr. and Mrs. David Eisenhower from Charles G. (Bebe) Rebozo and property on a private island in the Bahamas that is owned by Robert H. Abplanalp, a New York industrialist. Mrs. Eisenhower is the former Julie Nixon, the President's younger daughter.

DISAGREEMENT

The GSA, the federal government "housekeeper" in such matters, and the Secret Service disagree on the need for all the federal funds expended for "security" reasons.

The security installations on Grand Cay in the Bahamas, the island owned by Abplanalp, include the enlargement of a bunkhouse for the Secret Service, "low-level" lighting and toilet facilities. On a nearby island, the Navy reportedly installed an electric genera-

tor to supply power for the security facilities on Abplanalp's island. The Defense Department could not confirm or deny the report, a spokesman said.

The work on the Rebozo property in nearby Bethesda, Md., occupied by the young Eisenhowers included landscaping and repairs. Rebozo reportedly paid about \$250,000 for the property.

Arthur J. Sampson, administrator of the GSA, said that the security work at Abplanalp's Grand Cay home had been necessary because of the President's frequent visits there. "The President has been there 21 times," Sampson said in an interview. "He uses Grand Cay more than Key Biscayne."

Sampson said that his agency was required by law to comply with all requests by the Secret Service with regard to the security of the President and his family.

It makes no difference if the installations are permanent improvements on personal property or if they are made outside the U.S. it is the government's responsibility to meet the entire cost of making a President's residence or working area secure, Sampson said.

Some Secret Service officials and agents are reliably reported to believe that orders and specifications for security installations on the President's property are being carried out in a costly way that enhances the value of the property beyond the needs of security.

KALMBACH

Correspondence between the secret service and the GSA relating to installations at the two private presidential retreats, copies of which were obtained by the New York Times, indicate that the President's former personal attorney, Herbert W.

Kalmbach, played a role in deciding what kind of building and repair work would be done with GSA funds.

Some of this correspondence was written confirmation of what was said to be oral instructions by the Secret Service to the GSA to construct facilities. These letters were sent months after the construction work, in some cases.

In some instances, the written confirmation, reflected the finished job rather than the initial job specification by the Secret Service, the service spokesman said.

For example, when the Secret Service ordered guard posts at San Clemente it specified only that they be of certain size and strength. After consultations with a White House representative, the posts were built as redwood and stucco cabanas to be in keeping with the "Monterey Mediterranean" style of the surrounding area, the spokesman said.

Some officials who have been looking into the San Clemente property believe that expenditures that will be listed as applying to the office complexes at San Clemente and Key Biscayne

will eventually be found to apply to the President's residences there.

However, Sampson said that he was "confident" that the approximately \$1.9 million now listed as the total GSA expenditures on the President's residences is now complete.

A Congressional investigation into "the use of federal funds for improvements on privately owned property in Key Biscayne, San Clemente and elsewhere" has been undertaken by the House government activities subcommittee. Hearings will probably be held late this summer.

New York Times