

Rebozo Linked to \$45,621 To Improve Nixon Homes

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WASHINGTON, July 10—President Nixon's friend Charles G. Rebozo paid \$45,621.15 for improvements at Mr. Nixon's private estate in Florida, and at least some of that money may have come from political contributions, according to a staff report issued today by the Senate Watergate committee.

The report also said that \$4,562.33 in campaign contributions was used to buy a platinum and diamond earring set that Mr. Nixon gave to his wife for her birthday.

The report does not directly involve and, in fact, Federal charge criminal activity was law does not prohibit the use of campaign funds for personal purposes.

But the report does indicate indirectly that if campaign funds were used for the personal benefit of Mr. Nixon, someone—either Mr. Rebozo or Mr. Nixon—should have declared these funds to the Internal Revenue Service as taxable income.

Mr. Nixon's Federal tax records, which he made public last December, do not reflect any of these expenditures on his private property as personal income.

A Summit Pool

Mr. Rebozo's income tax records have not been made public. But today's report states that Mr. Rebozo paid no United States gift taxes in the years 1969 through 1972, during which he paid for the improvements on the President's two houses on Key Biscayne.

The money spent by Mr. Rebozo, the report said, was used to install a swimming pool and accessories, to convert a garage into living quarters, to extend a roof and to provide a fireplace, a billboard table, a putting green, architectural fees and for an architectural model of one of the houses.

The Watergate committee staff noted that the more than \$45,000 in expenditures on the property was not included in the audit prepared for the Pres-

ident last year by the accounting concern of Coopers & Lybrand. The staff report said that Mr. Rebozo had concealed these expenditures from the accountants. But the committee staff also said that its investigations showed that "President Nixon was aware of and concurred in at least some of these improvements to his properties."

The Coopers & Lybrand audit lists no liabilities payable by Mr. Nixon to Mr. Rebozo, which it presumably would have done if Mr. Rebozo had simply been laying out funds for the President temporarily.

A spokesman for the accounting concern said today that its report had covered only expenditures by Mr. Nixon and specifically stated that it was not including amounts paid on the estate by "the Government of the United States or others."

"If we had known about Mr. Rebozo's expenditures we would most likely have included them," said the spokesman, Harris J. Amhowitz, general counsel.

Cash Payments

The reports said that many of the bills paid by Mr. Rebozo for the President's homes were paid in cash. They also said that much of the money came from trust funds that had been set up through \$100 deposits.

The report said that testimony and evidence available to the committee indicated that campaign contributions were the most likely source of funds available to Mr. Rebozo when he paid currency.

It suggested that the currency received as campaign contributions from a representative of Howard R. Hughes, the industrialist, and A.D. Davis, an executive of the Winn-Dixie Corporation, was the probable source of the funds used by Mr. Rebozo. It noted that the \$100,000 Hughes contribution and at least half of the \$50,000 Davis contribution consisted of \$100 bills.

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