

PEOPLE

Improvements? 'We Could Care Less'

Julie Nixon Eisenhower indicated yesterday that newspaper stories about Secret Service-ordered "improvements" on the Nixon's three houses have piqued the First Family.

"Those recent stories that my family has benefitted from security measures taken at our homes have bothered the entire family," Mrs. Eisen-

hower told the Republicans Capitol Hill Club VIP luncheon. She added that the stories were "unfair and untrue."

"We could care less if there's a security gazebo in the yard or a spotlight on the flag pole," she said.

Mrs. Eisenhower made the comments in response to a question about how Secret Service protection affects her life, and the partisan audience—mostly Hill staffers with a

sprinkling of congressmen and lobbyists—applauded all her answers warmly.

She was introduced by Rep. Jack Kemp (R-N.Y.), who told a story about his troubles with sports writers during his 13-year pro football career. Mrs. Eisenhower responded in kind, with a "really hilarious joke" her husband, the former sports writer, David used in a Philadelphia speech Tuesday night.

"When David was casting around for something to do after he got out of the Navy," she said, "my father suggested journalism." So young Eisenhower took and passed all but one of the aptitude tests—typing. "But the reason he wasn't a success," said Mrs. Eisenhower, "was because he flunked 'Sneers and Jeers.'"

—Jeannette Smyth