

Secret Service Chief Estimates Security at Two

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WASHINGTON, Oct. 10 — The head of the Secret Service testified today that personnel costs to safeguard President Nixon's private residences at Key Biscayne, Fla., and San Clemente, Calif., added as much as \$500,000 a year to the \$10-million in Federal funds already disclosed as having been spent on the two homes.

James J. Rowley, director of the Secret Service, told a Congressional committee investigating public spending on the President's homes that the \$500,000 figure for the cost of guards and agents at Key Biscayne and San Clemente was a "ballpark" figure.

But, Mr. Rowley told the House Government Operations subcommittee, it was a "fair estimate" of how much the Secret Service spent on personnel to provide for the security of the President and his family at the two areas.

The testimony by Secret Service officials also indicated that the personal desires of the President or his representatives played a role in spending for

"security" and might have added to the Government's costs.

One example that emerged under questioning by the subcommittee chairman, Representative Jack Brooks of Texas, was a security fence around the Key Biscayne complex. The Secret Service special agent in charge of the complex, Earl Moore, testified that the fence design submitted by the service had been rejected by President Nixon's friend, Charles B. Rebozo, acting for Mr. and Mrs. Nixon.

Mr. Rebozo had told the Secret Service that the President and Mrs. Nixon preferred "a more conventional fence, like the one around the White House," Mr. Moore testified.

So the fence was redesigned along the lines of the one surrounding the White House for \$20,000 more than the original design would have cost. The total cost of the Key Biscayne fence was \$65,000, Mr. Moore said.

The Secret Service then planted a "security" hedge that surrounded and obscured the fence, Mr. Brooks noted.

Testimony also indicated that some decisions about improvements may have been made by the President's representatives and justified later as "security" installations.

Representative John C. Culver, Democrat of Iowa, made public a memorandum from secretary to Herbert W. Kalm-

bach, then Mr. Nixon's former personal attorney, to a local construction company in San Clemente.

The memo from the secretary said that she had talked to the Secret Service agent in charge of San Clemente who had "finally agreed" that an exhaust fan in President Nixon's den fireplace was necessary for security and that the fan would be paid for by the Secret Service. The fan had previously been ordered from the contractor "per Mr. Kalmbach."

No Recollection

Kenneth Iacovoni, the special agent in charge of San Clemente, said that he did not recall any such conversations

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Nixon Estates Adds \$500,000 to \$10-Million U.S. Cost

with Mr. Kalmbach's secretary. Mr. Iacovoni also said that he did not recall when or how the decision to install an exhaust fan for security was made.

Lilburn E. Boggs, deputy director of the Secret Service, testified that he had never been told by the President or any of Mr. Nixon's representatives that the security wall built around San Clemente also enclosed property that the President intended to sell to private buyers.

The wall now surrounds—in addition to the President's residence—land he sold to a company controlled originally by Mr. Rebozo and Robert

Abplanalp, the New York industrialist and another of Mr. Nixon's personal friends.

Elmer B. Staats, Controller General of the United States, led off today's testimony with a report on Government spending for security at the homes of recent past Presidents.

The report indicated that the security expenditures at Key Biscayne and San Clemente were much higher than at residences of other Presidents.

G.S.A. Spending Report

For example, the report showed that spending by the General Services Administration at the LBJ and Haywood Ranches of President Johnson totaled \$158,000, compared with the \$2-million spent by the

G.S.A. at President Nixon's residences.

However, Mr. Staats conceded that he did not have complete information for Mr. Johnson or the other Presidents included in the report.

Representative John Buchanan of Alabama, the ranking Republican on the subcommittee, said that information he had received showed that the Government had spent \$5.1-billion for the security of President Johnson. This figure includes Defense Department support for the President as did the \$10.2-million sum reported for President Nixon.

However, Mr. Buchanan's calculations included expenditures on the Federal Office Building

in Austin, Tex., and the Johnson Library, where Mr. Johnson also had offices.

The G.S.A., meanwhile, has prepared a report on its expenditures for President Johnson's residences and offices that shows that the total spending from 1964, when he became President, through 1973, was \$1.6-million. This sum does not include spending by the Defense Department or other Government agencies.

Of the \$1.6-million, \$1.05-million was spent at the Federal Office Building in Austin, \$328,298 at the LBJ Ranch, \$270,000 at the LBJ Library and \$180.96 at the Austin residence of his daughter, Luci.