

Kalmbach Billed U.S. for Survey Before San Clemente Purchase

By Mary Russell
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President Nixon's personal attorney, Herbert Kalmbach, charged to the government the cost of a pre-sale property survey and structural analysis he ordered of the President's San Clemente home.

The bills, which came to \$4,404, were paid by the General Services Administration, a House subcommittee looking into government expenditures on the President's San Clemente, Calif., and Key Biscayne, Fla., homes was told yesterday.

The deputy commissioner of the General Services Administration, John F. Galuardi, said the GSA needed the survey to know where to build a wall around the property and the analysis to study the interior layout of the residence.

Subcommittee Chairman Jack Brooks (D-Tex.) said the survey firm sent the bills to Kalmbach who then turned them over to the GSA. "It shows a lax way of picking up the tabs for other people," Brooks said.

Brooks read a September, 1969, memo from former presidential assistant John D. Ehrlichman asking that the GSA maintain the house, swimming pool and grounds of the San Clemente estate.

GSA denied the first two requests but continued the landscaping at \$3,000 a month for six months.

Brooks charged the GSA only dropped the contract for maintaining the landscape af-

ter Sen. William Proxmire (D-Wis.) expressed interest in the government's expenditures in a letter to presidential assistant William Timmons.

GSA Administrator Arthur F. Sampson denied that the Proxmire letter cause the dropping of the landscaping contract. "I was negotiating with Kalmbach to drop it for months before that," Sampson said.

But other GSA officials said the contract was dropped on orders of Kalmbach three days after Proxmire wrote the letter.

Rep. James Stanton (D-Ohio) attempted to pin down

Sampson on an earlier statement that the government's \$2.4 million outlay at San Clemente actually detracted from the property's value.

Asked whether two large bulletproof windows installed in a second-story den were an improvement, Sampson acknowledged they were.