SFChronicle FEB 2 2 1974 Charges in

Copter Case

Ft. Meade, Md..

The Army has charged Robert K. Preston, the private who brought a stolen Army helicopter down on the White House south lawn, with theft, breach of peace, damaging government propdamaging government prop-erty and three counts of assault with intent to commit murder.

The charges were announced yesterday at Ft. Meade, where Private First Class Preston, 20, a helicopter repairman from Panam City Fla., was stationed.

Preston is in custody at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, where a hearing will be conducted to determine whether he is competent to stand trial.

Associated Press