

Milk Group Airplane at LBJ Ranch

Washington

Associated Milk Producers Inc., the nation's largest dairy cooperative, is paying Lady Bird Johnson's family corporation \$94,000 a year for use of an airplane kept at the LBJ Ranch in Texas, a Johnson family spokesman has told The Associated Press.

The dairy cooperative is currently the focus of Watergate-related investigations involving campaign contributions.

Although the group's board of directors has tried to end the lease arrangement, the spokesman said it is a bargain for the dairy association.

Donald Thomas, lawyer for Johnson corporations, said he negotiated the agreements with AMPI.

Thomas said the Johnson family has not benefited from the arrangement. "We haven't made money on the proposition . . ."

Associated Press