

# U.S. Spent \$5.9 Million On Johnson's Properties

## Washington

The federal government spent about \$5.9 million on property owned by the late President Lyndon B. Johnson while he was in office, the House Government Operations Committee reported yesterday.

The committee, which disclosed earlier that \$17.1 million has been spent on President Nixon's properties, said most of the funds for the Johnson properties were spent on security facilities.

Included in the \$5.9 million was an estimated \$3,573,000 spent by the Department of Defense and the White House Communications Agency for communications and associated equipment in connection with the LBJ Ranch in Texas, where the President spent most of his vacations, the committee said in a report.

While criticizing the incomplete documentation of federal expenditures on other president's properties, the committee report said: "The records relating to federal expenditures made in connection with the private properties of President Johnson are believed to be substantially complete."

The \$5.9 million also includes \$770,000 for office space for Johnson in the Federal Office Building in Austin, Tex., approximately 65 miles from the LBJ Ranch. These facilities are now used by the two U.S. senators from Texas.

Also included were \$29,200 for security lighting, guard houses and trailers, \$3400 for stone walls and fences, and \$4300 for strobe and beacon lights to facilitate helicopter landings.

In addition, \$15,000 was spent for installation and re-

pair of Secret Service facilities at Johnson's Haywood Ranch where he occasionally went boating, and \$34,000 for work at a hangar on the LBJ Ranch where he occasionally news conferences, television broadcasts, and the entertainment of foreign dignitaries."

The committee's findings state that, contrary to reports, the federal government did not pay for the construction or paving of an airstrip at the LBJ Ranch.

*Associated Press*