

Nixon Inspects Palm Beach Estate Willed to U.S.



United Press International

The Mar-A-Lago Estate on the Atlantic Ocean in Palm Beach, Fla. It has been willed to the Government by Mrs. Marjorie Merriweather Post.

KEY BISCAIYNE, Fla., July 7 (AP) — President Nixon made an unannounced trip by helicopter this morning to Palm Beach to look over the Mar-A-Lago Estate, willed to the Government for possible use by Presidents or visiting foreign dignitaries.

A White House spokesman explained the secrecy by saying that Mr. Nixon "wanted to go privately." He also said there was no room for a second helicopter for reporters to land. The estate covers 17 acres and includes a nine-hole golf course.

Mar-A-Lago was left to the Government by Mrs. Marjorie Merriweather Post, the cereal fortune heiress, who died in 1973. The property includes citrus groves and tropical plantings and is located between Lake Worth and the Atlantic Ocean in Palm Beach.

Mr. Nixon was accompanied by his close friend, Charles G. Rebozo. The 60-mile flight from Key Biscayne took 35 minutes.

A press aide said that "the President personally wanted to visit the property to de-

termine its potential."

Mr. Nixon spent 31 minutes at the estate, a White House spokesman said, and was back at his Key Biscayne home at 12:27 P.M.

Stolen Car Doesn't Get Far

TUCSON, Ariz. (UPI)—Even the dark cloud of the gasoline shortage has its silver lining, at least for Thelma Ruiz. The thief who stole her car got only 75 feet before it ran out of gas and he had to leave it.

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