

'73 Nixon
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medallions
2/8/73
not official

An Arlington Heights mint has been ordered to inform customers who bought medallions bearing images of President Nixon and Vice President Spiro T. Agnew that the medals are not those officially sanctioned by the 1973 Presidential Inaugural Committee.

The ruling against the Hamilton Mint Corp., 50 E. Arlington, in the suburb, was handed down Wednesday by U.S. District Judge Frank J. McGarr.

A suit against the mint was filed last week by the inaugural committee and the Franklin Center, Pa., makers of the officially recognized medallion.

The Hamilton Mint sold silver medallions for \$100 each and gold for \$1,250, while the Franklin Mint sold only silver medallions for \$150.

AFTER THE ruling, the Hamilton Mint filed a countersuit charging that the Franklin firm is in violation of the Sherman Antitrust Act by holding a monopoly over the medallic art market in the United States. The suit contends that part of the monopoly was manifested in the original suit filed against the Hamilton firm.

The Hamilton Mint said it incurred \$10 million damages and in the suit is seeking three times that much.