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# Nixon Donor Record Destroyed, GAO Told

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BOSTON, Nov. 3—President Nixon's campaign fund-raisers, who in complying with a court order have disclosed some of the heretofore secret names of contributors of \$5 million, had previously told government investigators that the records of the contributors had been destroyed.

Elmer B. Staats, the comptroller general of the United States, said: "We had been told orally that all those records had been destroyed."

Staats, who heads the Government Accounting Office (GAO) and oversees compliance with the new federal law regulating political contributions and expenses, told The Boston Globe in an interview that his investigators had been

rebuffed in their attempt this summer to identify the Nixon contributors who gave an estimated \$10 million before April 7, the effective date of the new campaign disclosure law.

The Office of Federal Elections in his agency is responsible for auditing the periodic reports of contributions and expenditures for nearly 2,500 separate committees set up for the benefit of this year's presidential candidates.