

# Fund Grant To Beall Is Probed

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A Maryland grand jury has opened an investigation into the undisclosed transfer of about \$140,000 in cash from a White House fund-raising operation to the 1970 election campaign of Republican Sen. J. Glenn Beall.

According to Martin S. Wolff, Anne Arundel County deputy state's attorney, the grand jury is looking into the possibility that Beall or one of his campaign officials may have committed perjury when they failed to report the cash transfer to Maryland election officials.

Wolff said the perjury was the only possible violation not covered by a one-year statute of limitations and thus the only grounds under which the grand jury could proceed.

On Friday, the Republican senator acknowledged publicly that he had received a total of about \$200,000 from the "national Republican administration" and that part of those funds were in cash.

Beall said, however, that the money was "handled in the District of Columbia . . . in accordance with the laws that existed at the time." Since issuing the statement, Beall has refused further comment and his office has turned away requests for interviews.

"We're not going beyond our statement," said Randolph Arndt, Beall's press secretary.

The Beall campaign reportedly received the \$140,000 in cash from a White House fund-raising operation run out of a Washington, D.C. town house. The town house operation itself was run by a former White House aide, James A. Gleason, who, in turn, reported to presidential aides H. R. (Bob) Haldeman and Charles W. Colson.

(Gleason is not James P. Gleason, the Montgomery County executive).

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## PROBE, From C1

The funds reportedly were solicited by Herbert W. Kalmbach, then President Nixon's personal attorney.

The Beall campaign, which listed 16 campaign committees in Maryland, did not report the White House funds to the state administrator of election laws in Maryland or to the secretary of the Senate in Washington. Nevertheless, he has maintained that the transfer of cash was legal, although his statement does not say why. Neither does the statement say where the money was raised nor where it was spent.

Wolff told the Anne Arundel County grand jury Tuesday that he had begun to review the Beall campaign reports on file in Annapolis.

The same grand jury, meanwhile, is continuing its investigation into the use of \$50,000 of Nixon campaign funds to inflate the proceeds from a 1972 testimonial gala for Vice President Spiro T. Agnew.

The grand jury has already indicted the treasurer of the event, Baltimore banker Blagden H. Wharton, on four counts of violating Maryland election laws. Wharton has pleaded innocent to the charges.

The Wharton indictment, Wolff said, is likely to be followed by others. "I think there are other people involved besides Mr. Wharton," he said. "There is the possibility of further indictments."

It was learned yesterday that the investigator for the state's attorney's office has interviewed persons who were listed as donors to the Agnew event who in fact never contributed. Their names were used to disguise the source of the \$50,000.

The list of phony donors, which included the names of some of Maryland's most prominent Republicans, was corrected last May when it became apparent that the scheme to inflate the gala's proceeds would become public at the Watergate hearings.

Among those contacted by

the investigator was State Sens. Jervis Finney (R-Baltimore County) and Edward Thomas (R-Western Maryland). Thomas was falsely listed as donating \$2,500 and Finney was falsely listed as contributing \$1,000.

Both Finney and Thomas confirmed that they were interviewed last week by telephone and that they said their names were used without their knowledge. Finney reiterated that his name was solicited by a person he cannot now recall who left him with the impression that his name would be used simply to adorn the event—not as a phony donor. Thomas said he told the investigator that he was totally unaware that his name was being used for any purpose.