

Diamond Match Concern Fined For Illegal Campaign Donations

3/8/74

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Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, March 7 — The Diamond International Corporation and one of its vice presidents, Ray Dubrowin, pleaded guilty today to charges by the Watergate special prosecutor that the corporation had made \$6,000 in illegal campaign contributions to Republicans and Democrats.

The prosecutor said the company and Mr. Dubrowin had delivered \$5,000 to President Nixon's re-election campaign committee in 1972 and had given \$1,000 in 1971 to the campaign committee of Senator Edmund S. Muskie of Maine, who was then seeking the Democratic Presidential nomination.

Judge Howard Corcoran of United States District Court imposed a fine of \$5,000 on the corporation and \$1,000 on Mr. Dubrowin.

Milton Gould, a lawyer for the company and for Mr. Dubrowin, said later today that the \$5,000 campaign contribution to Mr. Nixon's campaign had been solicited in the company's offices in New York City by Vincent F. DeCain, a Deputy Assistant Secretary of Transportation.

Mr. Gould said that Gov. Kenneth M. Curtis of Maine had asked for the \$1,000 contribution to Senator Muskie's campaign.

From Diamond to U.S.

Mr. DeCain could not immediately be reached for comment. However, records at the Department of Transportation indicate that he was an officer of Diamond International before joining the Nixon Administration in 1969.

A spokesman for Governor Curtis said that the Governor had not asked the company for a campaign contribution. He said that Mr. Curtis had sent a "Dear Ray" letter to Mr. Dubrowin as an individual inviting him to attend a fundraising dinner for Mr. Muskie in Portland, Me., in January

1972. A reception was given for Senator and Mrs. Muskie preceding the dinner and all those attending gave a contribution of \$1,000 to the campaign, the spokesman said.

Senator Muskie's campaign manager in 1971 and 1972, Berl Bernhard, issued a statement today that said, among other things, that the Muskie campaign had strict guidelines prohibiting corporate contributions and that the letter sent to Mr. Dubrowin had invited a personal contribution.

"No corporate contributions were ever solicited and the Dubrowin contribution was obviously given in disguise," Mr. Bernhard said.

Other Illegal Funds

Before today's plea by Diamond International and Mr. Dubrowin, nine corporations and eight individuals had been charged with illegal campaign contributions as a result of the Watergate investigations.

The company and Mr. Dubrowin, on advice of counsel, made a voluntary disclosure of their illegal campaign contributions last December to the special prosecutor's office. The information was kept secret until today, however.

The special prosecutor's office charged Mr. Dubrowin and his company with "nonwillful violation" of the illegal campaign contribution statute (Section 610, Title 18 of the United States Code). However, the prosecutor did not hand up any indictment but presented the court with a criminal information that was not contested.

The Federal statute forbids corporations, labor organizations and national banks from making political contributions.

Diamond International is a large, diversified company with operations in match manufacturing, pulp, paper and other areas.