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Delaware Executive Raised Nixon Funds

DOVER, Del. (AP)—At least seven of eight secret Delaware fund raising committees set up at the request of a campaign aide to President Nixon in 1972 were headed by executives in businesses owned by John W. Rollins Sr., the Delaware State News reported Sunday.

The paper, quoting an unnamed secretary-treasurer of one of the committees, said the groups were set up specifically to handle Rollins' money so federal gift tax laws could be circumvented.

Rollins, president of Rollins International and director of several subsidiaries, denied any donations to the committees, which were disbanded before the April 7, 1972 Federal Campaign Reporting Act took effect.

The paper quoted other sources as saying that the Wilmington millionaire businessman turned over checks of \$3,000 to each of the eight committees before the disclosure law took effect. It added that it was unclear whether others contributed to the committees as well. There was no in-

dications of the total contributions which may have been handled by the committees.

Under federal gift tax laws, a donation of \$3,000 or less would have been tax exempt for a committee. The paper quoted the secretary-treasurer of one of the committees as saying the Delaware committees and people involved were "just a name on paper" and set up to spread out contributions.

According to a confidential report prepared by the staff of the Senate Watergate Committee and obtained by the Associated Press last month, Rollins was listed as one of five businessmen who pledged a total of \$7.5 million in 1970 after an intimate dinner at the White House.