

Big Election Donor Sued By D.C. Bank

SAN ANTONIO, Dec. 29 (AP)—The National Bank of Washington has joined a growing line of creditors bringing court action against Walter T. Duncan, one of the biggest contributors to the 1972 presidential election campaign.

The bank is suing Duncan for nonpayment of a \$200,000 loan he took out from the bank two days before he donated an identical amount to the Democratic presidential nomination campaign of Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey (D-Minn.).

Court papers filed here in Bexar County, Texas, Dec. 21 show the loan was collateralized by 10,000 shares of stock in Archer-Daniels-Midland Co., the grain export and storage firm run by leading Humphrey money man Dwayne O. Andreas. On May 31, the firm's stock closed at 42½ on the New York Stock Exchange.

The bank won't say in whose name the stock is registered or if it knew why Duncan took out the loan.

The bank handled Humphrey's campaign deposits. The campaign treasurer was Paul Thatcher, who works with Andreas in Minneapolis. Neither Andreas nor Thatcher could be reached for discussion of the Duncan loan.

Andreas made a secret \$25,000 contribution to President Nixon's campaign last April. It came to light when the contribution in the form of a cashier's check ended up in the bank account of one of the men indicted in the Watergate bugging case.

Last fall, another campaign worker, David Marks of Los Angeles, had said Thatcher was "importantly involved" in discussions which led to Marks going to Duncan's home in Bryan, Tex., to pick up the \$200,000 campaign contribution. He got the check June 2, two days after the bank made the \$200,000 loan at 5½ per cent interest.

Duncan also gave Humphrey another \$100,000 earlier,

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and was his biggest listed contributor.

In August, Duncan gave President Nixon's campaign \$305,000 in the form of a note which was discounted to another Washington bank by the Committee for the Re-election of the President. Duncan was Mr. Nixon's third-largest listed contributor.

At the time of the Humphrey donation, Duncan was losing at foreclosure auction a parcel of property in Austin on which he had obtained mortgages totaling \$2.6 million.

At the time he donated to Mr. Nixon, Duncan was being sued for \$2.27 million in a suit arising from that land foreclosure. Jury trial in that case is scheduled for July. The transaction is closely linked to the collapse of the Sharps-town State Bank and National Bankers Life Insurance Co., a major 1971 Texas financial scandal.

One week before the National Bank of Washington filed its suit, an Evansville, Ind., man sued Duncan in Bexar County for \$500,000 as an outgrowth of a business deal in which he said Duncan didn't pay off.

Another Indiana interest is suing Duncan for \$150,000 in federal court in Houston.

Duncan, since last fall, has refused to respond to written or telephoned inquiries.

Sinatra, Hughes Gave For Nixon in Ohio

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Dec. 29 (AP) — A list of individual contributors to the Ohio Committee to Re-elect the President filed in the office of the secretary of state shows that Frank Sinatra and Howard Hughes each contributed \$3,000 to the campaign committee.

The committee filed reports of \$785,694 in receipts and \$748,694 in expenditures in the secretary's office. The report, filed five days late, included individual contributors for the Oct. 27-Dec. 22 period. Earlier

contributors were listed in federal expenditure reports.

The committee said \$311,267 of the money spent went for staff salaries, while another \$50,000 was sent to the national campaign committee.

The reports showed that the largest contribution after Oct. 27 came from Mr. and Mrs. Henry Heinz, the Pittsburgh food manufacturer, who gave \$4,711.

Another out-of-state contribution of \$3,000 came from Benson Ford of Grosse Pointe Shore, Mich.

Ohio contributors included S. E. Knudsen, chairman of White Motor Co., Cleveland, who gave \$3,000.