

NIXON COMMITTEE IS FINED \$8,000

Maximum Penalty Imposed
on Finance Ejection Unit

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WASHINGTON, Jan. 26 (AP)

— The Finance Committee to Re-Elect the President was fined \$8,000 today for illegally spending money during last year's Presidential campaign.

United States District Court Judge George L. Hart Jr. gave the maximum fine to President Nixon's fund-raising arm after Kenneth Parkinson, attorney for the committee, entered a plea of nolo contendere, which means neither guilty nor not guilty.

Judge Hart fined the committee \$1,000 for each of the eight counts in the criminal information. United States Attorney Walter Barnes objected to the acceptance of the plea.

The Justice Department filed the information against the President's finance committee on Jan. 11, charging that the panel, through the treasurer, Hugh P. Sloan, gave G. Gordon Liddy cash sums in the amount of \$12,000, \$12,000 and \$5,300, for a total of \$29,300, without a receipt.

The committee was charged in three counts with failing to report those expenditures to the General Accounting Office and with failing to obtain a receipt for and make a G.A.O. report on an additional \$2,000 Mr. Liddy spent.

Mr. Liddy is one of the two remaining defendants now being tried for the illegal bugging of the Democratic National Headquarters in the Watergate apartment-office complex.

The finance committee violated the Federal law that went into effect last April. One provision requires that each Presidential and Vice-Presidential candidate, and committees supporting such candidates, are to file reports with the General Accounting Office.

Maximum penalty upon conviction on each count of an information is one year in prison and a \$1,000 fine. There was no prison sentence because no individuals were charged in the information, only the committee.