

## To Miami Beach

# GOP Switch-- It's Official

### Washington

The Republicans made it official yesterday that they will hold their 1972 national convention in Miami Beach, not San Diego, as originally scheduled.

The switch was accomplished with a unanimous roar of approval by the Republican National Committee after it was told that mounting costs and labor problems in San Diego made the change necessary.

Miami Beach thus will be host to both major party conventions, the Democrats starting July 10 and the Republicans on August 21. It had originally bid for the Republican convention but lost out to San Diego, reportedly because President Nixon favored the California city.

### SWITCH

The switch of convention cities was unprecedented in modern times.

The city has asked the federal government to provide a "convention peace corps" at least 1000 strong to help local and state police keep order. The members would be drawn from the armed forces but given new, non-military uniforms and special training.

City Councilman Leonard Haber, who developed the

idea for such a force, said he hoped it would become a permanent organization that would be available to any city faced with handling a huge influx of people.

After meeting with the Republicans, Miami Beach officials went to the Justice Department to discuss the idea further with Jerris Leonard, head of the Law Enforcement Assistance Agency.

### OWNER

There was no mention of the recent furor over the alleged involvement of the ITT in convention arrangements, but some observers thought that controversy spurred the move.

Richard L. Herman, who is vice president of the convention arrangements committee, and negotiated with both San Diego and Miami Beach, blamed the difficulties in San Diego on Peter Graham, owner of the sports arena in which the convention was to be held.

Herman said "substantial disagreement," between the Republicans and Graham arose over plans for converting the arena into a convention site. As negotiations proceeded, he said, the cost to the Republicans increased to the point where they became exorbitant.

*Associated Press*