

The Nixon Campaign Seeks Cash

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The Committee for the Re-election of the President is not pleading poverty, but it claims to be having a touch of money trouble despite those stories of safes and suitcases bulging with cash.

Mr. Nixon's campaign has collected more than \$21 million so far. About \$10 million was gathered before April 7 when the new federal law requiring donors to be identified went into effect.

Another \$5 million dribbled in between April and September and about \$6 million was netted recently from 30 dinners, at \$1000 a plate.

But the committee's total budget is at least \$37 million. To help make up the \$16 million difference, the committee has scheduled a national "Host for the President" effort October 17. Individual supporters will put on cocktail parties, barbecues or other functions in their homes and ask for contributions of from \$1 up.

This kind of solicitation is unprecedented in Republican presidential campaigns but it is consistent with the committee's attempt to seek grass - roots support.

The committee is reluctant to concede that a fund-raising problem exists. "It's not excruciating," a spokesman, Al Abrahams, said, "although I understand there was trouble raising money a few weeks ago."

One official admitted privately, however, "we overestimated the rate of contributions and underestimated the rate of spending. We're suffering for it."

Maurice Stans, the committee's finance chairman, has complained to staffers that complacency caused by the polls — now showing Mr. Nixon 28 per cent or more ahead of Democrat George McGovern — has made contributions harder to get.

And yesterday, Stans denied an Associated Press report that Mr. Nixon's campaign is on such solid financial ground that he is "advising some potential contributors to give their money to Republican Senate candidates."

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