

NY Times OCT 19 1972
G.O.P. Discloses Corporate Aid on Convention

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Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Oct. 18— Nearly half the \$1.8-million reported cost of the Republican National Convention earlier this year was paid for by defense contractors, other large corporations doing business with the Government, and businesses regulated by Federal agencies, according to a financial disclosure statement required by law and filed here by the Republicans today.

The \$860,000 in contributions, made by a total of 60 corporations, was in the form of payments for advertising space in the Republican National Committee's convention program book, at \$10,000 or more a page, a practice also pursued by the Democratic National Committee, but with far less success.

According to less complete financial data filed last month with the Government by the Democratic National Committee, the Democrats netted only about \$700,000 from the sale of ads in their convention program, about half of it remitted by corporations with major Government contracts or under Federal regulation. The Democratic Convention, held in Miami Beach last July, was reported to have cost \$2-million.

The financial report filed today by the treasurer of the Republicans' Convention arrangements Committee, Mrs. J. Willard Marriott, said that the sale of all ads in the program book had brought in a total of \$1,664,601, less the \$218,386 reported production costs of the magazine-style program. The net was \$1,446,115, or 78 per cent of the

party's cash outlay for the Miami Beach convention from Aug. 21 to Aug. 24.

A separate group, the Finance Committee to Re-elect the President, Mr. Nixon's chief campaign finance organization, has been fighting an attempt in Federal Court here to force disclosure of donors who made contributions before April 7, the effective date of the new Federal Election Campaign Act.

But the Republican National Committee's convention report today included a letter from Mrs. Marion Marriott, the wife of the hotel and restaurant chain owner, saying that all convention transactions back to last Jan. 1 were being voluntarily disclosed.

In an interview, Mrs. Marriott said that no policy conflict with the Finance Committee to Re-elect the President had been intended. "I didn't check it out with them," she said. "We did our report this way for our own bookkeeping convenience."

A spokesman for the Finance Committee to Re-elect the President declined to comment, saying that the committee's position on pre-April 7 disclosure had been given in court. The committee's lawyers have contended that such disclosure, if required by the court, would impinge on the constitutional rights of Republican donors.

The Republican convention statement itemized expenditures of from \$10,000 to \$11,500 a page for program ads placed by such companies as General Motors, Ford, Chrysler, International Telephone and Telegraph, the Aluminum Company of America, North American Rockwell, Ingersoll-Rand, Todd Shipyards, the McDonnell Douglas Corporation and a long list of electronics, basic manufacturing, heavy construction, airline, railway, petroleum and communications companies.

The Republicans said that they would close the books on their 1972 convention with a surplus of about \$100,000, to be transferred to a fund for planning the 1976 convention. The Democratic National Committee, already carrying more than \$9-million in debts from the 1968 campaign, said last month that their convention this year had added \$127,000 to the outstanding debt.