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Rebozo's Bank

To Open Records

By William Chapman
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The Senate Watergate committee has subpoenaed records of accounts at a Florida bank whose chief officer is President Nixon's close friend, Charles G. (Bebe) Rebozo, a bank director acknowledged yesterday.

Thomas H. Wakefield, vice-chairman and vice president of the Key Biscayne Bank and Trust Co., asserted in Miami the records will show "that neither the bank nor Mr. Rebozo was involved in any improper or illegal activity."

Members and staff assistants of the Senate committee refused to say what type of information was sought by the subpoenas. ABC television reported Wednesday night that the subpoenas were in connection with reports of illegal campaign funds.

In a statement, Wakefield observed that "no directors have been subpoenaed nor has any representative of the federal government announced or even intimated that any illegal

or laundered funds were channeled through the bank."

Wakefield said the two committee subpoenas "were received by the bank for furnishing records on several specified accounts."

"The bank is cooperating and will comply fully with the subpoenas," he said.

Wakefield has been a close associate of Rebozo for many years. Rebozo is chairman of the board and bank president.

Wakefield included in his statement an attack on the news media which he accused of making Rebozo a "target" because of his friendship with the President. Wakefield said that the Internal Revenue Service has engaged in a routine audit of Rebozo's tax returns for the last three years "and not for six years as reported by the media." Furthermore, he said, the IRS has not subpoenaed records held either by Rebozo or the bank "as was erroneously and widely reported."