

# Vesco's Defamation Claim Is Dismissed

NEWARK — (UPI) — A federal judge has thrown out a \$20-million defamation suit brought by New Jersey financier Robert L. Vesco.

The judge dismissed the suit because Vesco has chosen to remain in Costa Rica and not face separate criminal charges in connection with a contribution to President Nixon's 1972 re-election campaign.

The judge, Lawrence A. Whipple, ruled in favor of former business associates of Vesco.

They asked last month to have the four-count civil suit filed against them dropped because Vesco failed to file depositions by an Aug. 2 deadline.

Among those named in the suit was Morton I. Schiowitz of Scarsdale, N.Y., a former chief financial officer of Investors Overseas Services,

Ltd., a mutual fund.

Vesco, of Boonton, N.J., is the former chairman of IOS.

In the civil suit filed in June, 1971, Vesco said Schiowitz and other former associates accused Vesco of "deliberately looting" IOS.

In seeking to have the suit dismissed, Schiowitz said that on June 18, 1973, U.S. District Court Judge Frederick B. Lacey gave Vesco 45 days within which to file the depositions.

The Securities and Exchange Commission has brought suit against Vesco and 40 others, accusing them of "looting" \$224 million from the IOS empire.

A New York federal grand jury indicted Vesco on charges of trying to buy off the SEC with a secret \$200,000 contribution to the President's re-election. The sum was returned to Vesco.