

NYTimes NOV 13 1973
**Braniff Is Fined For Gift
To Nixon's '72 Campaign**

WASHINGTON, Nov. 12 (AP)—Braniff International Airways Inc. and its board chairman pleaded guilty today, to Federal charges of having made an illegal \$40,000 corporate cash contribution to President Nixon's 1972 re-election campaign.

Federal District Judge George L. Hart Jr. fined the airline the maximum \$5,000 penalty and the board chairman, Harding L. Lawrence, the maximum \$1,000 fine after they entered guilty pleas to a Federal information filed by the special Watergate prosecutor's office. Mr. Lawrence could have been sentenced to a year in prison in addition to the fine.

Defense attorneys told Judge Hart that "Mr. Lawrence was under some pressure to make this contribution." He already had made a substantial personal contribution, the attorneys said, but unidentified officials of Mr. Nixon's re-election com-

mittee told him they were unsatisfied with the amount.

Mr. Lawrence told the judge that he regretted that the corporate contribution had been made. He said that the individuals "who identified themselves with this contribution" had made complete restitution to the company. Federal law specifically prohibits political contributions made from corporate funds.

A lawyer for the special prosecutor's office said that Braniff had voluntarily acknowledged the contribution after the special prosecutor had asked corporate contributors to identify themselves in the Federal investigation of 1972 Presidential campaign activities.

Braniff and Mr. Lawrence are the latest in a group of companies and officials that have pleaded guilty to making illegal contributions to Mr. Nixon's campaign. The companies include Goodyear, Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing and American Airlines.