

G.S.A. Lists Many in 5 Administrations Who Donated Their Personal Papers

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 (UPI)—Senator Hubert H. Humphrey and many prominent and middle-echelon officials in the five previous national Administrations donated their papers as gifts on which they resumably claimed tax deductions, the Scripps-Howard News Service reported today.

Scripps-Howard, which said it had surveyed records of the General Services Administration, said that the gift by Senator Humphrey, Democrat of Minnesota, had been confirmed by his office, which said that a tax deduction had been claimed.

"He is now preparing the figures and a statement," a spokesman for Mr. Humphrey said.

Senator Humphrey was Vice President from 1965 to 1969 and donated his personal paper from those years to the Minnesota State Historical Society.

Papers in 7 Libraries

Scripps-Howard said it had obtained a G.S.A. list of present and former public officials who had contributed their personal papers to the Government in the last 10 years for inclusion in one or more of the seven Presidential libraries supervised by the agency and the National Archives.

"While there was no indication that tax deductions were claimed under the tax provision which Congress abolished effectively July 25, 1969," Scripps-Howard said, "those making the donations had the opportunity to do so and presumably did."

The Congressional Joint Committee on Internal Revenue Taxation is investigating, at President Nixon's request, the propriety of the gift of his Vice Presidential papers and tax deductions he took for the gift.

Mr. Nixon had his Vice Presidential papers appraised at \$576,000 and claimed this as tax deductions spread over the last four years.

The Government records

showed that President Johnson, who had been Vice President for three years in the Kennedy Administration, donated his Presidential and Vice-Presidential papers in 1965, presumably claiming a tax deduction for them in 1965.

He also donated personal papers to the Government in 1966, 1967 and 1968, all eligible for tax deductions.

A gift of President Eisenhower's papers was made on June 27, 1969—less than one month before new regulations abolished tax deductions for such gifts. His widow also donated papers of his to the Government in 1966.

"G.S.A. records," Scripps-Howard said, "show that a surprisingly large number of prominent and even middle-echelon officials in the last five Administrations donated their papers on which they could have claimed tax deductions from 1963 through the first six months of 1969 when the law was changed."

It said that the list included, in addition to Cabinet members and top Presidential advisers, persons who served in relatively minor posts, ranging from an associate director of the Bureau of Land Management under President Truman to a director of the Federal Housing Administration under President Johnson.

Among those named in the Government list were: Stephen T. Early, a press secretary to President Roosevelt; Rexford G. Tugwell, an Under Secretary of Agriculture and Adviser to Mr. Roosevelt; Gen. Harry H. Vaughan, former military aide to President Truman; Saerman Minton, the late Supreme Court Justice; and Defense Secretary Neil H. McElroy, Attorney General William P. Rogers, economic adviser Arthur F. Bruns, and Assistant Defense Secretary Charles G. Funucane, all in the Eisenhower Administration.

Officials in the Kennedy Administration such included Presidential advisers Arthur M. Schlesinger Jr. and Theodore

C. Sorensen; John Kenneth Galbraith, ambassador to India and a leading economist; Treasury Secretary Henry H. Fowler; Agriculture Secretary Orville L. Freeman and Jerome B. Weisner, a science adviser.

3 Journalists Listed

Three newspapermen and authors made donations of their papers in 1965, 1966 and 1968.

They included Theodore H. White, author of "The Making of the President" series; Clark Mollenhoff of the Des Moines Register, who was an adviser to President Nixon; and Walter Trohan, former Washington bureau chief of The Chicago Tribune.

"One of the champion givers of personal papers appears to be the James E. Webb, budget director under Truman and later head of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration," Scripps-Howard said.

Records showed that Mr. Webb donated papers in 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966 and 1968. He made the latest donation on April 1, 1969, shortly before the deadline for claiming a tax deduction for them.