

# Privilege Issue in Stans' Choices for U.S. Posts

Washington

Chief U.S. District Judge George L. Hart took custody yesterday of two batches of recommendations for federal jobs made to President Nixon by Maurice H. Stans, a former commerce secretary and Nixon fund-raiser.

Hart placed the documents under court seal and ordered Stans' lawyer and the special Watergate prosecutor's office to submit briefs within ten days on whether they should be subject to executive privilege.

The special prosecutor's office wants the documents for an investigation into the possible sale of ambassadorships in exchange for large

campaign contributions.

The office said it was investigating possible instances of bribery, conspiracy and illegal campaign contributions.

A court spokesman said the documents are separated into two groups.

The first includes recommendations made by Stans while in the Nixon cabinet, while the second includes lists of candidates for jobs prepared while Stans was chairman of the Finance Committee to Re-elect the President.

The court spokesman said the issue is whether recommendations made to a presi-

dent by a member of his cabinet are covered by executive privilege.

J. Fred Buzhardt, the counsel to the President, had said Mr. Nixon would invoke executive privilege regarding all but four candidates for ambassadorships.

The documents sought have been filed in three cabinets in the Nixon re-election headquarters. Stans' lawyers have said all are private papers, not subject to the subpoena.

Hart said Friday he would resolve that issue and the executive privilege question himself.

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