

## Top Demos in Milk Probe

Washington.

Former top campaign officials for Hubert H. Humphrey and Wilbur D. Mills have invoked the Fifth Amendment and refused to testify to the Senate Watergate committee about apparently illegal campaign donations, according to a confidential staff report.

Humphrey and Mills have been asked to meet personally with the committee to

give information about their unsuccessful 1972 presidential campaigns but neither has complied with the requests, the report said.

Federal law prohibits any contribution or expenditure by a corporation in connection with a presidential or congressional campaign.

The staff report was distributed to members of the committee yesterday. A copy was obtained by The

Associated Press.

The report gives new details of corporate aid for the Humphrey and Mills campaigns by the nation's largest dairy cooperative, Associated Milk Producers Inc.

It also says that both Humphrey and Mills got previously undisclosed corporate gifts of \$1000 each from the Minnesota Mining

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and Manufacturing Co.

It said there is evidence that Humphrey's campaign manager, Minneapolis attorney Jack Chestnut, was aware that corporate money was being used to finance \$25,000 worth of computer-mail lists used by Humphrey's campaign.

Chestnut refused to testify under oath after being interviewed informally, it said.

The former chairman of the Mills campaign, Joe P. Johnson, also invoked the Fifth Amendment protection against self-incrimination and refused to testify, the report said.

The report has not been adopted by the committee.

A cover letter from the committee's chief counsel, Samuel Dash, said the report is the work of both Democrats and Republicans on the staff. He said it is an edited version of an original draft by deputy Republican counsel Donald Sanders.

The report said Humphrey, a Minnesota Democrat, got \$25,000 in corporate aid from the milk producers in 1972 and an additional \$17,225 in legal gifts from political trusts run by the milk producers and two sister dairy cooperatives.

It said the dairy co-ops

gave \$90,000 in corporate aid to the brief presidential campaign of Arkansas Democrat Mills, who is chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee. It said that Mills received the equivalent of 43 per cent of his campaign revenues in corporate and noncorporate donations from the co-ops, their political trusts, and their members, employees and officers.

Committee chairman Sam J. Ervin sent two letters to Mills, on January 24 and February 7, saying the committee feels it is necessary for Mills to be interviewed, the report said. Mills sent word through an attorney that he would not meet with the committee until after certain legislative matters are cleared up and so far hasn't arranged a meeting, it said.

The report noted that some of the records of the milk producers co-op were destroyed in 1971 and might have shed more light on the assistance given the Mills campaign.

Similarly, it said that Chestnut destroyed virtually all of Humphrey's campaign financial records for the period preceding April 7, 1972, the date a new campaign finance law took effect. It said he did so in the summer of 1972 and noted that such destruction of records isn't illegal.

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