

Election Cash Used For Dean Wedding

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Former White House counsel John W. Dean III took money from a cash campaign fund to pay for his wedding and honeymoon, Senate investigators have been told.

A reliable source, who has seen a summary of Dean's testimony before the staff of the Senate select Watergate committee said yesterday that Dean told the staff he had taken \$4,850 from the fund and later put a check for that amount into the fund.

According to the summary, Dean was given \$15,200 in "pre-1968 primary money" by Gordon Strachan, an aide to White House chief of staff H. R. Haldeman, and Richard Howard, an aide to special counsel to the President Charles W. Colson.

According to one source close to the committee, Dean was asked about the \$4,850 "loan" by minority counsel Fred Thompson, who brought the subject up "out of the blue" during the full committee staff's first interview with Dean on Saturday.

Another source who was



JOHN W. DEAN III
... personal 'loan' probed

present during the questioning of Dean, however, said that Thompson did not ask Dean about the "loan" but that Dean had made a "voluntary statement about the transaction.

The summary does not mention what happened to the money eventually. One reliable source told The

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Washington Post that the money, including Dean's check, is being held in a safe deposit box.

According to a deposition given by Haldeman, \$22,000 was taken from a \$350,000 cash campaign fund that he

controlled. The \$22,000 was turned over to a third person, whom Haldeman did not identify, by Strachan. Haldeman said that the only funds spent from the \$350,000 were the \$22,000 requested by Howard for some advertising "sometime in April or May."

The Washington Post reported last April that Colson wrote an advertisement that appeared in The New York Times on May 17, 1972, supporting President Nixon's decision to mine Haiphong harbor. The Post reported that the \$4,400 cost of the ad was paid for with Nixon

re-election committee funds. Dean originally was scheduled to begin his public testimony yesterday, but the committee voted Monday to postpone its hearings this week while President Nixon conducts a summit conference with Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev.

The committee now is scheduled to resume its public hearings on Monday. Reliable sources close to the committee said that Dean will not be interviewed further by the committee or its staff at his lawyers' request, to avoid further leaks of his testimony in advance of his appearance.

Former Commerce Secretary Maurice H. Stans, finance director of the Nixon re-election campaign, told the Senate select committee on June 13 that he had received a call from Dean last Nov. 28 asking for \$22,000 to restore the \$350,000 fund "so that if he ever had to account for it, it would be intact." Stans said he gave the \$22,000 to Fred Eichen, then an assistant to Dean.

Stans testified on June 13 that in November 1972 Dean also gave him bills from a polling organization. Dean, Stans said, told him that originally it had been the intention to pay those bills out of the \$350,000 fund, but that they wanted to keep the fund intact and the bills did relate to the campaign. Stans said he did not know himself how the \$22,000 had been spent.

One source close to the committee said yesterday, "You can rest assured" that the subject of Dean's handling of the money will be brought up when Dean testifies next week.