

Millionaire's Protest

Santa Ana

A millionaire former Marine officer threw away his award for being the top contributor in Orange county to Richard Nixon's 1968 campaign as a protest of the President's planned trip to mainland China.

"I am very ashamed of having supported Richard Nixon in 1968," George Brokate told the monthly meeting of the central committee of the Republican party of Orange county Monday night.

He said Mr. Nixon had shown himself to be "just another tricky weathervane opportunist politician. He has sold out the hopes for freedom of millions of people in Asia by going hat in hand to an atheistic dictatorship which has helped kill thousands of Americans in Korea and Vietnam, and which grows and sells dope to the youth of the free world."

Brokate, 32, volunteered for — and got — combat duty

in Vietnam in 1966, after he had completed his post-college tour as a Marine captain and returned to civilian life.

In 1968 he said he was given a plaque inscribed "with deep appreciation" by Mr. Nixon for contributing \$13,000 to his presidential campaign, more than any other single contributor from Orange county.

Brokate, who made his fortune in real estate development, produced the plaque before the gathered committee and threw it into a trash can.

"I don't want it," he said. "It is a symbol of the betrayal of freedom and betrayal of the United States constitution. There is literally nothing left Nixon will not sell out to get re-elected."

A group of about 20 of the committee members walked out in anger at Brokate's actions. The remaining 30 gave him a standing ovation.

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