

Nixon, McGovern

Campaign Fund Violations Told

Washington

An election-eve \$50,000 contribution by Frank Sinatra to President Nixon's campaign fund was not reported as the law requires.

Neither was \$5000 which went to Senator McGovern from Mr. and Mrs. Paul Newman — apparently the film actor and his wife, Joanne Woodward.

Philip S. Hughes, director of the Office of Federal Elections, reported to the General Accounting Office yesterday on these and numerous other instances of failure to report campaign contributions above \$5000 within 48 hours after receipt, as required by the 1971 federal campaign law.

REPORT

Hughes reported on contributions in the 12 days before the November 7 election to the Finance Committee to Re-elect the President and to McGovern for President, Inc.

The report said the violations would not be referred to the Justice Department "at this time" because "neither the new law nor the regulations were sufficiently explicit on these matters."

The GAO said six contributions totaling \$196,000 — including \$45,000 from two dairy groups and \$100,000 from an arm of the Seafarer's Union — received by the Nixon campaign just before the election had not been reported until January 31.

CRITICISM

The GAO also sharply criticized the Nixon campaign for tardy reporting of a \$150,000 contribution from New Yorker Meshulam Riklis, president and board chairman of the Rapid American Corp., and of a donation of \$102,000 in International Telephone and Tele-

graph Corp. stock from William Levitt of Levitt Corp., an ITT subsidiary.

In addition, the report said, auditors found more than \$1 million in \$5000-plus contributions to Mr. Nixon from a number of individuals during the last 12 days of the campaign.

It found the McGovern finance organization failed to list ten donations of more than \$5000 each.

TRANSFER

The McGovern campaign also was criticized for not reporting promptly transfers of funds from one political committee to another in excess of \$5000, including three transfers involving large contributions from labor union groups.

De Van L. Shumway, a spokesman for the committee to Re-elect the President, said the report contained "some misleading and biased language" and that the situation had been further confused by "some careless and hasty press reports."

But, he said, the report "makes it plain that any questions raised regarding the committee's reporting of contributions during the period immediately preceding the election are due to ambiguities and uncertainties in the law which need further consideration and possible revision by Congress."

United Press