

# New Probe of Nixon Campaign

## Washington

The General Accounting Office will open an immediate investigation into the reported failure of President Nixon's re-election committee to disclose payments of campaign funds to a student who says he received \$150 a week to spy on radical groups.

Philip S. Hughes, director of the Federal Elections Office in the GAO, said yesterday that he will investigate the reported payments to Theodore F. Brill, 20, a George Washington University student who says he was a Nixon committee spy.

The GAO inquiry will include the questioning of former Commerce Secretary Maurice H. Stans, the chief Nixon fund-raiser and person responsible for reporting the expenditure of campaign funds as required by the 11-month old campaign spending law, Hughes said.

Brill, chairman of the Young Republican organization at the university, told the Washington Post on Friday that he was paid for spying on a White House peace vigil with personal checks from a Nixon committee official.

In addition, Brill said that he later learned "it was a mistake that I got paid in check because there were supposed to be no records kept."

Brill said he was paid \$150 a week for five weeks.

Yesterday, Hughes said, "I don't see how we can't investigate it, based on the report. We'll look into it at once."

Hughes said that the report of payments to Brill is apparently the first disclosure of possibly illegal disbursements of Nixon committee funds for reasons not connected with the Watergate bugging.

Previously, the Nixon committee pleaded no contest for violating the law by maintaining a cash fund of \$350,000 in the safe of Stans and failing to report the payment of \$29,300 to convicted Watergate conspirator G. Gordon Liddy, the former Nixon committee finance counsel. The committee was fined \$8000.

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