

\$79 Million Collected for Presidential

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Fund-raisers for last year's presidential campaigns collected a staggering \$79 million in big contributions and loans in less than nine months, the General Accounting Office reported yesterday.

President Nixon's successful re-election effort accounted for \$39.3 million, all of it in transactions exceeding \$100 each. His fund-raisers are believed to have collected another \$20 mil-

lion before April 7, 1972, when the new federal campaign disclosure law went into effect.

Sen. George McGovern (D-S.D.) and committees boosting his Democratic presidential candidacy reported major contributions and loans totaling \$21.3 million under the new law.

The final total for all candidates involved in post-April 7 spending alone is expected to be close to \$100 million.

The \$79 million reported

yesterday in a massive GAO report covering more than 1,900 pages included only contributions, ticket sales, loans and other payments of more than \$100. Officials of the GAO's Office of Federal Elections said they are still working on totals for transactions of \$100 or less.

The four-volume report released yesterday includes an alphabetical listing of 71,575 contributions and ticket sales totaling \$63.6 million and 1,750 loans amounting

to \$15.5 million between April 7 and Dec. 31, 1972.

Contributions to the Nixon campaign during that period amounted to \$37.6 million. The President's fund-raisers reported only \$1.6 million in loans.

The McGovern campaign, by contrast, listed post-April 7 contributions of only \$13 million and loans of \$8.2 million. Most of the McGovern-Shriver ticket's loans are believed to have been paid off or forgiven by now.

Other candidates in last

Campaigns

year's presidential campaigning, including the contests for the Democratic nomination, and their reported financing:

- Sen. Hubert Humphrey (D-Minn.)—\$1.7 million in contributions and \$2 million in loans.

- Sen. Edmund S. Muskie (D-Maine)—\$977,200 in contributions and \$233,500 in loans.

- Sen. Henry M. Jackson (D-Wash.)—\$216,800 in con-

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tributions and \$10,200 in loans.

- Gov. George C. Wallace (D-Ala.)—\$187,100 in contributions and \$16,200 in loans.

- Rep. Wilbur D. Mills (D-Ark.)—\$277,000 in contributions and \$17,000 in loans.

- Rep. Shirley Chisholm (D-N.Y.)—\$42,000 in contributions and \$10,800 in loans.

- Former Democratic Mayor Sam Yorty of Los Angeles—\$83,250 in contributions and \$25,000 in loans.

- American Party candidate John G. Schmitz—\$195,100 in contributions and \$8,900 in loans.

GAO officials said there was some overlap between the totals for contributions

and loans, but they said they tried to keep the compilation current through May, transforming loans reported as repaid or forgiven by then into contributions.

No comparison with past presidential election campaigns was available, since the report is the first to be made under the comprehensive Federal Election Campaign Act. It covers some 2,570 political committees that registered with the GAO in connection with national campaign financing. Many of the individual contributions, probably most of them, had previously been reported to the GAO's Office of Federal Elections under earlier deadlines for periodic campaign financing reports.