

Nader Group Sues

Access Sought to Nixon Gift Papers

Washington

A Freedom of Information suit seeking access to the vice presidential papers that President Nixon donated to the government was filed yesterday by a Ralph Nader group.

Mr. Nixon has claimed tax deductions for the papers, which are under seal at the National Archives and closed to everyone except the President and archives personnel.

The restrictions were imposed by Mr. Nixon in 1968 and 1969 deeds that turned over documents relating to his service as vice president during the Eisenhower administration.

In a complaint filed in U.S. District Court here, the Tax Reform Research Group

claims that the restrictions are invalid. It says most of the papers already were government property before Mr. Nixon donated them and the deed for the second gift was not legally executed.

The suit may prove important in the controversy over the Nixon income tax deductions because it takes key issues in the case into court. Mr. Nixon has asked a joint congressional committee to study the tax situation surrounding the gift of papers but no other legal action is pending.

The Nixon vice presidential papers given to the government by the 1969 deed were valued by a private appraiser at \$576,000. He already has claimed \$482,000 in federal income tax deductions for the papers.

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