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Two Return Dairymen's Donations

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ST. PAUL, Feb. 8 — Democratic Gov. Wendell Anderson of Minnesota and Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kan.) have returned political donations of \$5,000 and \$15,000, respectively, to dairy cooperatives whose contributions to the Nixon re-election campaign have been under investigation by the Senate Watergate committee, spokesmen for both men said today.

It is understood here that they are the only two major political figures who are listed in a report as having refunded such contributions from the Associated Milk Producers, Inc., political wing. That report is now on file with the secretary of the Senate in Washington.

Two of Dole's refunds were made Thursday.

The "HHH Committee," set up to help Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey (D-Minn.) pay off a debt of about \$300,000 from his 1972 presidential primary campaigns, received \$1,750 on Sept. 20, 1973 from the big San Antonio-based cooperative's committee for thorough agricultural political education—the same AMPI outfit that gave to Dole and Anderson.

In Washington, Neal Peterson, a lawyer handling the HHH Committee, said he didn't know what the contributing committee was when the money came in and that it hadn't been returned.

In St. Paul, Ted Smebakken, the governor's press secretary, said the manager of the governor's "personal political fund" returned on Nov. 16, 1973, the \$5,000 contribution which the AMPI committee had made to that fund on Sept. 1, 1973. Smebakken said it was returned "because there was a cloud over AMPI."

Smebakken said that nobody in the governor's office had been questioned by anybody connected with the Senate Watergate committee. The governor was in Detroit and unavailable for comment.

In Washington, staffers in Senator Dole's office said a total of \$15,000 came from AMPI and two other dairy cooperatives. The reason Dole gave for the refunds was that the Justice Department has anti-trust actions pending against the Co-ops, although a member of his staff said the Watergate investigation had an "influence" on the decision.

According to Dole's Washington office, the Kansas senator and former Republican national chairman got \$6,000 from the Agricultural and Dairy Educational Political Trust, political arm of Mid-America Dairymen of Springfield, Mo., on Sept. 24, 1973, and returned it on Thursday, Feb. 7.

Also, his office said, Dole got \$3,000 from the Special Political Agricultural Community Education Committee of Dairymen, Inc., of Louisville, Ky., on Oct. 11, 1973, and returned it on Thursday.

Also, his office said he got \$6,000 from the AMPI Committee for Thorough Agricultural Political Education on Oct. 11, 1973, returning it on Oct. 26, 1973.

The donation to Minnesota Gov. Anderson was made Sept. 1, 1973, a day after he spoke to an AMPI convention in Minneapolis.