

Fund-Raiser for Ford

Robert Adam Mosbacher

NYTimes

By LINDA CHARLTON

Special to The New York Times

DEC 8 1975

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7— Robert A. Mosbacher, President Ford's new campaign fund-raiser, describes himself with pride and pleasure as an oil and gas "wildcatter," a sailor and an admirer of Mr. Ford and with reluctance as a millionaire. The 48-year-old Tex-

an-by-adoption took on a job that his predecessor, David W. Packard left after three rather lean and unproductive months. Mr. Mosbacher has resigned himself to several months of exile from Houston, from his business and from his wife, four children and two stepchildren. He has also abandoned plans to buy a new boat and try out for the next sailing Olympics.

"I did this," he said, "because I believe—and I know this is going to sound hackneyed—that the President is a good President, is a fine, honest, intelligent man doing a good job."

Mr. Mosbacher added that in his view, Mr. Ford "is the only electable Republican," and "I just think that the alternative is going to be socialism."

In 1971 and early 1972, Mr. Mosbacher was the Republican National Finance Chairman for Texas, and later worked, he said, on "business and industry for the Nixon re-election."

A Moneyed Family

In 1972, he said at a news conference last week, he contributed about \$10,000 to President Nixon's re-election campaign. "A lot of money to me," he said. Asked how much he was worth, Mr. Mosbacher dodged and feigned good-naturedly, saying first "I don't know," then "I know my income is slightly in excess of my outgo," and finally "I suppose actually my worth is more than a million dollars."

Robert Adam Mosbacher was born March 11, 1927, into a moneyed family in Mount Vernon, N.Y. He went to the Choate School in Connecticut and then to Washington and Lee University, where he graduated with a degree in business adminis-

tration in 1947. The next year he was off for Houston.

"I fell in love with Houston when I first arrived," he said. He went there, he said, because "I wanted to be a wildcatter, I wanted to live in the West or Southwest."

Mr. Mosbacher, who has real estate and ranching interests aside from being an oil and gas producer, is a passionate sailor, like his brother, Emil Mosbacher. He has won medals in two Olympic sailing classes—dragons and solings—and is an outstanding ocean racer. He owns a 27-foot Soling, a three-man Olympic Class sloop that he sails in the Gulf of Mexico and a smaller, one-man laser class boat.

He and his second wife, the former Sandra Smith, chartered a boat and sailed in the Windward Islands on what he called a "belated honeymoon" after their marriage two and a half years ago. Mr. Mosbacher and his family also ski. Also, he owns a ranch in Snowmass, Colo., outside Aspen, which harbors "great herds of elk."

Mr. Mosbacher seems guardedly confident that he can succeed where Mr. Packard failed. Asked if he thought he could get along "harmoniously with Howard



Associated Press

Believes alternative to Mr. Ford is socialism.

Callaway, Mr. Ford's campaign manager, he said:

"I think the problem really has basically been having someone who could afford the time to be here, to structure this whole organization and show that they're going to stay with it."

At the news conference, Mr. Mosbacher was reminded that Mr. Packard had said he could raise the necessary funds by January.

"I wish he had," Mr. Mosbacher replied with a grin. "I'd be sitting in warm Houston."

REMEMBER THE NEEDIEST!