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More U.S. funds earmarked for Republican convention

WASHINGTON — The Justice Department, which has been accused of dropping the prosecution of three anti-trust cases against International Telephone and Telegraph in return for a contribution of up to \$400,000 to the Republican convention, will be dipping into the U.S. Treasury for another \$500,000 to help police the convention.

The money will go to train and equip

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San Diego police for the GOP gala. They will be provided everything from sophisticated electronic devices and smarting pepper gases to special 'knee-knockers' to bring down hippies.

To be sure, the huge array of armor and armaments can be stockpiled for later use if the San Diego affair should be peaceful. But the grant from Justice's Law Enforcement Assistance Administration will be clearly and explicitly marked for the Republican convention.

A lesser amount of \$395,000 has been earmarked for the protection of the Democrats. Yet the Democratic donnybrook is expected to attract more troublemakers, just as the Democrats in bloody Chicago most needed protection in 1968.

The law under which the two cities are getting the grants is written to permit the federal government to keep title to much of the equipment. With fore-planning, therefore, some of the police hardware purchases could be used in Miami, then shipped across the country to San Diego at considerable savings for the taxpayers.

The Democrats are also getting short-changed on another convention service provided by the taxpayers. Last October, the

General Services Administration (GSA) offered to assist both the Democrats and Republicans with the care and security of government officials at the conventions.

Since the Republicans have all the government officials, with the exception of some federal agents who will be on hand in Miami Beach, it's the GOP that benefits from the GSA offer.

The GSA has confirmed to us that the White House's Bill Timmons has requested furnishings for executive offices at San Diego. So the GSA is busily hustling desks, chairs, smoke stands, copying machines and even a paper shredder in case Henry Kissinger or Defense Secretary Mel Laird shows up with a batch of secret papers they want to keep out of our hands.

Tax favoritism

A group of young crusaders, who are bringing pressure upon corporations to put people ahead of profits, has been trying unsuccessfully for 18 months to get a tax exemption.

Meanwhile, a pro-business group, whose avowed aim is to "increase profits" for big corporations, has obtained its tax exempt status without difficulty.

The youths, organized by Ralph Nader, are best known for their "Campaign GM," which sought unsuccessfully to elect public-interest spokesmen to General Motors' board.

Since GM deducted the millions it spent to fight "Campaign GM," the Nader crusaders thought they should get a tax exemption to carry their side of the fight. They applied in September, 1970.

They are still waiting.