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Campaign

Flights Paid

By Nixon

WASHINGTON — (AP) — President Nixon's re-election committee paid \$149,291 for 55 campaign flights on presidential aircraft, according to records released by the White House.

But the administration declined to reveal names of passengers or information about many other flights during the campaign, claiming the information is personal and subject to executive privilege.

Summaries of flight records of 135 trips made by planes of the 89th Military Airlift Wing at Andrews Air Force Base, Md., which provides transportation for the President, his family, and other highly placed officials, were obtained by congressional auditors and placed in the Congressional Record yesterday by Sen. William Proxmire (D-Wis.).

U.S. Comptroller Gen. Elmer B. Staats, in an investigation requested by Proxmire, asked the White House last October for copies of passenger manifests and flight logs for all trips made during the campaign.

White House counsel John W. Dean III refused to provide all the records requested.

Staats, in a report to Proxmire, said 103 trips were paid for by the Committee for the Re-election of the President.

"However, information obtained by our Office of Federal Elections showed an additional 32 trips were made by the presidential flight crew and paid for by the Finance Committee to Re-elect the President," Staats said.

Of the 103 trips, 34 were made by Cabinet officers and charged to their departments. The remaining trips, he said, were made for the White House itself. The Nixon campaign committee reimbursed the government \$50,355 for 23 of them, he said.

"The flight logs for these trips showed only itinerary data and not the names of passengers," he said.