

Fund Violations Cited

GAO Accuses GOP

WASHINGTON (AP) — The General Accounting Office (GAO) today referred to the Justice Department "apparent and possible violations" of the Federal Election Campaign Act by the Finance Committee to Re-elect the President.

The GAO report said the committee financing President Nixon's re-election effort made the following "apparent violations" of the 1971 act requiring detailed reporting of campaign contributions:

—The committee's failure to keep a detailed and exact account of a \$25,000 contribution made to the Republicans through Kenneth H. Dahlberg, chairman of the Minnesota Finance Committee to Re-elect the President, on April 9. It also said the committee's failure to disclose details of the \$25,000 contribution in its June 10, 1972 report also was "an apparent violation" of the act.

—The committee's failure to keep a "detailed and exact account" of the amount expended from the proceeds of the \$25,000 check and four Mexican bank checks totaling \$89,000, and the failure of the committee to disclose details of the expenditures in the June 10 report.

—The committee's failure to keep and maintain "adequate books and records on a current basis with respect to the \$25,000 check and its proceeds, the proceeds of the four checks totaling \$89,000, and the balance of the \$350,000" that constituted a bank deposit made on May 25, 1972, to the credit of the Media Committee to Re-elect the President, an affiliated committee.

The \$25,000 check and the four checks from the Mexican bank have been linked to the June 17 break-in and

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alleged attempted bugging of the Democratic National Committee.

In addition the report by GAO Director Phillip S. Hughes and approved by Robert F. Keller, acting comptroller general, cited "the following possible violations" of the act and referred the matter to the attorney general "for further investigation:"

—The committee's failure to keep a "detailed and exact account of the \$350,000 currency fund and the contributions that may have been received

therein on or after April 7, 1972." The report also said that the failure to disclose these contributions in the June 10 report also "possibly constituted violation." Under the federal election campaign act the campaign reporting procedures went into effect April 7.

—The committee's lack of accounting control over the funds, which the GAO said "indicates the possibility that expenditures may have been made for or on behalf of the committee without the authorization of its chairman or treasurer or their designated agents" in violation of the act.

It also said: "The possibility exists that every person who received contributions for the committee may not have rendered a detailed account thereof to the treasurer and that committee funds may have been comingled with personal funds of the officers, members or associates of the committee" in violation of the act.

Earlier Maurice H. Stans said his meeting a few days ago in Miami Beach with GAO auditors was "proper and necessary" to assist them in finishing their probe into Republican campaign fund handling.

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