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Nixon's Finance Committee Named

Campaign Fund Charges

Washington

The Justice Department brought criminal charges yesterday against President Nixon's campaign finance committee, including allegations that its treasurer illegally turned over \$29,300 to a former White House aide now standing trial in the Watergate bugging case.

Although three of the eight misdemeanors charged involved the alleged illegal transfer of cash by committee chairman Hugh P. Sloan Jr. to G. Gordon Liddy, no individual officers of the Finance Committee for the Re-Election of the President were named. A spokesman for the parent Committee for the Re-Election of the President called the alleged violations "technical and unintentional."

The justice department also brought separate charges, in its first use of the 1971 Federal election campaign law, against three



AP Wirephoto

HUGH SLOAN
No receipts

unsuccessful congressional candidates for failing to make required reports.

AIDE

Liddy, a former aide in both the White House and on the campaign committee

staff, is one of seven men accused of wiretapping the Democratic National Committee headquarters at the Watergate last summer. Their trial began Monday.

In the new charges, Sloan, the finance committee treasurer, was accused of turning over a series of payments totaling \$29,300 to Liddy without getting receipts required by the new law.

During last fall's campaigns, there were complaints of violations by both sides, including General Accounting office (GAO) reports that were turned over to the Justice department for possible action. On August 26, the GAO referred five possible violations of the law by Nixon campaign groups to the department.

In addition to the Sloan-Liddy charges, the department also accused the committee of failure to report expenditures and of failure to get a receipt and report

expenditure of an additional \$2000 that went to Liddy.

MEMBERS

Because no individual members of the committee were named, nobody would be jailed if the committee were found guilty of the charges. The maximum penalty on conviction would be a \$1000 fine for each of the eight counts.

The government also charged three defeated congressional candidates from California, Ohio and Pennsylvania — two of them Democrats — with violations of the campaign law. Previously only a civil suit had been filed by the government under the act.

The unsuccessful congressional candidates named were Fritjof P. Thygeson, Peace and Freedom party candidate for the house from California's 40th district; Charles W. Johnson, Democratic candidate in Ohio's 12th district, and William C. Haden, Democratic candidate in the Pennsylvania 14th district.

Thygeson lost in the general election while Johnson and Haden were defeated in primaries. All three were accused of failure to file required reports of contributions and expenditures at proper times.

The charges against the three individuals are misdemeanor counts and call for a maximum penalty upon conviction of one year in prison and a \$1000 fine for each count.

United Press