

APR 9 1973

SFChronicle APR 9 1973

# Oil Firm Paid Nixon Campaign Aide

## Washington

A former assistant secretary of the Air Force has said under oath that he was on an oil company's payroll while working as an advance man for the Nixon-Agnew campaign organization in 1968.

"Did you take leave of absence from your job?" Spencer J. Schedler was asked at a Civil Service Commission hearing.

"No," Schedler replied.

A spokesman for Atlantic Richfield, which acquired Sinclair Oil in March, 1969, said Sinclair records confirm Schedler was paid for the time in question.

The criminal codes make it unlawful for any corporation to contribute directly or indirectly in connection with any federal election.

A Justice Department spokesman told a reporter that the prohibition includes lending employees to political campaigns and continuing to pay them as if they are performing their normal jobs. But he said employees working for campaign or-

ganizations are often volunteers giving up time off or vacations.

Whether Schedler gave up vacation or time off was unclear. Reached in Houston, where he has been a vice president of Hycel, Inc., he told the Washington Post. "I just have to stand with what's on the record."

*Washington Post Service*