

SF Chronicle APR 26 1973
**U.S. Fires
 Ex-Nixon
 Youth Aide**

Washington

The Department of Interior has fired a former Nixon campaign official who paid a George Washington University student \$150 a week to spy on radical groups.

A department spokesman said yesterday that George K. Gorton was told to leave because of "adverse publicity" surrounding his role in the 1972 election campaign, when he served as national college director of the Nixon Re-election Committee and as deputy to Kenneth S. Reit.

Rietz, the 31-year-old director of the "New Majority Campaign" at the Republican National Committee, quit abruptly on Monday to accept a job with MGM records.

In a telephone interview yesterday Riet said from Los Angeles that he had helped find Gorton the job at Interior.

DENIED

But Reit denied reports that either he or Gorton recruited young voters to spy on the McGovern presidential campaign.

Despite Riet' denial, Senate sources confirmed that Herbert L. (Bart) Porter, in charge of scheduling for the re-election committee, had testified to Senate investiga-

tors that Riet had recruited four or five young people to infiltrate McGovern campaign organizations.

A Republican source close to the Administration said that the Riet operation involved "many little Watergates" directed at Democratic candidate headquarters.

Riet said that Theodore F. Brill, chairman of the Young Republican organization at George Washington University, was the only person hired for espionage activity. Brill, 20, was quoted in a March 11 story in the Washington Post as saying that he was assigned to infiltrate a peace vigil at the White House and on one occasion to help arrange for arrest of the demonstrators.

REJECTED

Republican sources said the White House first attempted to place Gorton at the State Department, but he was considered "too hot to handle" and turned away. He was then sent by the White House to the agency Action, where new director Michael Balano rejected him.

Finally Gorton was placed at the Department of Interior and detailed to the Bicentennial Commission.

"It never worked out because of adverse publicity," said Bob Kelly, a public information officer at Interior. He said he believed the publicity was the story in the Washington Post in which Gorton confirmed that he had hired and paid Brill.

Washington Post Service