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Judge Delays Shift Of Vesco's Funds To Bahamas Bank

By The Associated Press

A Federal judge signed an order here Wednesday night delaying the transfer of \$3,675,000 from Florida to the Bahamas by an associate of Robert L. Vesco, the New Jersey financier who is being sought in connection with the funding of resident Nixon's re-election campaign, until a Government challenge to the transfer can be heard.

Mr. Vesco and 40 others have been sued by the Securities and Exchange Commission, which says that they diverted \$224-million from mutual funds they controlled. The S.E.C. completed its case earlier Wednesday in a preliminary civil injunction suit seeking to freeze Mr. Vesco's assets until the full case comes to trial.

Mr. Vesco, now believed to be either in the Bahamas or in Costa Rica, fled the country soon after the civil trial began as reports circulated that a Federal grand jury had returned a sealed indictment for his arrest on criminal charges.

The grand jury has held almost daily meetings, taking testimony from witnesses who know of the circumstances under which Mr. Vesco secretly

gave \$200,000 in cash to Maurice H. Stans, chairman of the Finance Committee to Re-elect the President.

At 5:15 P.M. yesterday, according to an affidavit, an investigator for the S.E.C., Jerald A. Lanzotti, got word of plans to shift the \$3.67-million from First National Bank of Hialeah, Fla., to the Bahamas Commonwealth Bank in Nassau.

He went to Federal District Judge Charles E. Stewart, who signed the restraining order and scheduled a hearing for May 15.