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Nixon Money at Agnew's Dinner

Annapolis, Md.

The chairman of Maryland's Republican party said yesterday that organizers of a 1972 fund raiser honoring Vice President Spiro T. Agnew hid for nearly a year a \$49,900 contribution from the National Committee to Re-Elect the President.

Alexander M. Lankler Jr. acknowledged that the money, given at a June 14, 1972, fund-raising event, at first had been attributed to 31 individuals who gave no contributions.

It was not until last Friday that the organizers amended their official state financial report, deleting the names of the 31 persons and substituting the Committee

to Re-Elect the President as the source of the \$49,900.

Lankler said the actual source of the money would not have been disclosed had it not been for the Watergate and other scandals.

"There is an entirely different kind of political climate today than a year ago," said Lankler.

He said the role of the national committee was hidden to make it appear the Agnew affair had been more successful than it was in attracting donations from individuals.

"This was just a public relations thing," he said. "It was political puffery to make it look as good as possible."

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