

Nixon Unit Set to File Fund Data

By Timothy S. Robinson
Washington Post Staff Writer

The Nixon re-election campaign finance committee is prepared to file a complete record of its receipts and expenditures within 90 days, according to papers filed in U.S. District Court this week.

In order to prepare the report, the financed Committee to Re-elect the President requested a 90-day stay in proceedings in a suit filed by Common Cause, a citizens' lobby seeking to compel disclosure of the campaign's financing before April 7, 1972.

Common Cause, a citizens' lobby seeking to compel disclosure of the campaign's financing before April 7, 1972.

In addition, the re-election group asked U.S. District Judge Joseph C. Waddy to dismiss the suit after the report is filed.

Common Cause attorney Kenneth J. Guido said last night that his group had not yet decided on a specific response to the motion. But in general, he said, he was not in favor of stopping the proceedings while the report is being prepared.

In the papers filed in court, finance committee attorney Kenneth Wells Parkinson said the 90-day delay is necessary because "some records relating to the cash receipts and expenditures are not available, and these receipts and expenditures must be laboriously reconstructed."

Parkinson said in a telephone interview that the proposed report would include dates, amounts and reasons for disbursements as well as for receipts.

"The report will be filed with the Clerk of the House of Representatives with the reservation that it is being done without prejudice and without any admission that such a report is required under the terms of the Federal Corrupt Practices Act," Parkinson said in the court papers.

Persons familiar with the suit said that Common Cause might object that the report would not go far enough.

"For example, the finance committee might make a report that includes payments to another person within the organization and not ultimately list what the money was used for," one said.

This source also said that Common Cause would likely object to the finance committee's request that the suit be dismissed "with prejudice," which would mean it could not be brought again if Common Cause is dissatisfied with the report.

Dismissal also would not settle the legal question raised by Common Cause: whether the finance committee's activities from Jan. 1, 1971, to April 7, 1972, violated the Corrupt Practices Act of 1925.

That act provides criminal penalties for treasurers of political committees who fail to maintain records for two years. Fund raisers for President Nixon have disclosed they raised somewhere between \$1 million and \$2 million in cash from unidentified sources prior to April 7, 1972, the date a new campaign financing law went into effect, but destroyed the records before that date.

Common Cause attorneys said they expect to file an answer this week to the finance committee's motion.