

**FARM GROUP DENIES  
IT AIDED CAMPAIGN**

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ALLENTOWN, Pa., June 8 (UPI) — Richard L. Allison, chief executive officer of the Lehigh Valley Cooperative Farmers, said today that a donation by his group had not been intended for President Nixon's re-election campaign.

Newspapers last week published a report that the Federal Bureau of Investigation had started an investigation into a \$50,000 cash contribution from the dairy organization to the Nixon fund that reportedly later paid for the silence of conspirators in the Watergate bugging scandal.

Mr. Allison, quoted in The Allentown Call, said the cooperative had sent only \$32,000 to Washington and that it had not gone as a contribution to the campaign fund but as an "honorarium" to its lobbyist for "prestige" speakers to attend the group's annual meetings.

Agriculture Secretary Earl Butz spoke at last year's meeting, and Vice President Agnew appeared the group earlier this spring in Lancaster.

Newspapers had reported that the contribution, all in \$100 bills, was presented in two installments — one in April, 1972, and another a month later. The account said the money had been placed in a secret campaign fund that was turned over in July, 1972, to a top aide of former Attorney General John N. Mitchell.

Mr. Allison said the money had been paid in three checks and added that his group's counsel had advised him that the \$32,000 presentation was "legal."