

# WXPost Vesco Secretly Indicted in

By Philip Greer

Washington Post Staff Writer

NEW YORK, June 12—Financier Robert L. Vesco has been secretly indicted here on a charge of wire fraud in connection with a \$250,000 contribution last year to President Nixon's reelection campaign, it was learned today.

The indictment, according to sources close to the case; was handed down last week, and is in addition to charges of obstructing justice on which Vesco was indicted May 10, along with former Attorney General John N. Mitchell, former Commerce Secretary Maurice H. Stans and New Jersey politician Harry L. Sears. Mitchell and

Stans were also accused of lying to the federal grand jury investigating the Vesco contribution.

The charge is the basis for an extradition proceeding currently pending in San Jose, Costa Rica. Vesco, who has made sizable investments in Costa Rica and has two homes there is said to have fled that country on June 3 and is currently believed to be in Nassau, the Bahama Islands.

In the past, Vesco has claimed that the \$250,000 campaign payment—of which \$200,000 was delivered secretly in \$100 bills last April 10—was made with borrowed funds. It is not known whether the new

charge indicates any further evidence of the source of the money.

## Transfer Charged

According to government charges, Vesco authorized the transfer of \$250,000 from Bahamas Commonwealth Bank in Nassau, which he controls, to a branch of Barclay's Bank in lower Manhattan. The money was picked up in cash on April 6 and, according to sworn testimony, \$200,000 was delivered to Stans on April 10.

At the time, Vesco was under intensive investigation by the Securities and Exchange Commission, which later charged him and 41 other defendants with swindling \$224 million from mu-

tual funds operated by Overseas Investors Services. A hearing on a government request for a preliminary injunction was completed last month. An additional \$50,000 was contributed by check in October, 1972. The entire amount was returned to Vesco last January.

Last week, International Controls Corp., of which Vesco was chairman until last September, filed suit against him and 31 other defendants, charging them with wasting ICC assets. A federal judge here has ordered a ten-day ban on disposal of ICC assets by Vesco. Vesco and his family own approximately 25 per cent of the company's stock

## \$250,000 Donation to Nixon

and he presently travels in a Boeing 707 owned by an ICC affiliate.

### To 1968 campaign

As part of that suit, ICC's court-appointed directors charged that Vesco contributed \$25,000 of ICC funds to the Nixon campaign in 1968. The company produced copies of five \$5,000 checks made out to Nixon Finance Committees. The company said the checks were paid for with a single \$25,000 ICC check. Vesco has claimed privately that he actually contributed more than \$25,000 in 1968 and some sources have put the total at more than \$100,000.

The new indictment came

to light after U.S. Ambassador Viron Baky asked Costa Rican courts to order Vesco's extradition to this country. Reports from the Costa Rican capital said the request was based on a charge of "illegal use of the telegraph." None of the publicly

announced charges against Vesco include an accusation relating to use of the telegraph. The U.S. code requires an indictment—or an affidavit certifying that an indictment exists—accompanying any requests for extradition.

It is not known whether the U.S. attorney here or the SEC is planning an extradition request in Nassau, although it is known that the subject is under active study. Officials at both agencies have refused to discuss the case.