

250 on Nixon's Secret Gift List

Washington

The still-secret list of large contributors to the Committee for the Re-election of the President contains the names of more than 250 individuals and corporations who contributed more than \$10,000 each.

The list, which reportedly names about 2000 contributors who gave \$25 million, was in the possession of Mr. Nixon's long-time personal secretary, Rose Mary Woods, according to a deposition by Hugh W. Sloan Jr., treasurer of the Finance Committee for the Re-Election of the President. The President recently promoted Miss Woods to executive assistant at the White House.

Sloan gave the deposition in connection with a federal court civil suit filed by Common Cause, the self-styled citizens' lobby, to force the re-election committee to reveal the names of all large contributors.

SURRENDER

The White House, after first denying such a list existed, finally surrendered it to Common Cause under a federal court order growing out of the civil suit. Copies of the list also have been obtained by special prosecutor Archibald Cox and by the Senate committee investigating Watergate.

The list has not been released to the public. U.S. District Court Judge Joseph

C. Waddy ordered Common Cause not to release its list.

The list includes roughly half of the more than \$50 million raised by the re-election committee and represents funds hurriedly collected before the new campaign funds reporting law went into effect on April 7, 1972.

PERIOD

Much of the money was raised during what Common Cause calls a "dirty money period" from March 10 to April 7. March 10 was the last date for reporting campaign contributions under the 1940 Corrupt Practices Act.

A Common Cause spokesman said that Maurice H. Stans and other re-election committee officials pressured firms to contribute the money secretly during that period and gave corporate executives the general impression, they were not violating the law and were not required to report the contributions.

In its civil action, Common Cause argued successfully that the 1940 Corrupt Practices Act still applied during that period.

A Common Cause source said interviews with businessmen have established that the re-election committee followed a pattern of "putting the muscle on" firms that had business pending before the federal government.

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