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'Illegal' Campaign Funds Returned

Washington

The Committee to Re-Elect the President returned to American Airlines yesterday an illegal \$55,000 cash contribution the airline claimed was solicited by President Nixon's personal lawyer.

lawyer.

The airline contributed a total of \$75,000 to the committee, but the chairman of the airlines — George A.

Spater — admitted Friday that \$55,000 of the funds came from "corporate sources," which would be a violation of the campaign financing laws.

Under the law, corporations are barred from contributing cash to political campaigns. Corporate officers and employees, however, may make political contributions. United Press