GOP Aide Tells of Cash For Radicals

Sacramento

A consultant to the Assembly Republican caucus said yesterday he secretly provided $700 to $800 to Peace and Freedom party candidates last year in hopes of drawing votes away from Democratic candidates.

Frank DeLong said the money was distributed in cash and money orders in order to "conceal the fact" that it was coming from Republican Party sources.

The office of Secretary of State Edmund G. Brown Jr. has said the contributions involved apparent "violations of law" because of failure to report the payments in post-election campaign spending reports.

SOURCE

DeLong said in an interview the money was given to him by Jerry Simpson, an aide to Robert T. Monagan of Tracy, who was then Republican Assembly leader. Monagan has since left the Legislature to join the U.S. Department of Transportation.

DeLong stated he provided $192 for the filing fee of Peace and Freedom candidate Charles J. Vail of Concord in the primary election. The general election was won by Assemblyman Daniel E. Boatwright (Dem-Concord).

Additional funds were provided to insure that Vail successfully qualified for the ballot, DeLong said.

The Republican aide, who is still employed by the caucus, said he also provided funds for the campaign of Peace and Freedom candidate Ramon P. Solomon of Santa Rosa in the district

AP Wirephoto

FRANK DeLONG
GOP consultant

now represented by Barry Keene (Dem-Santa Rosa).

DeLong denied a report quoting him as saying money was also given to the Peace and Freedom Party in the San Jose district of Democratic Assemblyman John Vasconcellos.

DeLong was prevented from talking to reporters earlier by the current Assembly Republican leader, Robert Beverly of Manhattan Beach.

DeLong said he received permission to talk to the news media about the case following Tuesday's special Assembly election in San Joaquin county narrowly won by Republican Doug Carter, a former aide to Monagan.

DeLong said he maintained his silence through the election so as not to "disrupt" it.

United Press