

GOP Cutting Its Staff

Washington

The Republican National Committee, facing a \$1 million deficit because of shrinking contributions, announced yesterday a 25 per cent cut in its staff.

Committee spokesman Robert R. Rousek said National Chairman George Bush also is voluntarily taking a 10 per cent cut in his \$42,500 annual salary. Some other top officials will take similar voluntary pay cuts he said.

The retrenchement was caused by a decline in major

contributions during the first six months of the year, Rousek said. He said small donations — "\$100 and less" — were coming in faster than last year.

"But the financial people have projected that if we continued to spend at the current rate, we would be short \$1 million by the end of the year," said Rousek, the National Committee's communications director.

The Committee for the Re-election of the President, President Nixon's official

campaign organization, had a surplus estimated by some sources as \$4 million or more after the election, and some Republican party leaders have called upon it to turn over the money to the GOP National Committee.

But Bush is known to believe the surplus should remain in the hands of the Nixon committee, especially until it has disposed of multi-million-dollar lawsuits against it arising from the Watergate affair.

United Press