

\$4.8 Million

Why He Gave Nixon So Much

By Morton Mintz
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Washington

President Nixon twice told Chicago insurance magnate W. Clement Stone that he would not have been elected in 1968 had it not been for Stone's gifts of money—\$2.8 million—and of the philosophy known as Positive Mental Attitude (PMA).

"On two occasions," Stone said, the President "gave me the highest honor that I will probably ever receive, from my viewpoint. He called me aside and said, 'Clem, you know and I know that I wouldn't be here if it weren't for you.'"

Stone, the President's principal contributor, made the disclosure on Kup's Show, a television program broadcast in Chicago by WMAQ. Later, an aide to Stone said the President expressed his thanks to Stone at Camp David, Md., after the 1968 election and again, later, at a dinner.



W. CLEMENT STONE
"Changing history"

MONEY

On the program, Stone recalled that he once said he would have spent any amount of money to elect or re-elect "one of the greatest, if not the greatest, of all presidents."

"How much were you ready to go for?" asked columnist Irv Kupcinet, who conducts the program.

"Ten million dollars," replied Stone, who gave the President \$2 million in 1972, for a four-year total of \$4.8 million.

"Now, keep this in mind," Stone said on May 28 in an interview with Michael Ryan of Granada television in Britain. "Everything is relative. With a family worth in those days (the 1960s) better than \$450 million, what's a million or two, particularly when you can change the course of history according to the principles for which you stand?"

BOARD

Stone emphasized that he also helped Mr. Nixon by introducing him to Positive Mental Attitude in 1964, when the President was national chairman of the Boys' Clubs of America and Stone was a director.

Every member of the organization's board was ex-

posed to the PMA concept, and "I know for a fact" that Mr. Nixon "and his family have been exposed to it," Stone told Kupcinet. "I know that the books (on PMA) are in the White House."

"I found this terrific change in this man, this drastic change, almost 180-degree turn from somewhat of a negative personality to a positive personality," Stone continued. "I worked with him. He was exposed to PMA ... and I realized that perhaps this was my one chance in an entire lifetime in which I could change the course of history for the better."

Praising the President as "a man of integrity," Stone indicated to Kupcinet that he had been disillusioned little, if at all, by the Watergate scandals.

Stone said he believed that "not a dime" of his \$4.8 million went to any of the improper acts associated with Watergate. He said he based his belief on the fact that rather than being solicited, he "provided the seed money. I was the one that was going to change the history of the world, so they didn't have to ask me."