

NYTimes AUG 8 1973
MCGOVERN FUNDS
STUDIED BY F. B. I.

Inquiry Into Financing of
His Race in Connecticut
Was Requested by Cox

By MICHAEL KNIGHT

Special to The New York Times

NEW HAVEN, Aug. 7—The Federal Bureau of Investigation said today that it was conducting a "preliminary" investigation of financial aspects of Senator George McGovern's 1972 Democratic presidential campaign here at the specific request of Archibald Cox the special Watergate prosecutor.

Herbert Clough, special agent in charge of the New Haven office of the F.B.I., said that agents were reviewing contribution and spending records filed by McGovern campaign groups with the Secretary of State in Hartford and that persons involved in the unsuccessful campaign would be interviewed this week.

"We are conducting a preliminary and limited investigation at the specific request of Special Prosecutor Archibald Cox into an allegation brought to his attention by a private citizen," Mr. Clough said. He declined to explain details of the allegation.

John Brker, a spokesman in Washington for the Watergate prosecutor, said that he could neither confirm nor deny the F.B.I. report.

'Such Excitement'

The investigation came to light today when Mrs. Gloria Schaffer, the Secretary of State and a McGovern supporter in 1972, confirmed reports today in Hartford that the F.B.I. had asked to see the records at the request of Mr. Cox.

"There is such excitement over this F.B.I. guy in the files," Mrs. Schaffer said. "The story is very simply that an F.B.I. man called yesterday and said he would like to come over and look at the 1972 Democratic campaign file."

"I didn't ask him whether he was interested in anything specific—I didn't think it was my place," she said.

Lonnie Reed, executive as-

sistant to Mrs. Schaffer, said: "The F.B.I. told us to shut up about this. I think they want to keep a lid on where the information is coming from. They're naturally very secretive people."

Included in the records, which are open to the public, are forms filed by state and local McGovern-for-President groups and copies of forms filed with the Federal Government.

There were no reports of similar investigations in New York and New Jersey, where the only forms on file are copies of the reports sent to the Federal Government in Washington.

'Always in Here Looking'

"The F.B.I. is always in here looking at various records," an official in the New Jersey Election and Laws Bureau in Trenton said. "The only thing they would find here on McGovern is what is already on file in Washington."

Officials of the Elections Section in Albany said that no one identifying himself as an F.B.I. agent had asked to see any election records there recently.

Former campaign officials for the South Dakota Senator here said they had no knowledge of the investigation. "We raised over \$350,000 for McGovern in this state, which was pretty fantastic," said Robert Barrows, a realtor in Hartford, who was co-chairman of the McGovern-for-President Committee here "but I can't imagine why they would be investigating."

Harvey Koizim, former treasurer of the McGovern-for-President Connecticut Committee said the committee's records had already been thoroughly inspected by the General Accounting Office.

"I'm just completely floored," the Westport lawyer said. "We had no inkling that anything was going on at all. We have gone through a thorough audit and we're closing out our books and I know of no irregularities that have been brought to my attention."

He said the audit, completed earlier this year, had disclosed no irregularities. "They've been through all our books, they've verified them, they checked our expenditures and where they wanted additional information we have supplied it. In my judgment, everything is in order."