

Bahamas Blame U.S. In Vesco Arrest Delay

NASSAU, Bahamas, Sept. 14 (AP)—The Bahamian government said today inaction by American officials was holding up a decision on a U.S. request for the extradition of financier Robert L. Vesco.

Foreign Minister and Attorney General Paul Adderley said the United States has not responded to a request from the Bahamian chief magistrate for further legal information necessary before a warrant could be issued for Vesco's arrest.

"Merely a request for arrest and extradition is not enough," Adderley told a news conference. He declined to say what further information was needed.

Vesco has been indicted in the United States along with former U.S. Attorney General John N. Mitchell and former Commerce Secretary Maurice Stans in connection with a \$200,000 cash contribution to

President Nixon's re-election campaign last fall.

U.S. attempts to extradite Vesco from Costa Rica have been rejected by that country's courts. The whereabouts of Vesco, 37, were unknown today. He has a home here.

Adderley said the Bahamas "has been subjected to a considerable amount of ill-informed comment" from the press in connection with U.S. Justice Department efforts to extradite Vesco, a U.S. citizen who also claims Costa Rican citizenship.

"Most, if not all, this comment has by accident or design been calculated to convey the impression that the judiciary in the Bahamas has in some way been at fault or indeed has improperly conspired to refuse to have him returned to the United States," said Adderley.

"Extradition is a judicial, not a political, exercise."