

Nixon 'Unaware' of Hughes Donation

Washington

The White House said yesterday President Nixon was unaware of the \$100,000 in campaign contributions reportedly given to his personal friend Charles G. (Bebe) Rebozo by billionaire Howard Hughes.

The denial of presidential knowledge was made by deputy press secretary Gerald L. Warren, who had conferred with Mr. Nixon after being questioned sharply by reporters earlier.

Warren said he did not know specifically when the President became aware of the reported contributions. He said he assumed it was

when news reports about the transactions were first published.

At the earlier briefing, Warren had repeated that Mr. Nixon never received any of the funds apparently given Rebozo in 1969 and 1970 and kept for several years in a safe deposit box.

The questions were raised one day after the Washington Post reported that the Senate Watergate committee is investigating Mr. Nixon's personal finances because members have turned up contradictions from witnesses concerning the \$100,000.

Associated Press