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**Gurney Concedes  
Inquiry on Funds  
Given by Builders**

WASHINGTON Oct. 31 (UPI) —Senator Edward J. Gurney, Republican of Florida, who is a member of the Senate Watergate committee, said today that the Justice Department was investigating allegations that builders had secretly contributed money to him and expected favors from the Federal Housing Administration in return.

The Miami Herald reported that more than \$300,000 had been collected from "boosters" and was used to pay for Senator Gurney's office, travel and

other expenses. The Herald said that the fund had been set up by Larry E. Williams, who was described as "a former Gurney aide."

A Justice Department spokesman refused to comment on the report.

Assistant Inspector General Charles L. Demsey of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, which administers the housing administration, also declined to comment.

Senator Gurney, however, issued a brief statement saying that the Justice Department "has an ongoing investigation of the situation."

"The Justice Department has asked that neither me nor any member of my staff make any comment until the investigation is concluded," Mr. Gurney said.

Duke Crittenden, the Republican party chairman in Florida in 1970, was quoted in The Miami Herald as saying that he contributed less than \$1,000 to the fund through Mr. Williams but that he couldn't "remember any details about the fund . . . that was too long ago."