

NOV 26 1973

Vesco Link To Drug Deal

Reported

SFChronicle

Washington

An undercover agent has told Senate investigators a federal narcotics probe was halted after he linked financier Robert L. Vesco to a heroin smuggling scheme, the New York Times reported yesterday.

Vesco, 37, is under indictment in New York, along with two former members of President Nixon's cabinet, in connection with an illegal \$200,000 campaign contribution to the President's reelection effort last year.

The Times said undercover man Frank Peroff supplied information for six months to federal agencies about a plan to smuggle 100 kilograms of heroin.

Then, the Times said, Peroff notified the government he had been told Vesco was to provide \$300,000 to buy the heroin.

After Peroff's information was provided, government support of the probe, including use of an airplane, was withdrawn, the Times said.

The staff of the Senate permanent subcommittee on investigations has contacted officials of federal agencies about what was done with the information, the newspaper added.

The Times said Peroff had no specific proof Vesco was involved. The newspaper added that Peroff said he provided information he said had been given to him by Conrad Bouchard of Montreal, the purported organizer of the smuggling operation.

United Press