

NYTimes DEC. 10 1973
**Architect Ties Loss
Of U.S. Contract
To Gift Refusal**

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8 (AP)—The Washington Star-News reported today that a New York City architectural firm lost out on a \$507,000 Federal contract shortly after its senior partner declined to make a substantial contribution to President Nixon's re-election campaign.

The Star-News reported that Walter Kilham, senior partner of Kilham, Beder & Chu, said he received two telephone calls during the summer of 1972 from men he described as representatives of Maurice H. Stans, then chairman of the Finance Committee, to Re-elect the President. Mr. Kilham said he could not recall their names. He described the first call this way for The Star-News:

"The man thanked me for a previous contribution I had made to the party of \$25,000. Then he wanted to know if I'd make a more substantial contribution. I told him I'd still vote Republican except for the President. I told him I decided that Nixon wasn't a good character."

A Second Caller

Several days later, a second caller "said he was phoning prominent citizens around the country for Maurice Stans and was seeking substantial contributions because the committee was hard up for funds. I said no, I would not contribute," Mr. Kilham was quoted by the paper as saying.

Shortly thereafter, Mr. Kilham was told by the General Services Administration that his company would not get a contract to design the Lister Hill Center for Bio-Medical Communication at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md., The Star-News reported.

The paper said that Mr. Kilham's firm was rejected despite having performed three feasibility studies earlier for the project, having already designed a library of which the new facility would be a part, and despite being among 60 firms recommended for the project by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

The contract went instead to a Philadelphia company. The Star-News said, that had not been recommended.

In a related development, Representative Les Aspin, Democrat of Wisconsin, said officials of the country's 100 biggest defense contractors gave more than \$5.4 million to President Nixon's re-election campaign last year. He said the figure represented only the known contributions.