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SFChronicle Action by Common Cause

New Subpoena of Nixon Donor Records

Washington

Common Cause subpoenaed President Nixon yesterday to turn over lists and records of major 1972 campaign contributors, including many of the 7500 persons who got "thank-you" gifts after Mr. Nixon's landslide victory.

A Common Cause lawyer, Kenneth Guido, said subpoenas were issued because the organization had been told by the finance committee of the Nixon re-election organization that a number of records requested by Common Cause are in White House custody and cannot be produced.

Guido said the subpoena

differs from similar requests for the White House documents by the Senate committee and Watergate the special Watergate prosecutor because "This is not a suit between branches of government, and we are seeking political documents, not governmental docu-ments. Therefore there can be no claim of executive privilege."

Common Cause, a citizens' action organization, won a long civil suit last fall against the finance committee of the Committee to reelect the President, seeking to compel disclosure of campaign contributions and expenditures in the period before strict reporting requirements of the 1971 federal election law took effect.

At that time, U.S. District Judge Joseph Waddy or-dered the Nixon fund-raisers to make public previously secret lists of contributions before April 7, 1972.

Yesterday's subpoenas name Mr. Nixon; Rose Mary Woods, his secretary; Charles W. Colson, a former White House aide, seven other individuals involved with the fund-raising committee or in auditing its records, and the American Security and Trust Bank of Washington.

The summons calls on Mr. Nixon or a designated representative to appear January

31 at the office of Common Cause's general counsel, Mitchell Rogovin, with a long list of documents, including:

- Mailing labels or lists from which 12,500 names selected to receive medallions in the form of glass stars as mementos of appreciation after the 1972 election. An attorney for the finance committee was quoted as saying 7500 of the "thank -you" gifts went to persons who contributed \$5000 or more.
- Political memoranda and other documents from the White House files of former presidential aides Gordon Strachan and H.R. Haldeman.
- Letters from Mr. Nixon and Miss Woods acknow-ledging or thanking campaign contributors.
- Documents involving political fund bank accounts and records held by Herbert Kalmbach, Mr. Nixon's former personal attorney; Charles (Bebe) Rebozo, his longtime personal friend; F.M. Raine Jr., Haldeman's brother-in-law, and Thomas W. Evans, one of Mr. Nixon's former law partners.

If the President wishes to resist the subpoenas, his lawyers may appear before Waddy and seek to have themquashed.

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