

Rebozo Testimony on Hughes Gift

Washington

President Nixon's close friend, Charles G. (Bebe) Rebozo, said in sworn testimony released yesterday that the only person with whom he discussed a \$100,000 contribution from billionaire Howard Hughes was Mr. Nixon's personal secretary, Rose Mary Woods.

Rebozo said the president

was not aware that a Hughes aide made the two-part contribution in 1969 and 1970.

Rebozo made the statement in a deposition taken by lawyers for Common Cause, the citizen's lobby which has sued the Nixon re-election committee for full disclosure of its campaign financing.

"The only person that I told about the money was the President's secretary," Rebozo said. "I just thought that somebody close to the President should know about it if anything happened to me."

He said Hughes' agents tried to make the contribution to him in 1968, but he turned them down several

times because of adverse publicity when the President's brother, F. Donald Nixon, received a \$205,000 loan from Hughes in the 1950s.

The climate had changed in late 1969, and he decided to accept the funds, Rebozo said.

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