

GURNEY IS ACCUSED OF APARTMENT DEAL

~~NY TIMES~~

MIAMI, March 31 (AP) — A former fund-raiser for Senator Edward J. Gurney, Republican of Florida, has sworn under oath that Mr. Gurney once approved the exchange of Federal Housing Authority influence for a free ocean-front apartment, a newspaper quoted unidentified sources as saying last night.

The Miami Herald reported in today's issue that the sources said the fund-raiser, Larry E. Williams, told Federal investigators that Senator Gurney said "fine" when he was informed that he would get the apartment in return for his influence with the Housing Authority. The alleged favor-exchange was never completed, The Herald said.

Mr. Williams, a 29-year-old Orlando man, is serving a one-year prison sentence. He pleaded guilty to attempted tax evasion and channeling illegal payments to an F. H. A. official. The indictments were handed up by a Federal grand jury investigating secret funds allegedly raised for Senator Gurney's expenses and Housing Authority connections with those funds.

The condominium apartment, overlooking the Atlantic Ocean at Vero Beach, was secretly reserved for Mr. Gurney for nearly two years, The Herald quoted its sources as saying. Senator Gurney bought it for \$55,000 last August.