

Nixon Friends' Tax Probe Told

Washington

Special Watergate prosecutor Leon Jaworski has subpoenaed the federal income tax returns of Charles G. (Bebe) Rebozo and Robert H. Abplanalp, two of President Nixon's closest friends, in the investigation of a \$100,000 campaign contribution from Howard R. Hughes, well-placed sources said yesterday.

These sources said a prosecution task force headed by Thomas F. McBride, a special assistant to Jaworski, has been investigating the circumstances of the Hughes contribution since early this year.

Jaworski's office refused to comment on the inquiry. However, it is known that the federal prosecutors were working closely with investigators from the Senate Watergate committee in an attempt to determine whether Rebozo had violated any campaign financing laws in his handling of the \$100,000 gift, which was given to him in two \$50,000 allotments, all in \$100 bills, in 1969 and 1970.

Senators Sam J. Ervin Jr. and Howard H. Baker Jr., chairman and vice chairman of the Watergate committee, reviewed the committee's evidence in a meeting yesterday and, Baker said, agreed to issue more subpoenas for documents determined to be necessary to its attempt to verify independently recent testimony by Herbert W. Kalmbach.

Kalmbach, President Nixon's former personal attorney on April 30, 1973, that he

ney, reportedly testified before the Senate Watergate committee that Rebozo told him at a White House meeting had "used" portions of the Hughes contribution to make loans or gifts to Mr. Nixon's two brothers, F. Donald and Edward C.; to the President's personal secretary, Rose Mary Woods, "and others."

Spokesmen for Rebozo, Donald Nixon and Miss Woods have denied the report. Rebozo and Mr. Nixon have publicly said that the \$100,000 was left untouched by Rebozo in his safe deposit box until the Internal Revenue Service began an inquiry into the money last year.

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