

Report of Stans' Fund Solicitation

Winston-Salem, N.C.

Maurice H. Stans, chief fund-raiser for President Nixon's re-election campaign, tried unsuccessfully to solicit an illegal \$45,000 contribution from the Wachovia Corp., in October, 1972, an official of the corporation said yesterday.

The story was first published in the Winston-Salem Journal.

John F. Watlington Jr., chairman of the board of Wachovia Corp., said the Journal story is accurate but said the newspaper developed the story through its own sources and "I don't feel I should make any further comment."

The Journal said Stans, former Secretary of Com-

merce and chairman of the Finance Committee for Re-election of the President, made the request during a motel room meeting with Watlington.

The Journal said its sources said Stans told Watlington that he had "appraised" the Wachovia Corp. and concluded that an appropriate contribution to the campaign would be about \$45,000.

The sources said Watlington rejected Stans' request on the grounds that corporate contributions to political campaigns are prohibited by federal law. They said Watlington also told Stans that the Wachovia Corp. would not provide any funds under any circumstances.

United Press