

# Accountant Stans Aided 2 Presidents

By a Washington Post Staff Writer

NEW YORK, April 28—Maurice Hubert Stans, 66, is a wealthy certified public accountant who served as Mr. Nixon's principal fund-raiser in both of his successful presidential campaigns. Between those campaigns, he was Mr. Nixon's first Secretary of Commerce.

He has steadfastly proclaimed his innocence in the scandals enveloping the Nixon administration.

"Give me back my good name," he pleaded before a nationwide television audience in his appearance at the Senate hearings last summer.

That appearance related to Stans' efforts in raising \$60 million for the 1972 re-election campaign of President Nixon. Part of the money found its way into the hands of the Watergate burglars, but Stans maintained he had nothing to do with that.

Stans occupied a number of posts under President Eisenhower, during which time he came to know then Vice President Nixon. In 1953 he became a consultant to the Postmaster General, then became a deputy postmaster general, then moved to the Bureau of the Budget, first as deputy director and finally as director of the budget.

His attorney, Walter J. Bonner of Washington, made much during the trial of Stans' self-made rise from his humble origins in Minnesota to a position of personal wealth and public responsibility, where he was handling huge sums almost casually as budget director. The last national budget for which he was responsible totaled \$77 billion.

As a man "used to dealing in big numbers," Bonner argued to the jurors, why should Stans be so impressed with a mere \$200,000 from financier Robert Vesco to bother influencing anything in his behalf?

Stans' demeanor with the jurors in four days before them was chatty and warm, in contrast to that of Mitchell, who seemed annoyed at times.

Elected to the Accountants Hall of Fame in 1960, Stans is an ardent big-game hunter and has taken part in several African safaris. He is said to have been the first American to shoot a bongo—an African antelope—in the Congo.