

Stans' Refusal on Subpoenaed Files

Washington

Maurice H. Stans, President Nixon's campaign finance chairman, is refusing to surrender three file cabinets of political documents needed for a probe of possible bribery, conspiracy and illegal campaign contributions, the special prosecutor's office said yesterday.

After reading a petition from the prosecutor's office, Chief U.S. District George L. Hart Jr. ordered Stans and his attorneys to appear May 15 to show cause why the subpoena should not be enforced and the documents produced.

Associate Special Prosecutor Thomas F. McBride said in a statement filed with the court that the investigation also concerns possible violation of the law prohibiting promises of government employment or favors in return for political action.

McBride told the court the keys to the files in the headquarters of the Committee for the Re-Election of the President were turned over to Stans' personal attorney after the subpoena was served February 25.

"It appears that Mr. Stans has attempted to place these documents beyond the reach of the grand jury on the basis of his Fifth Amendment privilege against compulsory self-incrimination," the special prosecutor's office said.

Special Prosecutor Leon Jaworski argued in another brief filed with the court that records maintained in connection with political campaigns are not protected by the Fifth Amendment because they are not personal in nature.

He said he wants only Stans' appointment books, telephone logs, political files, contribution records

and all lists prepared by him recommending political contributors for appointment to federal posts. The files date back to Mr. Nixon's 1968 presidential campaign.

The subpoena also asked for all lists of persons who were solicited and refused to contribute to Nixon's campaign, "including but not limited to any list designated an 'S' list."

Stans, a former secretary of commerce, and former Attorney General John N. Mitchell were acquitted in U.S. District Court in New York City last week on charges of conspiracy, obstruction of justice and perjury stemming from a \$200,000 contribution to the Nixon campaign by fugitive millionaire Robert Vesco.

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