

Vesco Jet Spirited to U.S. and

By Philip Greer

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NEW YORK, May 11—Acting under a highly unusual court order, Robert L. Vesco's former personal pilot spirited the fugitive financier's private jetliner out of Panama and into Newark Airport Friday afternoon.

The pilot, Alwin Eisenhauer, acted under an impoundment order signed by New Jersey

Supreme Court Judge Irwin I. Kimmelman at the request of attorney John J. McLaughlin, the court-appointed receiver for Fairfield General Corp., which owns the Boeing 707.

The impoundment is legal despite the unorthodox method to bring the jet here. It marked a second time the plane has been seized to satisfy creditors' claims.

In an interview today, Eisenhauer refused to disclose how he managed to get the plane out of Teumen Airport in Panama. He said he is writing a book, and the details will make up the last chapter. "It's going to make the book rather exciting," he said.

It was learned, however, that Eisenhauer and a crew of two posed as test engineers at the Panama airport. Using money supplied by McLaughlin, with court approval, he bought enough fuel for a test flight but instead flew to Mexico City where he bought more fuel and flew on to Miami, then to Newark.

Eisenhauer is a candidate

for the Republican nomination for a Morris County, N.J., legislative post, and says he plans to run for governor. He said he brought the plane back because he had not been paid money due him under his old contract with Fairfield General.

"When a man signs a contract and the time comes to make payment, I don't think it's fair for him to say you have to stand in line with everybody else," Eisenhauer said. He was referring to Joel Grady, former head of Fairfield General and, before that, an officer of International Controls Corp., which was controlled by Vesco.

The pilot said he learned "through contracts" that the jet—which includes a discotheque, a sauna and a wine cellar, in addition to built-in stereo and movie systems—was in Panama. He said it had been there 36 days, but he did not know whether Vesco was in that country.

"I have nothing against Mr. Vesco," Eisenhauer said. "As

far as I'm concerned, the aircraft belonged to a corporation and my differences are with that corporation."

Vesco left the United States in February, 1973, just before it was revealed that he had secretly contributed \$200,000 in cash to President Nixon's reelection campaign while the SEC was investigating his affairs. He has since been in-

Seized

dicted here three times and two efforts to extradite him, one from Costa Rica and one from the Bahamas, have failed.

Asked if he thought Vesco would be upset by the loss of the jetliner, which he frequently treated as a flying pleasure palace, Eisenhauer said, "That's been suggested to me but in stronger language."