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Nixon campaign funds to pay Stans' trial costs

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Leftover 1972 Nixon campaign funds will be used to pay nearly \$400,000 in legal expenses of former fund raiser Maurice H. Stans, according to a report filed with the government.

Trustees for \$3.4 million held by the 1972 Campaign Liquidation Trust also expect to decide whether to pay legal costs for former campaign manager John Mitchell. They also have been presented a bill for \$27,873 by lawyers for Edward Nixon, brother of President Nixon.

Stans and Mitchell were acquitted in federal court this spring on charges arising from a \$200,000 secret contribution to the Nixon campaign by fugitive financier Robert Vesco.

Before joining the campaign in 1972, Stans was secretary of commerce and Mitchell was attorney general.

The trust, which holds money unspent by the Committee for the Re-election of the

President, operates under articles which provide that legal fees may be paid for former employes of the campaign who are acquitted of charges arising from their campaign work.

A report of trust finances as of May 31 was filed yesterday with the General Accounting Office.

The report shows the trust has current obligations of \$559,893. Of this, \$381,692 is for Stans' legal fees. Another \$14,729 has already been paid.

Bills for Mitchell's lawyers have not been submitted.

Trustees have already decided in principle to pay Stans' bills.

The three trustees are Guilford Dudley Jr., a Tennessee businessman; Charles E. Potter, a former U.S. senator from Michigan, and Stans.

Richard Galliher, attorney for the trust, said Stans did not participate in the trustees' decision to pay Stans' legal fees.



Lawyers Plato Cacheris and William Hundley, representing John Mitchell, are all smiles entering court today.

—UPI Photo