

# Nixon Campaign Financing Is Assailed

WASHINGTON, June 18 (UPI) — A Senate Watergate committee staff report has concluded that abuses in President Nixon's 1972 campaign "spanned the entire spectrum of corrupt campaign financing."

"Some solicitations were tinged with extortion and some contributions were tinged with bribery," the report says. It adds that large corporations engaged "in discussions or negotiations related to their self-interest, in connection with the contributions."

The report, approved by the committee chairman Sam J. Ervin Jr., Democrat of North Carolina, was sent to the six other committee members today for inclusion in their final report. A copy of the 41-page report was obtained by United Press International.

"The abuses uncovered in connection with the 1972 Presidential campaign spanned virtually the entire spectrum of corrupt campaign practices," the report says, continuing:

"Huge cash contributions—legal and illegal—were transported to campaign offices in everything from plain white

envelopes to airline flight bags and utilizing corporate-funded tickets and even corporate jets. The resources of corporations and government contractors were tapped.

"Foreign nationals, out of the reach of scrutiny by American officials, gave contributions, or made loans for contributions."

## Financing Curbs Proposed

The report contained a number of recommendations for legislation to cut campaign financing abuses. Included were proposals to limit cash contributions, put a ceiling on expenditures for Presidential campaigns and prohibit large cash contributions. The report recommends that the committee take no position on the public financing of campaigns, since the members apparently were sharply divided on the question.

The specific recommendations made by the staff included the following:

¶Creation of an independent, nonpartisan federal elections commission to enforce campaign spending laws.

¶Prohibition of cash expedi-

tures and cash contributions in excess of \$100.

¶Prohibition of campaign contributions by foreign nationals.

¶Limitation of candidates to a single campaign finance committee.

¶Limitation on over-all campaign expenditures. The staff proposed a spending limit of 12 cents for each person of voting age during a general election.

¶Limitation of \$3,000 on political contributions by any one individual to a Presidential campaign.

¶Limitation of \$6,000 on the contributions from large organizations such as the milk producers.

¶Prohibition against Government officials on the White House payroll or serving by Presidential appointment participating in soliciting campaign contributions for a period of up to one year after leaving government service.

The staff also recommended an increase in the penalty for illegal corporate or union contributions from one year to five years in jail.