

6 Noted Virginians Disavow Support for Pro-Nixon Ad

RICHMOND, June 25 (AP) —A newspaper ad has been repudiated by six prominent Virginians whose names it listed among a group of "The President's Friends." Two others listed in the ad were dead.

The six said they did not authorize the use of their names and have not contributed to the organization that placed the advertisements in Saturday's Richmond Times-Leader and Monday's Times-Dispatch.

The ads solicited money to support President Nixon in his Watergate difficulties and said they were paid for by Jim Lockett & Associates of Richmond.

Lockett told the Times-Dispatch he received the names from George N. DuMas of Savannah, Ga., whom he identified as founder and national director of "The President's Friends."

Lockett said he didn't know where DuMas got the names, but noted that "other people could have the same names" as the Virginians listed in the quarter-page ads.

DuMas could not be reached for comment in Savannah. His former landlady, Eloise Davis, said Tuesday she had "asked him to move" some time ago and that he now lives in an apartment over a barber shop and has no telephone.

Last December, DuMas received a letter from President Nixon thanking him for promoting a nationwide grassroots campaign in Nixon's behalf.

Virginians listed in the advertisement included former Lt. Gov. Fred G. Pollard, Richmond Police Chief Frank S. Duling, State Corporation Commissioner Junie Bradshaw, state legislator George E. Allen Jr., Richmond Commissioner of Revenue Julian H. Osborne and former State Sen. John J. Wicker Jr.

The six said they had not authorized use of their names in

connection with activities of "The President's Friends," and none could recall ever having made a contribution to the organization.

Bradshaw issued a statement in which he expressed dismay at the inclusion of his name and emphasized he had never supported nor espoused the politics of President Nixon.

"I do support the office of the presidency," he said. "I think there is a proper distinction to be drawn. I certainly can support and revere the nation's top office while withholding my backing from an individual whose administration has demeaned this high office."

Wicker said he was a Nixon supporter but emphasized that he does not support "The President's Friends."

"I object very much to the use of my name," he said.

The ads also listed the names of Garland M. Harwood Jr., former secretary of the Democratic State Central Committee, and former Democratic Rep. Vaughn Gary of Richmond. Both died about a year ago.

Before the ads were published, the Times-Dispatch said, DuMas had certified on the stationery of his organization that all the names used were "legitimate numbers and supporters of this organization."