

# Democrats' Watergate Lawsuit Against Nixon Committee Settled

By DAVID E. ROSENBAUM

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Aug. 9—The Democratic National Committee and the Committee for the Re-election of the President agreed today in United States District Court here to settle their lawsuits that arose from the Watergate burglary.

Former President Richard M. Nixon's campaign committee paid a total of \$775,000 to the Democratic party, Lawrence F. O'Brien, the former party chairman, and the Association of State Chairmen.

Mr. O'Brien, as part of the agreement, turned over his share—\$400,000—to the National party's treasury.

The Democratic National Committee, the state chairmen and Mr. O'Brien had asked for \$6.4-million, accusing Mr. Nixon's campaign committee and its finance unit of wiretapping, invasion of privacy, trespassing and conspiracy to commit various civil offenses. They were based on the break-in on June 17, 1972, at the Democrats' national headquarters, then in the Watergate complex.

Lawyers for all sides said today it was coincidental that the suits were officially settled on the day that Mr. Nixon left office. The amount of the settlement had been agreed upon months ago.

Mr. O'Brien issued a statement in which he said he had never intended to benefit financially from the suits.

He said that he hoped the proceeds would be applied to a "program designed to re-enlist the confidence of the American people in our two-party

system." He challenged George Bush, the Republican national chairman to donate a like amount for the effort.

Mr. Bush could not be reached for comment.

Suits against Mr. Nixon's campaign committee by James W. McCord Jr., a convicted Watergate burglar, and R. Spencer Oliver, the head of the Association of State Chairmen, whose phone was tapped, are pending.

8-10-74

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