

Ex-Nixon Aide Pleads Guilty

Washington

Former Nixon aide Jack A. Gleason pleaded guilty yesterday of overseeing a secret White House - controlled organization created to funnel up to \$3 million to selected GOP congressional candidates in the 1970 elections.

Gleason administered the fund both before and after quitting his White House staff job in June, 1970, government prosecutors indicated.

Prosecution sources said the fund organization operated out of the basement back room of a Washington townhouse.

U.S. District Judge George Hart delayed sentencing.

Gleason, who has agreed to testify as a government witness, was released on his own recognizance pending a pre-sentence investigation. He faces a maximum sentence of a \$1000 fine and one year in prison.

A spokesman for the Watergate special prosecutor's office said the fund organization — controlled by the White House — apparently was set up on Oct. 22, 1969, and remained in operation through Dec. 3, 1970.

Money for the fund, obtained from wealthy Republican donors, was fed in cash and checks to crucial contests in Maryland, Tennes-

see. Florida, Indiana, North Dakota and elsewhere, prosecution sources said.

Gleason was charged with "aiding and abetting a violation" of the old Corrupt Practices Act, which made it illegal for a political committee to support candidates in two or more states without having a treasurer who filed public reports on Capitol Hill.

The prosecution spokesman said the secret fund apparently involved three persons — a money raiser, Herbert Kalmbach, who was former President Nixon's personal lawyer and already has pleaded guilty, an administrator and a political decision-maker.

Gleason was identified as the administrator. The decision-maker has not been named.

The Washington Star - News reported yesterday that former Nixon political adviser Harry S. Dent, now counsel to the GOP National Committee, is negotiating with prosecutors on a similar guilty plea.

The prosecutor's office said only that the investigation is continuing.

Gleason worked in the White House as a staff assistant to Dent and a consultant to Mr. Nixon's former No. 2 aide, John D. Ehrlichman.

United Press



AP Wirephoto

JACK GLEASON
Campaign law violation