

WXPost JAN 29 1975

2 Builders Plead Guilty In Nixon Gift

United Press International

A Baltimore construction company and its two top executives pleaded guilty yesterday to making an illegal \$5,000 corporate contribution to Richard M. Nixon's 1972 reelection campaign.

Entering the pleas were the firm of Ratrie, Robbins and Schweitzer Inc., a general construction company; its president, Harry Ratrie; and executive vice president Augustus Robbins III.

U. S. District Court Judge George L. Hart accepted the pleas and fined the corporation \$2,500 — half the maximum monetary penalty possible under the Campaign Contribution Act.

Ratrie and Robbins were not fined. They were placed on probation for one month after their lawyers told Hart the men had consulted with their company's accountant who indicated the contribution was legal.

The two officials could have received a \$1,000 fine and a year in jail.