

Fugitive Financier

Vesco Indicted Again

Fugitive international financier Robert Vesco was indicted yesterday for the fourth time as the United States government renewed its efforts to have him extradited from Costa Rica.

A federal grand jury alleged that Vesco and six associates in IOS Ltd., a Canadian firm undergoing liquidation, conspired to misappropriate more than \$100 million of its assets for their personal use.

Vesco, 41, fled the United States in 1973 shortly before he was named as co-defendant in the conspiracy indictment filed against former Attorney General John Mitchell and former Commerce Secretary Maurice Stans.

Mitchell and Stans were acquitted after a jury trial of charges that they used their influence to impede a massive Securities and Exchange Commission investigation of Vesco in 1972.

Stans and Mitchell were accused of using their influence in exchange for Vesco's \$200,000 cash contribution to President Nixon's 1972 re-election campaign, which Mitchell and Stans headed.

Vesco has thwarted two previous efforts to have him extradited from Costa Rica. He was reported in 1974 to be living in Costa Rica and associated there with Donald Nixon, the former President's nephew, who was hired by Vesco as his personal aide shortly after the SEC investigation began in March, 1972.

The latest indictment alleged that Vesco and his associates made a number of fraudulent investments, including \$20 million in Bahamian companies owned by a co-defendant. In another action, the indictment said, the group invested \$60 million in a Costa Rican company in which it had interests.

These alleged frauds, the indictment said, caused heavy damage to the interests of 225,000 IOS mutual fund holders. The Canadian company was engaged in the sale and management of various mutual funds.

Starting in 1970, Vesco controlled IOS and its subsidiaries, and controlled the disposition and investment of their assets.

United Press