

# Armand Hammer Pleads Guilty Again in Illegal Contributions

LOS ANGELES, March 4 (AP)—Industrialist Armand Hammer pleaded guilty today to three misdemeanor counts of making illegal contributions to former President Nixon's 1972 campaign.

Hammer, 77, came to the federal courtroom from a hospital and made his plea in a wheelchair.

The Chairman of Occidental Petroleum Corp. had

pleaded guilty to the charges once before in Washington, D.C., but the judge there overturned the plea after Hammer wrote a 20-page letter to his probation officer in which he blamed former Montana Gov. Tim Babcock for the \$54,000 in illegal contributions.

Asked today by U.S. District Court Judge Lawrence T. Lydick whether his new plea was being offered because he is guilty or because

he wants to dispose of the case, Hammer said: "I'm pleading because I'm guilty."

Lydick deferred sentencing until the federal probation service prepares a presentence report on Hammer.

Hammer, who has been hospitalized since Jan. 20 with what he told the judge is a cardiac condition, faces a maximum penalty of three years imprisonment and a \$3,000 fine.