

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION  
1325 K STREET, N. W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463RELEASE: ON RECEIPT  
Wednesday, September 24CONTACT: DAVID FISKE  
SUSAN TIFFT  
(202) 382-4733FEC PUBLISHES QUESTIONON PRESIDENTIAL TRAVEL

WASHINGTON - SEPTEMBER 24: The Federal Election Commission today published in the Federal Register a request for an Advisory Opinion (AOR) concerning when Presidential travel and activities must be chargeable to his campaign committee, and when they may be chargeable to the national political committee.

The question, AOR #1975-72, was brought up in a letter dated September 15, 1975 to the FEC from Republican National Committee Chairman Mary Louise Smith.

The FEC will take up the issue after a ten-day period for public comment. In anticipation of related questions on this subject, the FEC has established a Task Force on Candidate Allocation, which is studying Presidential travel and other party and candidate expenses.

According to Smith's letter, the Republican National Committee has allocated \$500,000 in 1975 to be spent on the activities of the President, the Vice-President and their aides "when engaged in the party role."

In explaining the distinction between political and party-related expenses, Smith wrote: "The purpose of the travel associated with these payments by the Republican National Committee was not to further the candidacy of the incumbent, but rather to further Republican Party interest."

Chairman Smith stated that the Republican National Committee does not assume expenses related to Presidential candidacy, or Presidential travel associated with the candidacy of other individuals.