

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

1325 K STREET N.W. WASHINGTON.D.C. 20463

REPORT OF THE AUDIT DIVISION ON THE MCGINNIS FOR CONGRESS COMMITTEE

I. Background

A. Overview

This report is based upon an audit of the McGinnis for Congress Committee, undertaken by the Audit Division of the Federal Election Commission in accordance with the Commission's audit policy to determine whether there has been compliance with the provisions of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act"). The audit was conducted pursuant to Section 438(a)(8) of Title 2, United States Code, which directs the Commission to make from time to time audits and field investigations with respect to reports and statements filed under the provisions of the Act.

The McGinnis for Congress Committee registered with the Federal Election Commission on October 29, 1976, as the principal campaign committee of Dr. Ralph Y. McGinnis, candidate for election to the U.S. House of Representatives from the 22nd Congressional District of Illinois. The Committee maintained its headquarters in Charleston, Illinois.

The audit covered the period April 1, 1976 through June 30, 1977. During this period, the Committee reported a beginning cash balance at 4/1/76 of \$-0-, total receipts of \$3,335.50, total expenditures of \$2,997.65, and ending cash of \$337.85 as of December 2, 1976, the closing date of the latest report filed.

This audit is based on documents and working papers supporting each of its factual statements. They form part of the record upon which the Commission based its decisions on the matters in this report and were available to Commissioners and appropriate staff for review.



B. Key Personnel

The principal officers of the Committee during the period audited were Mr. Ed Jenison, Chairman, and Mr. David Janssen, Treasurer.

C. Scope

The audit included such tests as verification of total reported receipts and expenditures and individual transactions; review of required supporting documentation; analysis of Committee debts and obligations; and, such other audit procedures as deemed necessary under the circumstances.

II. Auditor's Statement and Description of Findings

It is the opinion of the Audit staff, based upon examination of the reports and statements filed and the records presented, that, the reports and statements of the McGinnis for Congress Committee fairly present the financial activities of the Committee for the period covered by the audit. Further, except as noted below, no material problems in complying with the Federal Election Campaign Act were discovered during the course of the audit.

A. Filing of Disclosure Reports

Section 434(a)(1) of Title 2 of the United States Code and Section 104.1 of the Commission's Regulations require, in part, a political committee to file quarterly reports:

- (a) in an election year when contributions received or expenditures made in the calendar quarter exceed \$1000, except that a fourth quarter report must be filed regardless of the amounts of contributions and expenditure if the committee has outstanding debts and obligations; and
- (b) in a non election year, when contributions or expenditures, or both, the total amount of which, taken together, exceeds \$5,000.

In addition, in the first quarter for which a report is not required, the Committee must notify the Commission on FEC Form 3a or by letter.

The Audit staff determined that the Committee did not file a report covering activity 12/3/76 through 12/31/76 and did not notify the Commission that they were exempt from filing reports beginning with the first quarter of 1977. When notified of this finding, the Committeee treasurer acknowledged the discrepancy and indicated that he wished to file a termination report and would include all transactions from the close of the last report filed. The Committee filed the appropriate report with the Commission on December 5, 1977.

We further note, on the basis of Commission records that four (4) of six (6) Committee reports due in 1976 and its Statement of Organization were filed after the required filing dates. Four (4) of six (6) reports filed by the Candidate were also late. The Candidate explained that the lateness was due to personal commitments which absorbed much of his time.

Recommendation

Although the Committee failed on several occasions to make timely disclosure as required by the statute, we note that the Commission has already taken appropriate action and that all reports have been appropriately filed. Therefore we are recommending that no further action be taken.

CONGRESSIONAL AUDIT REPORT

Candidate/Committee: Dr. Ralph Y. McGinnis/McGinnis for Congress Committee

State: Illinois

District: 22

Location: 20 rural counties in southeastern Illinois

Political Party Affiliation: Republican

Major Opponent(s): George Shipley

Other Candidates Audited: George Shipley

Votes Cast: General Election - Shipley 129,187 (61.4%)

McGinnis 81,102 (38.6%)

Primary Election -

Total Receipts for Period: \$3,335.50

Total Expenditures for Period: \$2,997.65

First Elected (if applicable): N/A

