

activities.<sup>210</sup> Over time, Ickes noted, this three-way coordination also entailed the conduct of the campaign itself.

Ickes conferred several times a week with both the DNC and Clinton/Gore '96 finance leaders, and Fowler personally reported to Ickes systematically on the fund-raising operations and results at the DNC. According to Ickes, he and Fowler developed a close working relationship, speaking several times per week on various matters during the first half of 1995.

By the late summer of 1995, the DNC's role in support of the President's re-election campaign became further magnified. On Sept. 10, the White House determined that a major advertising campaign should be launched promptly, with the DNC financing issue ads supporting the President's accomplishments and agenda. This project significantly increased the DNC's fund-raising burden for the 1995-96 cycle, when the DNC assumed responsibility ultimately for raising approximately \$200 million in support of its various activities, including the media campaign supporting the President's re-election effort.

**c. DNC Native American Fund-Raising Prior to Spring 1995**

By early 1995, the DNC had received significant contributions from only a few Indian tribes. Though traditionally a strong Democratic constituency, Native Americans had long felt neglected by both major national political parties. During the 1992 general election, some Indian leaders mobilized their electorate by organizing Native Americans for Clinton-Gore (NACG), a national group directed primarily at organizing voter registration and turn-out drives in key states

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<sup>210</sup>Looking back on this activity, Ickes stressed that his fund-raising focus was on "aggregate" numbers and not individual contributors, and that the fund-raising itself was not done from the White House. Grand Jury Testimony of Harold Ickes, April 28, 1999, at 14-15 (hereinafter "Ickes G.J. Test.").