Mystique Suffers

Dodd Quiz Tarnishes The Senatorial Image

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The first week of the Senate Ethics Committee's inquiry into the conduct of Sen. Thomas J. Dodd (D-Conn.) has come to an end and one of the principal casualties has been the senatorial mystique.

To the ordinary people of the world the Senate of the United States symbolizes the best in American political life-a "citadel" of excellence, inhabited by important men doing important things.

That image is now tarnished.

Senators, as the world knows write books. It found

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out last week how they are written - by anomymous staff members who cull through piles of old speeches they have put together in times past. In Dodd's case,

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the testimony revealed, a book on communism and freedom was the product of a former administrative assistant, James P. Boyd Jr., who dashed off seven chapters, and a cold war adviser, David Martin, who wrote 14.

Senators, as the country is also aware, preside over committees with awesome powers of subpoena, discovery, and punishment, and none is more feared than the Senate Subcommittee on Internal Security.

But some of its reports, the Ethics Committee learned, have more bulk than substance. Sen. Doddi the subcommittee vice chairman, and his ghost writer, Martin, traveled to Germany in April, 1964, to explore the strange case of the Communist assassin Bogdan N. Stashinskiy.

In the course of the sixday trip they spent less than seven hours on the Stashin-skiy affair and collected copies of documents which has been moldering in their

files in Washington for nearly a year and which otherwise could have been obtained for the price of a postage stamp.

Document Published

Eleven months after this rip, a 163-page document vas published at public exense containing a half-page f testimony by Martin and three-page introduction by odd. Its account of the tashinskiy affair had been noroughly reported — with hotographs — two a half ears earlier by Life maga-

Senators, of course, have power in their own right. Presumably, they are independent men who have risen to the top of the most powerful government in the world and who live in an atmosphere dominated by the public interest. But as the Dodd case testimony clearly revealed last week, they appreciate affluence and accept what it represents from men like Julius Klein.

the Chicago public relations whose relationship with Sen. Dodd is the present subject of the inquiry by the Ethics Committee.

When Dodd went to New York - at least once a month - he was a guest in Klein's Essex House suite. If his family needed a place to freshen up or change clothes, the suite was available. When Klein's German clients and sponsors required entertainment Washington, Klein paid the bills with Dodd and other Senators as "hosts." When Dodd required money for campaigns and other political expenses, Klein was a willing contributor.

Expected to Reciprocate

This sort of generosity, the Committee learned last week, has a price. The Senator was expected to reciprocate in his own way. Klein badgered him — and others to promote the fortunes of Julius Klein Public Relations Inc. with clients in Germany who provided Klein with the money to rent Essex House suites.

Klein expected—and got—the Senator's sponsorship for a presidential appointment that never came through. Klein drafted—and Dodd signed and mailed—letters eulogizing Klein for the benefit of German Chancellor Ludwig Erhard. Klein also insisted that Dodd should travel to Germany in April, 1964, to promote personally Klein's business interests.

Whether Dodd went for that purpose—or to investigate Stashinskiy — is the crucial question before the Committee.

Confronted with all this, the Ethics Committee has been uncertain how to proceed. It was organized only a few months ago. It has never before investigated a Senator or the senatorial mystique.

Testifies on Monday

Should Dodd be compelled to testify? "It is entirely up to the Senator" said Committee chairman John Stennis (D-Miss) on Tuesday. Should Klein be called to testify? "That has not been decided," said Stennis on Monday. "Of course, he will be called," said Stennis on Tuesday. And by Wednesday, Dodd himself was asking to take the stand. He will be accommodated Monday.