

Klein Ex-Aide Backs

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Pressure Charges

Cites Calls To Dodd And Others

Senator Accuses His Ex-Secretary Of Perjury

By Richard Harwood
Washington Post Staff Writer

The former manager of foreign agent Julius Klein's Washington office told the Senate Ethics Committee yesterday that Klein exerted persistent pressures on Sen. Thomas J. Dodd (D-Conn.) and other Senators to promote his business interests in Germany.

"Senator Dodd was not the only Senator involved," said Helen Batherson. "He asked several Senators to do the same thing . . . because he had lost favor with his German clients . . ."

Miss Batherson described how Klein called "repeatedly day and night to pressure someone to do something for him" and, in Dodd's case,

underwrote luncheons, provided the Senator with the free use of a suite in the Essex House in New York, and supplied him with detailed instruction on how to promote Klein's interests in Germany in 1964.

Perjury Charged

Her testimony before the Ethics Committee came on a day largely dominated by Dodd himself. Shortly before the noon recess he rose dramatically in the hearing room to accuse his former personal secretary, Marjories Carpenter, of perjury.

He then accused the Committee counsel, Benjamin Fern, of treating him "unfairly."

Later in the day Dodd withdrew the charge against Fern, asked Attorney General Katzenbach to seek a perjury indictment against Mrs. Carpenter, and had a run-in with the vice chairman of the Committee, Sen. Wallace Bennett (R-Utah).

His clash with Bennett involved noise in the hearing room. Workmen were hammering nearby, distracting a witness favorable to Dodd.

Prearranged?

"I hope this wasn't prearranged," Dodd blurted.

"I object to that," Bennett replied.

Later, Bennett and Committee Chairman John Stennis (D-Miss.) implicitly rebuked Dodd for his statements about Fern.

"Anyone who impugns the motives of the counsel, impugns the motives of the Committee," said Stennis.

Bennett added: "I hope no one thinks they can separate

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the Committee and its counsel."

The uproar over "perjury" was the result of Mrs. Carpenter's testimony about Dodd's trip to Germany in April, 1964.

Prior to the trip, she said, there were numerous calls, letters and cablegrams from Klein or Miss Batherson on the subject of Dodd's German visit. In addition, she said, Kenneth Buchanan of Klein's Washington staff brought to Dodd's office a thick folder containing propaganda from Klein, letters of praise he had solicited from other Senators, and instructions to Dodd on how to deal with Klein's "friends" in Germany.

Trip Discussed

When Dodd returned, she said, his staff assistant, David Martin, who had gone to Germany with the Senator, discussed the trip in her presence with Gerald Zeiller, another Dodd assistant:

"Mr. Martin was . . . discussing the memos that . . . had come from Klein's office, and from the way he talked I believe that—he said that Senator Dodd had taken them with him to Germany and that he had referred to them . . . and that Mr. Martin was very concerned about it because he was afraid that, you know, the briefcase might get lost or somehow they would fall into the hands of someone unfriendly, and he thought it would cause trouble."

"And he said that Senator Dodd had mentioned General Klein's name to all the German officials they had visited while they were in Germany, and he said, 'I wonder how much General Klein paid Senator Dodd to do that.' And Mr. Zeiller . . . said, 'Oh, I have known General Klein for a long time' . . . and he sort of laughed. And Mr. Martin said, 'He must have paid \$10,000'. And Mr. Zeiller said, 'Oh, easily.'"

Procedural Discussion

Dodd's lawyer, John F. Sonnett, immediately interrupted. A procedural discussion followed over the admissibility of Mrs. Carpenter's statement about the \$10,000 . . . a comment she said she considered a "cynical joke" by Martin, rather than a bona fide accusation.

Sonnett demanded that Martin and Zeiller be called at once to refute her statement and then Dodd stood up:

"I don't think this would



Associated Press

MARJORIE CARPENTER
... \$10,000—a cynical joke?

be allowed to take place in any forum, and I think as a matter of fairness to me these two witnesses . . . should be called in here immediately and put under oath. Otherwise over the news wires this afternoon is going to go this falsehood. Now I think it is a matter of fundamental fairness I am entitled to that.

"I think," Dodd added, "the American people will think so as well and I am going to ask that the Attorney General proceed with a perjury charge."

There was a burst of applause in the room.

Stennis at first ruled that Mrs. Carpenter's statement would be stricken from the record. He then tentatively agreed to call Martin and Zeiller at once, but changed his mind. Still later, it was decided that Mrs. Carpenter's testimony would stay in the record.

Denial Made

Zeiller took the stand after lunch to deny that he had ever had the conversation with Martin described by Mrs. Carpenter, although he remembered a discussion of the briefing memos supplied to Dodd by Klein.

Zeiller said the memos were "extremely heavy handed," "overdone," "self-serving" and "terrible."

Martin said he "exploded" when he read Klein's instructions to Dodd. He assured the Committee he had had no discussion with Zeiller of the kind Mrs. Carpenter related.

Outside the hearing room Mrs. Carpenter said: "I'll be glad to take a lie detector test."

Despite these distractions, the Committee stuck to its main theme in the present phase of its inquiry into misconduct charges against Dodd:

Did he "abuse" his position

as a Senator by going to Germany to help Klein's public relations firm win back or retain clients disenchanted by the disclosure of Klein's activities by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in 1963?

James P. Boyd Jr., former administrative assistant to Dodd, testified Wednesday that Dodd made the trip on Klein's behalf, although his ostensible purpose was to gather information for the Senate Subcommittee on Internal Security.

Another Testifies

Mrs. Carpenter testified that she thought Dodd made the trip for both reasons—to get information for the Subcommittee and to help Klein. Another former secretary in the Senator's office, Terry Golden, told the Committee she knew nothing about the purpose of the trip but had overheard Martin remark one day that he was worried about Dodd's relationship with Klein and had warned the Senator about it.

Miss Batherson, who ran Klein's Washington office from 1963 until last November, told of "innumerable" calls from Klein to Dodd asking the Senator "to intervene to promote (Klein's) image . . . in regard to clients he had lost as a result of the Foreign Relations hearings."

Klein, she said, "is very persuasive." She said he collected letters of praise from Senators and used them to impress his clients. Klein also got Senators to put into the Congressional Record articles publicizing his entertainment of foreign clients. Thousands of reprints were then sent out to these clients, Miss Batherson said.

She said Dodd was one of several Senators who were urged by Klein to use his suite in the Essex House in New York. Two other Essex House guests of Klein, she said, have "passed on."

She told reporters later that she was referring to the late Sen. Styles Bridges (R-N.H.) and the late Sen. Estes Kefauver (D-Tenn.).

Dodd used the suite once a month on the average, she said.

In preparation of Dodd's trip to Germany in 1964, Miss Batherson said, Klein sent the Senator a public relations packet containing letters from numerous members of Congress including Sen. Hubert Humphrey before he became Vice President.

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Friday, June 24, 1966

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There were two Humphrey apologized for not replying to in writing many times and you letters. One, dated January 10, three previous letters of Klein, have the demonstration of 1964, saluted Klein as "my saying. "I just didn't think such respect by many personal dear friend Julius" and gave you needed a letter. . . . I acts on my part." Klein permission "to show this can't quite believe that it is Humphrey complained to letter to anyone you please necessary to give a personal Klein about a letter in "very including the representatives of the German government."

to our friendship again and again as poor taste" from German testimony again and as to my Ambassador Heinrich Knapp- ing your clients. Furthermore,

U.S. for wheat sales to Eastern Europe: "I don't need any lecture from the German Ambassador." In his letter of February 6, 1964, Humphrey sympathized with Klein because of the bad publicity he received from the Foreign Relations hearings showed that "you have done a very good job of representing your clients. Furthermore,

those hearings and reports reveal that you have a host of friends in the Congress. . . . in both political parties. . . . Other laudatory letters put into the record yesterday were written by Sen. Wayne Morse (D-Oregon), Sen. Abraham Ribicoff (D-Conn.), Sen. Karl Mundt (R-S.D.), Sen. Stuart Symington (D-Mo.), former Sen. Kenneth Keating (R-N.Y.) and Sen. Jacob Javits (R-N.Y.)