

4000 Copies of Dodd Documents Barred as Inquiry Evidence

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The Senate investigation into misconduct charges against Sen. Thomas J. Dodd (D-Conn.) began yesterday in an atmosphere of considerable uncertainty.

The uncertainty centered first on reports that Julius Klein, a foreign agent and public relations man from Chicago, would not be asked to testify on the charge that Dodd acted as Klein's "errand boy."

A second note of uncertainty — or confusion — involved a decision by the Senate Ethics Committee, which is conducting the inquiry, to permit Dodd and his lawyer, John F. Sonnett, to cross-examine witnesses. This privilege is not provided for in the formal rules of the Committee. Nor is it clear whether the Committee will extend the privilege to anyone but Senator Dodd.

On the matter of Klein's testimony, Senator John Stennis (D-Miss.) said no subpoena has been issued for the Chicagoan and no decision has been made as to who will testify on the Dodd-Klein relationship.

"We'll make a decision on that when we come to it," Stennis said.

Klein has informed the Committee that he wishes to testify but he left recently for Europe and plans to be gone for several weeks, according to his Chicago office.

The Committee's interest in the Klein-Dodd relationship, Stennis said yesterday, centers on a trip Dodd made to Germany in April, 1964. Columnists Drew Pearson and Jack Anderson have charged that Dodd's mission on this trip was to improve Klein's relationship with his West German clients.

What happened on that trip, said Stennis, "appears to be a critical element of his relationship to Julius Klein" and would be relevant to the question whether Dodd had "abused" his position as a member of the Senate.

The only witness heard by the Committee yesterday was James P. Boyd Jr., Senator Dodd's administrative assistant until May 15, 1965.



Associated Press

JAMES P. BOYD JR.
... "opens" door to closed hearing

Boyd left the closed hearing room at midday to express his concern over the Committee's decision not to accept as evidence in the inquiry 4000 documents copied from Dodd's files by Boyd and others. Boyd

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also revealed that he would be cross-examined by Dodd and his lawyer.

Stennis later explained that the copied documents were "stigmatized" by the manner in which they were obtained, but that the most important of them have been supplied to the Committee by Dodd.

As for the crossexamination privilege afforded Dodd, Stennis said that in any proceeding as "serious" as an investigation of a Senator or a Senate employe, the right to crossexamination should be given, even though it is not specifically provided for in the rules. He declined to say whether other witnesses would qualify for the same privilege but pointed out that Boyd had made no such request.

Boyd told reporters he had great confidence in the committee, was "very pleased" by the way the inquiry began, and had decided to testify without the benefit of counsel and to answer all the Committee's questions.

He refused to discuss the testimony he gave yesterday other than to confirm that it dealt with the Klein-Dodd relationship.

He talked freely, however, of his decision to break with Dodd by turning over material in the Senator's files to columnist Anderson.

Boyd said he quarreled with Dodd over the Senator's 1964 campaign financing report. Boyd said the report understated the size of the campaign fund by about \$100,000 and overstated campaign expenses by \$40,000 to \$50,000.

He came to the conclusion, he said, that the "gravest (misconduct by Dodd)—morally, if not legally — was his personal appropriation of these hundreds of thousands of dollars."

The Klein-Dodd relationship, he said, was the "least important" element in his decision.

Before leaving Dodd's staff, Boyd said he made arrangements to copy thousands of documents, to get a key to Dodd's office, and to get the collaboration of other members of the staff.

Some of the documents were obtained before May 15, he said, and some were obtained later. They were turned over to Anderson rather than to the FBI or to the Senate, he said, in order to prevent Dodd from learning that he was under investigation.

"This was an extraordinary case," he said. "The normal law enforcement procedure could not apply because this involved a Senator . . . ethically and morally, I think I did the right thing."

Boyd will give more testimony before the Committee today on the Dodd-Klein relationship. It is probable, said Stennis, that the hearings would be opened to the public by the end of this week.