

Another Chapter in Sen. Dodd's Case

By Drew Pearson
and Jack Anderson

Here is another chapter in the strange case of Sen. Tom Dodd. It makes you understand why he doesn't want the Senate Ethics Committee to investigate his finances, and is all the more reason why they should be investigated.

This case involves the fact that the Senator from Connecticut reached all the way across the continent to San Francisco Bay to lobby for the construction of a high-rise apartment community obstructing the view of the Golden Gate.

Sen. Dodd telephoned, wrote and even flew out to see Gov. Edmund G. (Pat) Brown of California; pulled wires with Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall; and, made a dozen or so calls to Interior Department officials, to put across the California building project.

Dodd's excuse was that he was helping builder Thomas Frouge, a Connecticut constituent. What he didn't reveal was that he was Frouge's lawyer.

It is against the law for a member of Congress to accept a fee for a legal case involving the United States government. This is because a Senator accepts a salary from the government and is supposed to work exclusively for the government. He cannot divide his loyalty between the govern-

ment and a building contractor.

Despite this, builder Frouge admitted to us that he had retained Sen. Dodd as his personal attorney "for years."

"I am proud to have a United States Senator as my attorney," he said.

He refused to say how much he has paid Dodd, but admitted under questioning that he had financed a trip by the Senator to Sacramento in March, 1964, to call upon Gov. Brown.

Triple Expenses

As an insight into Sen. Dodd's ethics, it should be noted that he also charged the Senate Juvenile Delinquency Subcommittee for his trip, then turned around and charged the Los Angeles Junior Chamber of Commerce for the same trip.

Thus he got paid three ways for the same trip.

Actually he devoted less than 30 minutes to juvenile delinquency, discussing it at a joint press conference with Los Angeles Mayor Sam Yorty. Apparently this was long enough to collect the cost of the trip from the U.S. Senate.

Then Dodd addressed a Junior Chamber of Commerce banquet and collected another \$320.78 from it. This was paid by check No. 5059, dated March 26, 1964.

The Senator also billed Frouge for his \$43.78 side trip to Sacramento; likewise charged Frouge \$86.79 for his

"Beverly Hills Hotel expenses," despite the fact he stayed at the Ambassador Hotel as a non-paying guest. He also billed Frouge \$45 for "San Francisco hotel expenses."

Following his return from California, Dodd reported to Frouge on March 11, 1964: "I had a long, very pleasant and interesting chat with Governor Brown. Afterwards his chauffeur drove me to San Francisco, and I had an enjoyable visit with Mr. and Mrs. Grant. (Henry M. Grant is a vice president of the Frouge corporation in charge of the apartment city development.)

"I feel I did you some good, but I think there is more to be done."

Pestering Pat

Dodd continued to pester Gov. Brown by phone and letter to help Frouge until Brown called in his top officials June 18, 1964 and discussed the apartment city with Grant.

When Brown didn't act, Dodd tried to soothe his builder client.

"I can certainly understand your impatience in not being able to get a firm commitment on the access road into Marinicello," the Senator wrote Frouge on Sept. 25. "I had hoped that Governor Brown's office would have resolved the problem by this time."

"I am sure you can understand the pressures of a political campaign may be preventing the Governor from

acting more promptly, and I have a feeling that after elections it will be possible to get more rapid action on the matter, and you may be sure that whenever I contact Governor Brown I will urge him to resolve the situation in your favor."

Brown was still reluctant. But the project had more luck with the board of supervisors of Marin County. The real estate developer wrote gratefully to Dodd on Feb. 24, 1965, that the board had approved, by a 5-0 vote, his plan to permit a small city to be built in the shadow of the Golden Gate.

"The first battle is won, but the war is not over," wrote Frouge to Tom Dodd. "The conservationists are very active and are trying to create the impression in Washington that this land was in the program for park use. It would be very helpful if Secretary (of the Interior) Udall would make a statement that this site is not being considered for a park at this time or in the future."

The Senator promptly intervened for his client not only with Udall but with other Federal officials, as will be told in an early column.

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Jack Anderson, substituting for Drew Pearson, will report on how Adam Clayton Powell stymied the anti-poverty program, tonight at 6:40 over WTOP radio.