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Close of Dodd Case Remote, Senators Say

Associated Press

The Senate Ethics Committee announced yesterday it has issued more than 80 subpoenas for documents or testimony in its investigation of Sen. Thomas Dodd's financial transactions. It said a quick disposition of the case is unlikely.

The progress report issued by Sens. John C. Stennis (D-Miss.) and Wallace F. Bennett (R-Utah), chairman and vice chairman, seemed to indicate that the hearings cannot be complete this session as had been hoped.

The committee has been looking into allegations of misconduct against the Connecticut Democrat. Dodd asked for the investigation, saying he had nothing to hide.

The statement said investigation of the remaining charges "is proceeding as expected."

Little Hope for Speed

"But" it added, "the wide scope of the matters being examined and the high standard of proof being demanded make any quick disposition look unlikely."

The statement gave no indication how soon further public hearings can be scheduled. Even after the information is

gathered, it must be organized for presentation and then Dodd given ample advance notice to prepare a response.

"We want to emphasize," the statement continued, "that we are determined to have all the evidence in hand before we formally present it in hearings."

Finished With Klein

The statement recalled that the committee had completed hearings in June and July bearing on the relationship between Dodd and public relations man Julius Klein. It then turned its attention to allegations that Sen. Dodd pocketed election campaign funds for his own use, accepted improper gifts and was repaid by the Senate as well as private groups for the same travel expenses.

Stennis and Bennett said the financial accounts of Dodd and various groups supporting his 1964 reelection were found to be "extensive and interrelated."

The Ethics Committee said it has obtained records from 12 banks as well as many individuals and organizations relating to Dodd's campaign and testimonial funds. About 50 persons have been interviewed, the statement said.