

Dodd Now Rides Commercial Flights

By Drew Pearson
and Jack Anderson

Allegheny Airlines Flight 821 bound for Hartford, Conn., was already five minutes late. But the engines were revved up, and finally it started down the runway. Suddenly the engines cut off, and the plane ground to a halt.

Over the loudspeaker the captain announced: "Sorry to inconvenience you, but we have to go back to pick up a passenger."

Privately the stewardess confided, "Nothing like this has ever happened before."

The plane did go back, and the loading ramp was wheeled up to the door. Who should enter but Sen. Tom Dodd of Connecticut.

NOTE—In the past the Senator usually flew to Hartford courtesy of United Aircraft and other defense contractors for whom he did favors. Since the Senate ethics investigation he has been flying commercial.

Inside the Powell Debate

During the closed Committee meeting on Adam Clayton Powell, Republican Congressmen kept coming out and stating before the TV cameras that inside was a Roman holiday. "It's a blood bath," declared Rep. William Ayres (R-Ohio).

Nothing of this sort occurred. The inside story is that the day before the Committee meeting Adam got worried about all the bad publicity

and telephoned Rep. Frank Thompson (D-N.J.), one of the anti-Powell leaders but personally friendly toward the Chairman.

"This thing is getting out of hand," Powell said. "We ought to sit down and settle it."

That night in Washington, Thompson and Jim O'Hara of Michigan worked until late with Powell and two of his friends — Rep. Hugh Carey (N.Y.) and Rep. John Dent (Pa.), all Democrats. Together they hammered out the new set of Committee rules which the Committee next day adopted, 27 to 1.

All this was why Powell himself sat in the Chairman's seat smiling benignly. The ecumenical spirit prevailed.

Most interesting secret incident was the fact that Rep. Glenn Andrews, the freshman Republican from Alabama, at first had lined up with Ayres on Powell's side. Then he was called to the telephone. None other than Gov. George Wallace, the Alabama Democrat, was on the other end of the line. Obviously he gave his Republican friend from Alabama a few pointers on politics, namely that you didn't win votes in Alabama by being pro-Negro. Rep. Andrews came back to the Committee room, immediately led the wolf pack against Powell.

NOTE—The three Committee members who abstained from voting were Powell, Philip Burton and Augustus Hawkins, the latter two California

Democrats. Hawkins is a Negro.

Ax-Handle Government

Most important primary in the South is being held in Georgia today between moderate Democrats and rabble-rouser right wingers.

The two factions of the Democratic Party are led by former Gov. Ellis Arnall, first Southern Governor to repeal the poll tax; and Lester Maddox, pistol-packing restaurateur who bucked the Supreme Court regarding the desegregation of his eating place.

On July 3, 1964, one day after Johnson signed the Civil Rights Act into law, Lester stood in front of his restaurant brandishing a pistol and urging white patrons to use ax handles—provided by the restaurant—to drive off three Negroes who sought to enter his place. The three Negroes sued Maddox for violation of the Civil Rights Act, and a three-judge Federal panel ruled in their favor.

Three weeks later, Maddox closed his restaurant and since then has been up to his ears in politics.

In the present runoff for Governor, Maddox will be supported by the Ku Klux Klan, the Georgia rednecks, and secretly by some members of the Talmadge machine.

Herman Talmadge, an able Senator, is friendly to Arnall but can't seem to control his cohorts. They are secretly knifing him.

The issue for Georgians—if the moderates are defeated today—will be either a Republican administration or "ax-handle government" — after November.

Ronald Reagan Balks

One untold but carefully documented story of Ronald Reagan's strange march along the path of politics concerns his emceeing of the Pasadena Rose Bowl Parade.

This he did annually in conjunction with Miss Bess Myerson, a former Miss America, now Mrs. Arnold Grant of New York. The two took turns at the microphone alternately announcing floats.

Both did well, and as far as the public was concerned, there were no differences between them. What the public didn't know, however, was that on two occasions Reagan balked at announcing floats.

One was the U.S. Savings Bond float, which in 1964 he asked Bess Myerson to announce. It was his turn, but he passed it on to her with the explanation that he didn't believe in Savings Bonds.

The next year Reagan balked a second time and asked Miss Myerson to announce a Negro float. It was the first time Negroes had entered a float in the Rose Bowl Parade, and he grumbled about having to identify it publicly.

Miss Myerson obliged.

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