

Dodd Aid to Foreign Agent Cited

By Drew Pearson
and Jack Anderson

The intent of the Foreign Agents Registration Act is to give full publicity to anyone representing a foreign government and what they do. There is nothing illegal about acting as a foreign agent as long as the American people are informed of the fact.

Sen. Tom Dodd (D-Conn.) knew this because he once registered as an agent for the government of Guatemala between his service in the House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate. He knows therefore that when he gives speeches in the Senate ghost-written for him by Maj. Gen. Julius Klein, a \$150,000 agent for West German interests, the public is entitled to know

The public is also entitled to know of Sen. Dodd's other operations.

Gen. Klein has called on Dodd repeatedly as an errand boy. Last year, for example, he asked Dodd to stir up trouble at the Justice Department for a competitor.

Klein-Dodd Plot

"I am enclosing," Klein wrote to Dodd, Feb. 12, 1965, "a photostatic copy of the Registration Statement filed by a disgruntled competitor, Edwin Hartrich of Duesseldorf, Germany.

"I wonder if you have now written to the Department of Justice inquiring why Hartrich was permitted to act as a foreign agent without registering until finally forced to do so in December, and whether any disciplinary action has been taken against him.

"I think this move would do a lot to clear up the matter, and you were good enough to tell me that you would do it."

Dodd Touts Klein

In 1961 and again in 1964, Dodd touted Klein for membership on the American Battle Monuments Commission. But each time the honor went to another.

Having missed the opportunity to serve his country in the matter of battle monuments, Klein sought an appointment in 1962 to the U.S. Advisory Commission on Information.

"I am sure you will want to add your endorsement," he wrote to Dodd on July 14. "But what is more important, couldn't you take this up personally with President Kennedy and with Lyndon Johnson so that we do not lose this opportunity by default, as happened last time?"

When this appointment, too, passed him by, he wrote bitterly to Dodd: "You know, Tom, friendship is a two-way street. I don't blame you for what happened, but what I am

more disappointed in is that I didn't hear from you at all, either way."

Dodd replied testily: "I did what I said I would do, but I am sure you will understand that I cannot guarantee any performance."

Still sulking, Klein wrote back: "Tom, I never expected you to guarantee any performance . . . Anyhow, this is water over the dam."

Klein's Military Record

Even more important than battle monuments to Julius Klein was his military standing. He insists upon being addressed as "General," his rank in the Illinois National Guard and he is proud of his World War II record as commander of the 23d Quartermaster Truck Regiment.

But there was a blot, it developed, on his military career. As a young man, he had fibbed about his age. His Army file gave his birth date as Sept. 5, 1895—six years earlier than the true date.

This small untruth was allowed to stand until the Army sought to retire him from the reserves for being overage. Klein hastily requested that the record be corrected to show his birth date as Sept. 5, 1901.

He was shattered when the

Army made the correction but accompanied it with a letter of reprimand. Dutifully, Dodd intervened for him at the Pentagon, and the tarnish was removed from Klein's brass hat.

Dodd's Secret Letter

Far more shattering, however, was the Senate investigation in 1963-64 of Klein's activities as a foreign agent. When his industrial clients began canceling their contracts, Klein not only rushed over to West Germany but sent for Dodd to come help him impress the clients.

Dodd readily agreed, but he had one misgiving.

"I have been thinking about this," he wrote to Klein in Germany on Feb. 14, 1964, "and I believe that I might be more successful with the people in Germany if I talk to them alone. I don't think it is at all necessary for you to accompany me, and there is a chance that it might be misunderstood."

"You know how anxious I am to help you, and it is for this reason that I want to present your case in the best possible light."

Later Dodd made a remarkable mission to Germany on behalf of a registered foreign agent.

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Drew Pearson will report on drinking in D.C. fraternity houses over Radio WTOP at 6:40 p.m. today.