

Eastland Against Expanding

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Sen. James O. Eastland (D-Miss.), chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, yesterday opposed the suggestion that hearings on the nomination of Richard G. Kleindienst to be Attorney General should be expanded to include new charges by Life magazine of obstruction of justice in Southern California.

"I don't see where they (the Life charges) involve Kleindienst," Eastland said.

But he added that "this is a matter for the full committee to decide," next week after a Judiciary subcommittee returns from Denver, where it is to interview Dita Beard, Washington lobbyist for the International Telephone and Telegraph Corp.

Life said that Kleindienst had cleared Harry Steward, U. S. attorney in San Diego, of any wrongdoing after Steward allegedly stepped in to block prosecution of prominent Re-

publicans for arranging illegal campaign contributions.

Justice Department sources told The Washington Post yesterday that Kleindienst had no major involvement in clearing Steward, but merely followed the recommendations of staff attorneys in the department's criminal division.

Democrats on the Judiciary Committee have called for an expansion of the hearings—until now concerned primarily with allegations that an ITT contribution of at least \$200,000 to the Republican National Convention in San Diego was connected to settlement of antitrust cases against ITT.

Republicans on the committee, already angry that the hearings have delayed Kleindienst's confirmation for the Cabinet post, are expected to line up unanimously with Eastland against any broadening of the investigation.

Senate Democratic Leader Mike Mansfield of Montana raised the prospect yesterday of still further delay on the Kleindienst nomination, originally reported favorably to

the Senate floor by the committee.

Mansfield called on the Judiciary panel to reach a new "judgment" on Kleindienst after the hearings and "give us its advice on what the Senate should do."

He suggested that the committee could vote again in Kleindienst's favor, merely state that it had found nothing which reflects adversely on him, or formally request the Senate to return the nomination to committee.

If the committee does nothing, Mansfield said, the Kleindienst nomination will remain on the Senate calendar indefinitely without being called up for a vote.

Eastland has previously taken the position that the Kleindienst confirmation hearings were never formally reopened and that before any new committee vote were taken, the Senate would have to recommit the nomination.

The chairman said yesterday that he would oblige the Majority Leader's request. "We'll give him some kind of expression," he told reporters.

There were these other developments in the ITT case yesterday:

• Sen. John V. Tunney (D-Calif. suggested on the television program "Thirty Minutes With ..." (PBS, WETA) that Mrs. Beard had been "coached" by ITT before denying that she wrote a memorandum linking settlement of the antitrust cases the convention contribution.

Tunney pointed out that ITT was paying Mrs. Beard's legal fees and that her lawyers' offices in Van Nuys, Calif., are down the hall from the West Coast public relations office of ITT.

The California senator is a member of the seven-man subcommittee scheduled to fly to Denver to interview Mrs. Beard in her hospital room for

Kleindienst-ITT Probe

three days beginning Sunday.

• Americans for Democratic Action announced its opposition to the Kleindienst nomination in letters to all members of the Senate.

ADA Chairman Allard K. Lowenstein said in the letter, "Regardless of what else emerges from the ITT scandal, the fact remains that Mr. Kleindienst did intervene on behalf of ITT and subsequently in a letter prior to the hearings lied about his non-involvement in the settlement."

In the letter mentioned by Lowenstein, Kleindienst told Democratic National Chairman Lawrence F. O'Brien that the ITT settlement was "negotiated and handled exclusively" by former Assistant Attorney General Richard W. McLaren.

• Kleindienst, in a speech here to the Federal Trial Examiners Conference, said that McLaren's position on antitrust law and helped "preserve and enhance competition" by opposing mergers by ITT and other conglomerates.

"McLaren's counterattack stopped the conglomerate merger threat in its tracks," Kleindienst added.

Charges Considered For Prison Workers

A spokesman for the Federal Bureau of Prisons said yesterday that criminal charges were being considered against three employees, including the superintendent, at

the Lumpoc prison camp in California.

He said one employee, a caseworker, had already been fired, and the other two were under suspension for allegedly granting special favors to John and Angelo Alessio, who were convicted for income tax evasion, in exchange for merchandise and vacations paid for by the Alessios.

Life magazine charged this week that C. Arnholt Smith, a prominent supporter of President Nixon from San Diego, had intervened to delay prosecution of the Alessios and that criminal charges were reluctantly brought against them by the Justice Department.