

ITT Case

Columnist Says FBI Has Memo

Washington

Columnist Jack Anderson said yesterday a memo which figures prominently in his allegations against the Justice Department has been turned over by the Senate Judiciary Committee to an aide of acting Attorney General Richard G. Kleindienst and now is in the hands of the FBI.

The memo which Anderson says was written by Dita Beard, a lobbyist for International Telephone and Telegraph Corp., is cited by Anderson to support his accusation that ITT gained favorable settlement of an antitrust action after it had pledged heavy financial support for the Republican National Convention in San Diego next August.

Mrs. Beard has denied writing the memo.

ITT announced late yesterday that it had turned over to the committee new evidence to support its claim that the memo is a fraud.

AFFIDAVITS

The ITT claim is supported by affidavits from Susan Lichtman, Mrs. Beard's former secretary, from W. R. Merriam, Mrs. Beard's boss in the Washington ITT office, and from Russell J. Tagliareni, an ITT security administrator.

Mrs. Lichtman, who no longer is with ITT, reported she typed a memo for Mrs. Beard last summer which contained some of the material in the memo printed by Anderson but without the portions linking the ITT convention pledge and the antitrust settlement.

Merriam denied again that he ever had received the memo printed by Anderson, and Tagliareni said he obtained Mrs. Lichtman's statement without giving or promising her any sort of reward.

Anderson protested the committee action which he said was taken without his knowledge and consent. And, he added, in a letter to the committee chairman, Senator James O. Eastland, (Dem-Miss.) "as far as I know without the knowledge or consent of the other members of your committee."

FEARS

Anderson called the action unheard of in a congressional investigation, and said he fears that while at the Justice Department the memo could be "damaged, de-

facated, lost or tampered with . . ."

He said the document was hand-delivered last Friday by a member of the committee staff to John Duffner of the Department of Justice and added:

"Mr. Duffner, of course, is the executive assistant to Richard Kleindienst, the very man whose nomination to be attorney general is the subject of the present inquiry by your committee."

He asked the document be immediately retrieved and impounded by the committee.

'IMPROPRIETY'

Anderson said transferring the document to the Justice Department is an example of "extreme impropriety" and said this is especially true "in light of the fact that the authenticity of this document has now been challenged . . ."

"It should be noted that the initial 'D' which Mrs. Beard identified as her own is in pencil and could easily be erased or smudged beyond recognition," Anderson said in his letter to Eastland.

Eastland had no immediate comment on the letter.

Mrs. Beard, from her hospital bed in Denver, described the memorandum as a fraud and a "hoax" in an affidavit released 18 days after the memo was first made public in Anderson's daily column.

Associated Press