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BULLETIN

Beard

DENVER, Colo. AP - The Senate Judiciary Committee abruptly called off its second hearing session with Lobbyist Dita D. Beard Sunday afternoon when Mrs. Beard fell back in her hospital bed moaning, complained of strong pain and called for a doctor.

The incident occurred at 6:03 p.m. EST and she was immediately wheeled from the room by her doctors.

At the time, according to the pool reporter who was in the room, she was engaged in a mild conversation with Sen. Edward Gurney, D-Fla.

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URGENT

Beard Bjt 4th Lead

By MIKE SHANAHAN

Associated Press Writer

DENVER, Colo. AP - Lobbyist Dita D. Beard collapsed Sunday, several hours after testifying that her boss at International Telephone & Telegraph Corp. got a phone call from an unidentified White House staffer who, she said, believed the conglomerate would donate \$600,000 toward President Nixon's re-election campaign.

The seven members of the Senate Judiciary subcommittee who had been hearing her testify from a hospital bed here announced later that further questioning of the ITT lobbyist would be suspended and they would return to Washington on Monday.

Sen. Philip Hart, D-Mich., the subcommittee chairman, said a decision on whether Mrs. Beard would be recalled to testify further at a later date would be made in Washington by the full Judiciary Committee.

He added, however, that more testimony from ITT President Harold Geneen, would be heard in Washington Wednesday.

The collapse of Mrs. Beard, whose doctors say she suffers from heart trouble, brought an immediate halt to questioning as medical personnel whisked her away from the hearing room.

She had: 3rd graf A296-deleting 13th to 16th grafs soon after xxx planned. counting a304 insert.

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URGENT

Beard Bjt 3rd Lead

By MIKE SHANAHAN

Associated Press Writer

DENVER, Colo. AP. - Lobbyist Dita D. Beard collapsed Sunday, several hours after testifying that her boss at International Telephone & Telegraph Corp. got a phone call from an unidentified White House staffer who, she said, believed the conglomerate would donate \$600,000 toward President Nixon's re-election.

The collapse of Mrs. Beard, whose doctors say she suffers from heart trouble, raised the possibility of a halt, at least for several days, to her testimony before a Senate Judiciary subcommittee.

She had told the senators earlier in the day that the telephone call received by her boss prompted her to write a memo about an ITT contribution to the Republican National Convention.

She denied—for the first time under Oath—that it was the same memo attributed to her by columnist Jack Anderson. The Anderson memo linked the convention contribution to an out-of-court settlement by the Justice Department of an antitrust case against ITT. Mrs. Beard said she did not link the two actions.

The ITT lobbyist was questioned in her hospital room by the senators for about 90 minutes. She collapsed during a second questioning session which immediately was called off pending new examinations by doctors attending her.

Mrs. Beard moaned, threw her right arm to her chest as if in pain and fell back on the bed, said the pool reporter present.

Mrs. Beard's attorney, David Fleming, said about 15 minutes after her attack he visited Mrs. Beard in her room for about 20 seconds and she was under heavy sedation.

Nevertheless, he said, "She grabbed me by my tie and pulled me close and told me 'don't let them the senators go'."

He said she wants to "answer every question the United States Senate has."

Fleming said that according to Dr. Louis Radetsky, she was resting comfortably about four hours after the attack.

In a statement released by the hospital at 10 p.m. EST, Drs. Radetsky and Dr. Dave Garland said: "Normal rhythm has been reestablished with intravenous medication and she has been without chest pains since about 5:30 p.m. MST."

"She will be kept under consistent surveillance and cardiac monitoring for the next two or three days," it said.

Radetsky said she was in danger of a heart attack. He emphasized that Mrs. Beard's problem is similar to the one which led her to be admitted to the hospital nearly a month ago. He said she is suffering from angina pectoris, which in laymen's terms means she endures periods of susceptibility to heart attacks. The pool reporter said Mrs. Beard had just answered a long series of questions from Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., and has just been asked another by Sen. Edward Gurney, R-Fla., when she collapsed.

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Beard Insert

DENVER 3rd Lead Beard Bjt A296 insert after 9th graf: collapsed.

Gurney's question had been: "Do you know Mr. Kleindienst?" "I met him once at the governors' conference in Tulsa, Okla.," she replied, then collapsed.

The question referred to Richard G. Kleindienst, Nixon's nominee as attorney general and the man who was deputy attorney general at the time of the settlement of the ITT case. Kleindienst has denied the charges in the Anderson columns.

Soon: 10th graf.

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Beard Insert

DENVER Beard Bjt lead A249-250 insert after 16th graf: said.

However, Hart was pessimistic about ever getting to the bottom of the ITT affair.

"The committee may never be entirely satisfied as to what happened," he said.

Mrs. Beard: 17th graf.

df610ped March 25

Mrs. Beard is under treatment for a heart ailment in the Rocky Mountain Osteopathic Hospital.

She claimed on Sunday that she had been abandoned by ITT after publication of the Anderson column.

Once Anderson published the memo, she said, ITT officials in Washington and New York refused to believe her denial of authorship.

"I had absolutely no one to turn to," she said. "People in Washington were obviously delighted to think I had written it."

"Someone was putting a fast period to my existence," she said.

Asked at one point about a reference to Mitchell in the Anderson published memo, Mrs. Beard told the senators, "I don't know where in the world that came from."

The memo published by Anderson is dated June 25, 1971. Mrs. Beard told the senators she was not in Washington on that date.

Initial accounts of Mrs. Beard's testimony came from a "pool," news reporter allowed into the room.

She said the memo was part of a massive conspiracy to discredit her and that she was in a state of total despair at the time she was confronted with it by an Anderson associate, Brit Hume, last February.

"I felt certain that someone was deliberately putting me in a position to be used as a vehicle to embarrass the administration, embarrass my company and to destroy me," Mrs. Beard said.

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Soon after Mrs. Beard's collapse, three members of the Senate committee interviewing her urged that the hearings be suspended immediately.

The subcommittee chairman, Sen. Philip Hart, D-Mich., said "My recommendation is that further proceedings at this time be quashed."

He was joined by Kennedy and Gurney in saying they would recommend to the four other members of the group that the proceedings be called off until Mrs. Beard has been restored to full health.

That seemed to indicate there would be no hearing Monday or Tuesday as originally planned.

Mrs. Beard, 53, said her boss had received the call from someone in the White House who wanted to know:

"Is: 4th graf a275.

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WIREFOTO ADVISORY

EDSA: There were no pictures made of ITT lobbyist Dita Beard at the time she complained of a strong pain in her hospital room in Denver today.

The AP

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Beard Bjt 2nd Lead 410

By MIKE SHANAHAN

Associated Press Writer

DENVER, Colo. AP - Lobbyist Dita D. Beard testified Sunday that a memo she wrote about an International Telephone & Telegraph Corp. contribution to the Republican National Convention was triggered by a call to her boss from an unidentified White House staff member who she said believed the conglomerate was prepared to donate \$600,000 to President Nixon's re-election campaign.

She denied—for the first time under oath—that the memo linked the convention contribution to a favorable out-of-court settlement of Justice Department antitrust cases against ITT, as charged by Columnist Jack Anderson. She said she wrote her memo to straighten out her boss and the White House about exactly how ITT would help underwrite the convention. She said the memo published by Anderson and attributed to her had not been written by her.

Mrs. Beard, 53, told a Senate Judiciary subcommittee that questioned her in her hospital room that her boss in ITT's Washington office received a call from someone in the White House who wanted to know:

"Is this \$600,000 going to Nixon's campaign?"

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URGENT

Beard INSERT

DENVER Beard Bjt 4th Lead A310, 296, 304, 275, insert after 17th graf: Nixon campaign?''

Referring to the White House telephone call and the question of what ITT's money was to go for, Sen. John V. Tunney, D-Calif., said after the hearing: "It would appear that the ambiguity was in the White House over whether the money would go to the Republican convention or to the presidential campaign."

Mrs. Beard said she was not sure who the White House staffer was, or when her boss, W. R. Merriam, was contacted.

She told the six senators that she had been asked to prepare a memo about the convention for Merriam. Partially at issue, she said, was whether ITT would provide cash or service or both.

ITT has released what it says is the genuine Beard memo dated June 25, 1971, the same date as the Anderson-published memo.

The out-of-court settlement of the Justice Department suit was reached July 31 and the choice of San Diego, where a new ITT-Cheraton hotel is under construction, as site of the convention was announced eight days later.

Mrs. Beard said the first time anyone suggested to her that she might play a role in getting the convention to San Diego was at a luncheon date last January or February in the Carlton Hotel in Washington.

She recalled meeting with California Lt. Gov. Ed Reinecke and his aide, Ed Gillenwater, who asked her to try to persuade key Republicans it should go there.

Reinecke, a Republican, first said he met with former Atty. Gen. John N. Mitchell to discuss the San Diego site in May, then changed the date of a conversation in Mitchell's office to September.

At no time, Mitchell has testified, did he discuss ITT's financial commitment with Reinecke before his department negotiated the antitrust settlement.

Mrs. Beard told the senators she did not discuss the convention plan with anyone until an ITT convention in San Diego last May 25, when ITT President Harold S. Geneen gave the go-ahead for a substantial financial commitment by the conglomerate. ITT has said it pledged up to \$200,000 to underwrite the convention.

Mrs. Beard denied: 11th graf a249

EDS: Above number should be a275.
df620ped March 26