

## Mrs. Beard Defies Her Doctors To Give an Interview to C.B.S.

By MICHAEL T. KAUFMAN

Six days after she collapsed while testifying to a Senate subcommittee in her Denver hospital room, Mrs. Dita D. Beard, the lobbyist for the International Telephone and Telegraph Corporation, defied her doctors and left the hospital long enough to tape a television interview with Mike Wallace.

In the interview, which was shown last night on C.B.S.'s "60 Minutes," Mrs. Beard repeated that she had not written sections of a memorandum that touched on the Government's settling of three antitrust cases with I.T.T. "I knew I'd never say anything like that against the Administration, against [John] Mitchell," she said. "I just wouldn't. I fought all my life for the Republican party and for my company."

Mr. Wallace said yesterday that the events leading to the interview began several weeks ago when he called Mrs. Beard at the Rocky Mountain Osteopathic Hospital. The lobbyist had been there for treatment of a heart ailment since shortly after Jack Anderson, the columnist, first reported on the memorandum.

"I've known Mrs. Beard for some years from covering Republican Governors conferences," Mr. Wallace said. He explained that in the phone call Mrs. Beard had promised him an interview after she testified. When that testimony was abruptly broken off, Mr. Wal-

lace said, he thought there might be some delays.

But Mrs. Beard and her attorney, David Fleming, reaffirmed that she would still give the exclusive interview. The taping was then scheduled for Saturday morning.

In the interview, Mrs. Beard said that two top I.T.T. officials had told her to ask then Attorney General John N. Mitchell about the company's antitrust problems, "if the occasion arises," at a party at the Kentucky Governor's mansion last May 1.

Mrs. Beard said that she approached Mr. Mitchell three times at the party, held after the Kentucky Derby, and that he refused to discuss the matter each time. But she quoted Mr. Mitchell as saying: "I think it will be worked out fairly, but how, I don't know. Your lawyers will have to talk to my lawyers."

Mrs. Beard's recollections contradicted previous allegations that she and Mr. Mitchell had an hour-long talk at the party. Mr. Mitchell testified last month that, though he saw her there, he told her to "in effect, shove off."

Mr. Wallace said that he and the lobbyist, who was in a wheelchair, slipped out of an emergency entrance for fear they might be spotted by lurking competitive newsmen and went to an apartment that had been rented for Mrs. Beard's use during her convalescence.

After the half-hour interview, Mrs. Beard returned to the hospital and was readmitted.