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By MIKE SHANAHAN

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON AP - The Senate Judiciary Committee put new life into the Richard G. Kleindienst hearings Friday by narrowly deciding to continue them for at least eight days and to explore new allegations of a cover-up by the Justice Department.

The 8-7 agreement to continue the hearings until April 20 was as surprising for the close count as the source of the votes which carried it.

The compromise had been considered a Democratic victory, but in the end six Republicans and two Democrats voted for it.

Chairman Sen. James O. Eastland, D-Miss., said the committee hearings will resume on Monday, calling federal officials from San Diego to testify about allegations that a federal investigation there was squelched while Kleindienst was deputy attorney general.

Kleindienst had already won the committee's approval to succeed John N. Mitchell as attorney general, but asked that the hearings be resumed after publication of a controversial memo by columnist Jack Anderson.

The memo, allegedly written by International Telephone & Telegraph Corp. lobbyist Mrs. Dita Beard, drew a connection between a commitment of at least \$200,000 to the Republican National Convention and the out-of-court settlement of antitrust suits filed by the Justice Department against ITT.

After 12 days of hearings on that subject, however, the committee will now turn to an exploration of the San Diego charges originally published by Life Magazine.

In a sworn affidavit to the committee, former Internal Revenue Service agent A. David Stutz said U.S. Atty. Harry D. Steward choked off an investigation into bribery and illegal political contributions in 1969.

Among those mentioned in the Life story was C. Arnholdt Smith, a longtime friend of President Nixon and heavy contributor to Republican election campaigns.

As deputy attorney general, Kleindienst, on the basis of an FBI report on Steward's activities, cleared him of any wrongdoing.

"I have investigated the matter and determined there has been no wrongdoing," he said at the time.

Steward is still the U.S. attorney in San Diego and is expected to be among the first witnesses called.

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CORRECTION

WASHINGTON Nixon-Price Commission A227 in first graf. make it read  
"seven-member Price Commission" not "five."  
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The net effect of the committee vote was to place Republicans such as Sen. Roman Hruska of Nebraska in the position of supporting the move to continue the hearings.

Only Sen. Marlow Cook, R-Ky., among the Republicans joined with liberal democrats including Sens. Edward M. Kennedy of Massachusetts and John V. Tunney of California in opposing the proposal. The two Democrats wanted more thorough hearings.

Hruska has continually called for an immediate cutoff to the hearings, which he said have turned up no evidence to implicate Kleindienst in the ITT affair.

The turnabout resulted from the surprise introduction by Sen. Sam Ervin Jr., D-N.C., of a stronger proposal for unlimited hearings until White House aide Peter Flanigan and Rep. Bob Wilson, R-Calif. had been heard from.

Earlier testimony had shown Flanigan was instrumental in obtaining an economic report which had a strong influence in the final consent order with ITT.

Wilson was quoted in, on p 6 a per interview as saying Mrs. Beard wrote the memo which she has denounced as a fraud and a forgery.

As he did Thursday, Tunney said the Wilson interview captured on a taped transcript indicates there is evidence of a perjury including Mrs. Beard's testimony.

Tunney said the Ervin move was beaten back on procedural grounds, so all the Democrats except Eastland and Robert Byrd of West Virginia voted against it. Byrd originally proposed the compromise.

As the agreement now stands, the committee will hold hearings through April 20, drawing on a witness list of more than 60 names submitted by Tunney and Kennedy.

Mrs. Beard, recently released from a Denver hospital where she had been recovering from a heart ailment was among them.  
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