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**An ITT
Dispute in
Assembly**

Sacramento

A Democratic-controlled Assembly committee yesterday tried to link the reported \$400,000 pledge by ITT to the Republican National Convention to Ed Gillenwaters, head of the California Department of Commerce.

Several meetings of Gillenwaters with former Attorney General John Mitchell and ITT officials, including lobbyist Dita Beard, were cited by the committeemen as they repeatedly asked if Gillenwaters ever had discussed financing of the GOP convention.

Gillenwaters, a Republican, insisted he had not and never had been involved with campaign contributions to the Republican Party while in office.

Assemblyman Raymond T. Seeley of Blythe, the only Republican member of the committee on efficiency and cost control, exploded at what he called "harassment" by "damn Democrats."

"If you know of something that is dishonest, bring it to a point," Seeley said during an attack at Assemblyman Mike Cullen, (Dem-Long Beach), chairman of the committee.

During the wide-ranging interrogation by the committee on Gillenwaters' activities, the committee centered on a cocktail party in San Diego last May 11, when he met with Mrs. Beard and a trip the next week with California Lieutenant Governor Ed Reinecke during which he talked with Mitchell.

Gillenwaters acknowledged that he traveled at state expense to attend the cocktail party but denied he ever discussed convention financing with Mitchell.

Gillenwaters was an administrative assistant to Representative Bob Wilson of San Diego, a key figure in the ITT controversy, until 1967 when he was appointed by Governor Ronald Reagan as deputy state finance director, serving in Washington as a lobbyist. He was appointed commerce director last year.

The committee called the meeting ostensibly to review the efficiency of Gillenwaters' department, which consists of three men and three secretaries.

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