

Witness Denies Flanigan Influenced

WASHINGTON (AP) — Richard J. Ramsden, a New York financial consultant, said today White House aide Peter Flanigan hired him to do a report for the Justice Department in its antitrust suits against International Telephone & Telegraph Corp. but gave him no instructions on what it should contain.

"I was not, in any sense, asked to make any recommendations regarding an anti-trust settlement, nor was the subject of settlement ever raised," Ramsden told the Senate Judiciary Committee.

"Mr. Flanigan made no attempt whatsoever to influence

my views concerning the matter I was asked to analyze."

Ramsden said Flanigan got in touch with him May 12 and asked that he do an analysis on the financial consequences of divestiture of the Hartford Fire Insurance Co. by ITT. Hartford was one of the companies involved in the antitrust suits against the giant conglomerate.

In his prepared statement, Ramsden said Flanigan wanted him to do an analysis similar to one he did in Feb., 1970 when he was a White House fellow.

The role of Ramsden has become a key factor in the committee's investigation of the relationship between Act-

ing Atty. Gen. Richard Kleindienst and ITT, one of the nation's largest corporations.

U.S. District Court Judge Richard McLaren, who was head of the Justice Department's antitrust division last spring, had testified earlier that he had not been in contact with the White House in

connection with the ITT cases. Later in his testimony, he

NINE

ITT Report

said Flanigan had actually hired Ramsden.