

# Flanigan Letter Sparks Call For Renewed ITT Probing

WASHINGTON — (UPI) — A new disclosure from one of President Nixon's top aides has triggered a demand that the Senate Judiciary Committee hold off a while longer on the Attorney General nomination of Richard G. Kleindienst.

The aide, Peter G. Flanigan, sent a letter to the committee yesterday answering questions submitted to him at the end of the panel's six-week investigation of Kleindienst, ITT and related matters.

Among other things Flanigan said Felix Rohatyn, a director of International Telephone & Telegraph, had raised the Justice Department's antitrust suit against ITT in a conversation with him.

He said he later passed Rohatyn's comments on to Kleindienst, who was assistant attorney general at the time — about one month before the Justice Department settled the ITT out of court.

Kleindienst previously testified before the committee

that he could not recall any contacts with the White House about the ITT antitrust matter.

Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.) in response to Flanigan's comments, said:

"The conflicting statements of Mr. Flanigan and Mr. Kleindienst about the White House involvement in the settlement of the ITT case requires that both of them return to testify fully before the Judiciary Committee before the committee makes a recommendation to the Senate on this matter."

#### Decision Due

The committee is scheduled to meet later this week to tell the Senate whether it still recommends that Kleindienst be confirmed as Attorney General. It it heeds Kennedy's demand that Flanigan and Kleindienst be recalled, the case could be extended indefinitely.

Kleindienst's nomination became snagged after columnist Jack Anderson alleged there was a link between the ITT settlement

and its offer to help subsidize this summer's Republican National Convention.

Flanigan said Rohatyn asked him whether he was aware of the way the Justice Department wanted to settle the ITT case.

#### Unacceptable

"I replied that I was not aware of it," Flanigan said. "Mr. Rohatyn indicated his belief that the proposal was so tough as to be unacceptable to the company and that the company intended to continue to fight the suits in court. I replied that this was a matter for ITT and the antitrust decision.

"I further recall that in discussion on an unrelated matter with Deputy Attorney General Kleindienst a couple of days later I passed on to him the Rohatyn comment and my reply.

As I recall his response, it was to the effect that Mr. McLaren Richard McLaren, then chief of the antitrust division) had worked out the proposal and was handling the matter."