

Connally's Defense Hits Payoff Data

By Timothy S. Robinson
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Texas lawyer Jake Jacobsen examined \$10,000 in cash in the courtroom yesterday in the trial of John B. Connally as the defense tried to discredit Jacobsen's testimony and underscore his trouble remembering details.

Defense attorney Edward Bennett Williams sought to portray Jacobsen as a liar, thief and ingrate.

Williams ended his cross-examination after more than six hours of questioning yesterday and Monday about the two—or possibly three—alleged illegal cash payoffs of \$5,000 each Jacobsen said he made to Connally for his backing of a milk price support increase.

The final two hours of cross-examination yesterday morning were in contrast to Williams' four hours of low-key examination Monday. The defense attorney yesterday strode around the courtroom as he shot questions at Jacobsen, paused dramatically after answers that he apparently felt were to the defense's advantage and argued openly at times with U.S. District Court Judge George L. Hart Jr. about Jacobsen's credibility.

See **CONNALLY, A2, Col. 3**

CONNALLY, From A1

The Watergate Special Prosecution Force appeared to be nearing the end of the government's case yesterday afternoon as it put on seven witnesses in an attempt to connect circumstantial evidence to bolster Joacobsen's eyewitness testimony about the alleged delivery of cash to Connally, a former Treasury Secretary.

The witnesses ranged from an Austin hotel room service employee—who testified he had delivered three coffees, a half order of bacon, buttered toast and a morning paper to a room where Jacobsen and Connally were meeting at a time an alleged cover-up of the payoffs was being discussed (the witness said he overheard none of the conversation) to a pilot of an air-taxi service who flew Jacobsen from Austin to Houston in the same time period.

Jacobsen said he met with Connally on the day of that flight and the former secretary gave him \$10,000 in cash in a cigar box in Houston; the pilot said he only saw Jacobsen carrying a briefcase on the flight, a case that was never opened.

One of the witnesses was Bob A. Lilly, an employee of Associated Milk Producers, Inc., who testified that Jacobsen asked him for a total of \$15,000 in cash in 1971 to give to Connally. Lilly said he gave the cash to Jacobsen for that purpose, but could not testify as to whether Connally actually received the money.

Judge Hart twice reminded

the jurors that they were hearing evidence from Lilly about a transaction between Lilly and Jacobsen and "not evidence such money was given to Mr. Connally."

All of the government's witnesses yesterday afternoon seemed to serve that same purpose: supporting details of Jacobsen's testimony by saying he was in the right place with the opportunity to meet with persons and carry out the transactions about which he has testified.

So far, the government has not presented any direct evidence other than Jacobsen's testimony about the actual alleged receipt of the money by Connally or the alleged cover-up.

Connally has denied receiving the money or attempting to cover up the receipt of it. He said Jacobsen offered cash to him on two occasions for use as political contributions and he turned it down both times.

The alleged cover-up about which Jacobsen and others testified supposedly began in October, 1973, after Lilly started cooperating with prosecutors investigating the milk producers group.

Jacobsen said he told Connally about Lilly's cooperation with prosecutors, and Connally gave him back \$10,000 in cash in a cigar box on Oct. 26, 1973, telling him it was "old enough" to have been in Jacobsen's safe deposit box untouched for two years.

Williams opened three manila envelopes containing that cash yesterday morning and put it in front of Jacobsen. He

asked Jacobsen to count how many of the bills were signed by George Shultz, who followed Connally as Treasury Secretary.

As Jacobsen began counting the money, the third bill he came across bore a Shultz signature. Judge Hart called a recess while Jacobsen went through the 280 bills.

When court was back in session, Williams asked how many bills were signed by Shultz, apparently in an attempt to show that Connally would have been unlikely to say the bills were "old enough" if some bore Shultz's signature.

"Forty-nine," Jacobsen replied.

In further testimony yesterday, Jacobsen said:

- He was able to find telephone logs covering only one

month after prosecutors asked him for documentation of his contacts with Connally. That month was October, 1973, during the alleged cover-up activity. Jacobsen, pressed by Williams to explain how that happened to be the only month's log he had discovered, said:

"It was among some other papers."

He said he had changed his story about the number of rubber gloves in the cigar box with the \$10,000 in cash "because of the fact you couldn't hardly handle money with one glove." He at first had told prosecutors there was only one glove in the box, but said during direct examination in the trial there may have been two gloves in the box.

- He did not know the size of the cigar box "since I'm not a cigar smoker."



Associated Press

John B. Connally and his wife, Nellie, arrive at court with defense attorney Edward Bennett Williams, at left.