

# Probe Figure Paid Kleindienst Big Fee

Washington

Former Attorney General Richard Kleindienst testified yesterday that, for a \$250,000 fee as a private attorney, he helped a man now accused of being an insurance swindler get a \$23 million contract with the Teamsters' health and welfare fund.

But Kleindienst told the Senate investigations subcommittee he was misled by Joseph Hauser — target of the panel's probe — into thinking he was using his influence properly as a means of protecting Hauser from being cheated out of getting his low-bid contract accepted.

Previous testimony in the Hauser hearings indicated that, as it turned out, the Hauser bid was not the lowest, and as soon as he got the Teamster business he began diverting \$1.5 million in premium payments to his own use.

Kleindienst said his intervention on Hauser's behalf occurred in April, 1976, long after his 1972-1973 stint as attorney general in the Nixon administration.

He received a one-month suspended sentence in 1974 after pleading guilty to the misdemeanor charge of failing to testify accurately before a Senate committee investigating alleged White House involvement in 1972 political campaign payments from the International Telephone and Telegraph Co.

At the Hauser hearings, other witnesses said Kleindienst intervened with Teamsters President Frank Fitzsimmons and with behind-the-scenes welfare fund kingpin Allen Dorfman to ensure Hauser's insurance contract bid would be accepted.

Dorfman, a reputed under-



**RICHARD KLEINDIENST**  
Former attorney general

world figure, took the Fifth Amendment 11 times last Wednesday when asked about the contract award.

Testimony indicated Hauser first sought help from self-described Washington "expediter" Irving Davidson, an old friend of missing former Teamsters leader Jimmy Hoffa.

Davidson testified he put Hauser in touch with Thomas Webb, a former aide to J. Edgar Hoover, who contacted Fitzsimmons and Kleindienst.

Kleindienst said his \$250,000 fee, shared with Webb and Davidson, was "not unheard of and not unreasonable" considering the value of the Hauser contract.

United Press