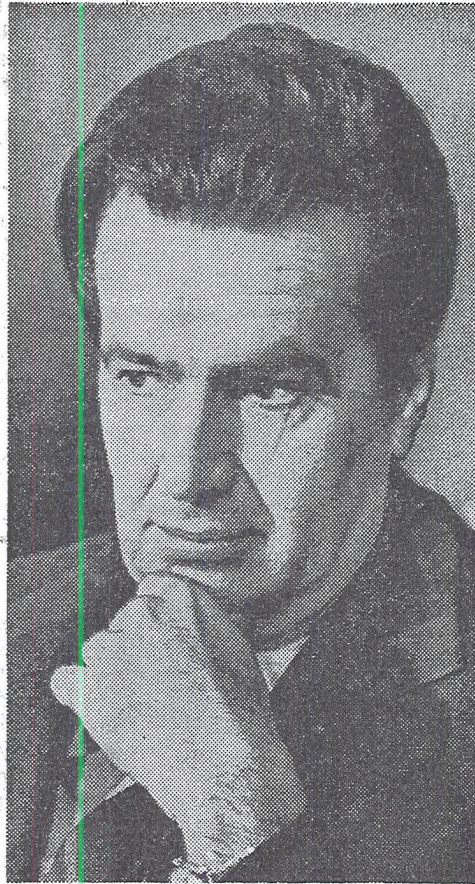


Doctor's Report: 'Drank, Irrational'



Meet With Mitchell Revealed

Still Confined To Hospital

WASHINGTON — (UPI) — A heart specialist testified today that lobbyist Dita Beard admitted to him that she wrote the office memorandum that touched off a congressional investigation into alleged political influence in the Nixon Administration's anti-trust policies.

But he said she was suffering from an organic mental disability when she did it.

He also said she told him she had met in May with then Attorney General John

HER PHYSICIAN DESCRIBES ITT LOBBYIST AS "IRRATIONAL"

Dita Beard's behavior has been "distorted," said Dr. Victor Liszka today

—AP Photos

Mitchell and indicated it was this meeting that prompted her to write the memo.

Dr. Victor Liszka, after conferring twice during the weekend with a Justice Department official, told the Senate Judiciary Committee that Beard for four years has suffered from "irrational and distorted" behavior.

Blockage

He said the condition was a result of a heart blockage that reduces the supply of blood to the brain. He said Mrs. Beard is not an alcoholic but drinks to calm her nerves.

Mrs. Beard works for the International Telephone & Telegraph Corp. and is the central figure in the committee's inquiry into charges that the Justice Department approved the largest merger in corporate history after ITT promised a \$400,000 contribution to the Republican National Convention.

Mrs. Beard drew a connection between the two circumstances in a memorandum to a supervisor that was disclosed last week by columnist Jack Anderson.

Danger

Mrs. Beard remained hospitalized in Denver, where she flew after Anderson confronted her with the memorandum early last week. She is under subpoena but Liszka and other attending physicians said it might cause permanent heart damage or death if she is forced to come to Washington to face the committee.

Chairman James Eastland (D-Miss.) said he wants to send a committee represent-

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Doctor Says Lobbyist Admits ITT Memo

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active to Denver — perhaps late this week — to question Mrs. Beard while doctors monitor her heart. Liszka said that may be possible.

Liszka's picture of Mrs. Beard as an individual whose "thought processes were not coordinated" and "sentences were not in logical order" was vastly different from the one Washington friends and associates had.

They have described her as a hard-talking, strong-minded fiercely-independent woman.

"She's one of the boys; talks like a man in a power poker game," one friend said.

Her boss, Edward Gerrity, ITT vice president for public relations, said "she has the vocabulary of a drill instructor in the Marines."

From Liszka's testimony, the committee is seeking to determine what motivated Mrs. Beard to write the controversial memorandum, which claimed the \$400,000 gift to the Republicans "has gone a lone way toward our negotiations on the mergers eventually coming out as (ITT president Harold Geenen) wants them."

The doctor, who has treated Mrs. Beard for the past nine years, said she did not deny she was the author when he examined her in Denver over the weekend. But he said she told him she was "mad and angry" when she wrote the note.

The anger, Liszka said, apparently stemmed from a confrontation Mrs. Beard had with Mitchell in Louisville during the Kentucky Derby celebration last May.

At that time, Mrs. Beard approached Mitchell at a party about ITT's financial troubles resulting from a government antitrust suit to block ITT's merger with the Hartford Life Insurance Co.

"I just had a dressing down by the attorney general such as I never received in my life," the doctor quoted Mrs. Beard. She said the attorney general told her she was going through "improper channels," Liszka testified.

It still is not clear how long after the meeting Mrs. Beard wrote her memo, but Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.) said it was more than a month later.

On July 31, the Justice Department dropped its suit to block the ITT-Hartford merger in an out-of-court settlement that forced ITT to divest itself of several smaller

concerns, including the Avis Rent-a-Car Corp.

This duplicated what Anderson wrote in his column about the Kentucky Derby meeting in all but one detail.

Why Mitchell dressed down Mrs. Beard.

Anderson said it was because she had been lobbying in Congress to win a favorable settlement for ITT, and Mitchell warned her to go through him.

But the doctor's version was that Mitchell felt she should have taken the matter up through the regular channels of the antitrust division, rather than approaching him directly.

Liszka, under questioning, acknowledged that he had discussed his story twice with a Justice Department official before his appearance today. But a spokes-

man for the department said the meetings were at Liszka's request.

The hearing — which has held up Senate confirmation of Richard Kleindienst as attorney general — is in its second week and Eastland said he did not know when it would end.

Scheduled to testify tomorrow are all the principals in the case including Kleindienst, Mitchell, ITT director Felix Rohatyn, Anderson, former Justice Department anti-trust division chief Richard McLaren, now a federal judge in Chicago, and three unnamed witnesses from ITT.