

MAR 15 1972

TUNNEY OR MITCHELL  
OR REINECKE LIED

SF Examiner

## Senator's

## View of

## ITT Case

Examiner News Services

WASHINGTON — Either former Attorney General John Mitchell or California Lieutenant Governor Ed Reinecke is lying about conversations linked to the ITT case, Sen. John V. Tunney claimed today.

Tesifying for the second day before the Senate Judiciary Committee, Mitchell insisted again that he and Reinecke did not discuss the \$400,000 pledge International Telephone and Telegraph Corp. made to underwrite the Republican National Convention when they met last spring.

But Tunney (D-Calif.) said Reinecke — who has been called to testify later — had told him in a telephone call last week that he had brought up the matter in a meeting last May in Mitchell's office.

### Versions Conflict

Tunney quoted Reinecke as saying he knew his version would conflict with Mitchell's but "all a man has is his integrity."

The committee's inquiry into the ITT pledge and the out-of-court settlement of a Justice Department anti-trust suit against the conglomerate entered its tenth day with Mitchell as the witness and no end to the hearing in sight.

A Senate confirmation vote on President Nixon's nomination of Richard Kleindienst to succeed Mitchell as attorney general has been delayed indefinitely to permit the committee to explore the ITT affair. Mitchell quit the Justice Department March 1 to direct Nixon's re-election campaign.

At a closed meeting during its lunch break, the committee decided to send six of

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its members to Denver next week to question Mrs. Dita D. Beard, the ITT Washington lobbyist whose confidential company memorandum prompted the inquiry when it was made public by columnist Jack Anderson.

Committee Chairman James O. Eastland (D-Miss.) named Sen Philip Hart (D-Mich.) to head the traveling subcommittee. Others going are Tunney, Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.), Republican Sens. Marlow Cook of Kentucky, Charles Mathias of Maryland and Strom Thurmond of South Carolina.

Mrs. Beard's memo mentioned a number of Nixon administration officials, including Mitchell, as being influential in reversing a decision to take three anti-trust suits pending against ITT to the Supreme Court. The memo tied settlement of the case in ITT's favor to the \$400,000 convention guarantee.

### Mitchell Denial

Mitchell said he took no part in the settlement and to this day knows nothing about the \$400,000 pledge except what he has read in the newspapers.

Mitchell said Reinecke and his aide, Edgar Gillenwaters, came to his office last April to discuss California economic problems and that it was conceivable they might have told him they were trying to lure the convention to San Diego. But Mitchell said the ITT pledge was not mentioned.

Tunney told newsmen that an hour after he spoke with Reinecke, the lieutenant governor "changed his story" and recalled at a news conference that the meeting occurred in September and not in May, as he had allegedly told Tunney on the telephone.

### Date Important

The date is important because the ITT - Hartford Fire Insurance Co. merger case was settled on July 31.

Tunney asked Mitchell if

he had called Reinecke on March 3 to get their stories straight. Mitchell said he had not, and that to the best of his knowledge, neither had anyone from the Justice Department or the Republican National Committee.

Interviewed later, outside

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the hearing room, Tunney said, "their statements (Mitchell's and Reinecke's) are in absolute conflict . . . one or the other has not told the truth."