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FBI Says Dita's Memo

Typed at ITT

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The FBI said yesterday that a controversial memorandum that columnist Jack Anderson attributed to Dita D. Beard, lobbyist for the International Telephone and Telegraph Corp., was typed in the ITT offices here.

In a five-page letter from director J. Edgar Hoover to Senator James O. Eastland (Dem-Miss.), chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, the Bureau said laboratory tests failed to substantiate Mrs. Beard's charges that the memo is a "forgery" and a "fraud."

The memo revealed by Anderson almost four weeks ago, links the Justice Department's settlement of three antitrust cases against ITT to the company's pledge of at least \$200,000 to sup-

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port the Republican National Convention in San Diego.

Ever since, the memo has been a crucial issue in Judiciary Committee hearings on the nomination of Richard G. Kleindienst to be attorney general. The hearings were reconvened at the Cabinet nominee's request.

President Nixon, in his first public comment on the ITT controversy, urged the prompt confirmation of Kleindienst, and flatly denied that his administration had given any special favors to ITT.

"If we wanted to do a favor for ITT, we could have continued to do what was done in previous administrations, which is nothing," the President said during a news conference in his White House office.

That was apparently a reference to the fact that previous Democratic administrations took the position that the antitrust laws did not apply to conglomerate mergers by such companies as ITT and never went to court in an attempt to stop them.

The FBI letter said that comparison of the Beard memo with other Anderson documents provide by ITT indicates that the date on the memo, June 25, 1971, is probably an accurate one.

"On the basis of the chemical tests possible within the time available," the FBI reported, "the typewriting ink on (the Beard memo) appears substantially similar in composition to the typewriting ink appearing on all submitted comparison documents on the hearing dates of June 28, 1971, and earlier."

The comparison documents provided by ITT had all been prepared on Mrs. Beard's typewriter in the company's office here.

In contrast, the FBI said, later documents submitted for examination had typewriter inks which were "definitely different."

Republicans on the Judiciary Committee have said that they would produce evidence indicating the Beard memo that Anderson made public was actually prepared at a much later date.

In a statement released a week ago through her attorney and through Senate Republican Leader Hugh Scott of Pennsylvania, Mrs. Beard denounced the

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memo published by Anderson as a "hoax," and expressed her eagerness to testify.

Mrs. Beard's lawyer, David W. Fleming, said in Denver that the FBI report was "exactly as we suspected."

Fleming said he believes the controversial memo was prepared by "one or more persons" other than the lobbyist, probably within the ITT offices.

Fleming also said that Mrs. Beard is currently under sedation and will continue to be under heavy medication during her interrogation by the senators next week.