

# Excerpts From I.T.T. Aide's Statement to Senators

DENVER, March 26 (UPI)— Following are excerpts from Mrs. Dita D. Beard's prepared statement to a Senate Judiciary subcommittee today:

I first want to state that I appreciate your concern for my physical condition which has prevented me from returning to Washington, D.C., to testify before the full committee at the outset of these hearings.

As Dr. [David] Garland stated in his report to you, when he first saw me in Denver on the late afternoon of Friday, March 3, 1972, I requested then that I be allowed to return to Washington. Since his diagnosis indicated that because of my recurring heart condition I was in immediate danger of a massive coronary, he ordered me to this hospital.

I want to make my doctor's statement a part of the record. I frankly don't remember the facts surrounding that first encounter with Dr. Garland. I was in considerable pain and had taken several nitroglycerin pills, together with vallium tablets and alcohol to ease that pain.

## Intended to Rest

I have never sought to run away, hide, escape or make myself unavailable to this committee. It was my intention on leaving Washington, D.C., on the morning of Thursday, March 2, 1972, to get some rest which I desperately needed because of my heart condition on advice of my doctor.

When I heard that there might be a subpoena issued, I made every effort to return.

I am not unfamiliar with the import and gravity of testimony before a Congressional committee. I am fur-

ther equally familiar with the penalties of perjury. Therefore the oath which I have taken is sacred to me and what I am about to say is the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth.

I did not write, compose or dictate the entirety of the memorandum which Mr. [Brit] Hume presented to me in the Washington office of I.T.T. last month. I do recall similar language in the first part of that memorandum which I wrote at some time in late June or early July of 1971, at the request of Mr. W. R. Merriam.

## Message From Hume

When I was first shown the [Jack] Anderson memorandum by Mr. Hume, this was the situation and my state of mind:

I had been informed by Mr. Hume that he had obtained from my private and personal file a memorandum which he said I wrote that was incredibly damaging to me and my company. This conversation occurred over the telephone. He asked me if he could meet me and I readily agreed. We met in the conference room of the Washington office of I.T.T. shortly before noon on or about Feb. 23, 1972. With Mr. Hume and me in the conference room where Jack Horner and Bernie Goodrich, I.T.T. employees.

I was obviously overcome with curiosity and understandable sense of alarm that such a situation could have occurred. Hume reached into the inner pocket of his suit coat jacket and produced two pages which were folded and he slowly opened them. I glanced at the top of the first page and noticed it was on standard memorandum

paper of the Washington I.T.T. office. The type of the pages was similar to that of the standard executive typewriters in our office.

I noticed the memorandum was written to Mr. Merriam from me and I glanced at a penciled initial (D) which appeared following my name. I did not study the top of the memorandum any further, since my anxiety was, of course, to read what was in it. I began to read rapidly. Some of the language, the general subject matter of the first paragraph looked familiar. At that moment I had no reason to assume that this was not a memorandum written by me.

He asked me if I had written it. I had not yet fully read it, or taken the time to study it. I acknowledged that it looked like my little (D).

As I read on, particularly the last paragraphs, I became shocked and obviously flustered. Some of the language brought back absolutely no recall because it set forth allegations about which I had no knowledge.

## Sees No Connection

I was never aware of, or conversant with, any facts or information which would lead me to believe there was any connection, direct or indirect, between the assistance proposed by Sheraton [hotels] to the San Diego Convention Bureau and a favorable settlement of the antitrust suits.

I told Mr. Hume that I couldn't understand that language and I didn't know what it meant. I was in a state of emotional distress and literal shock. I remember commenting to the effect that this looks like my (D), but I couldn't see how I could have written the memo.

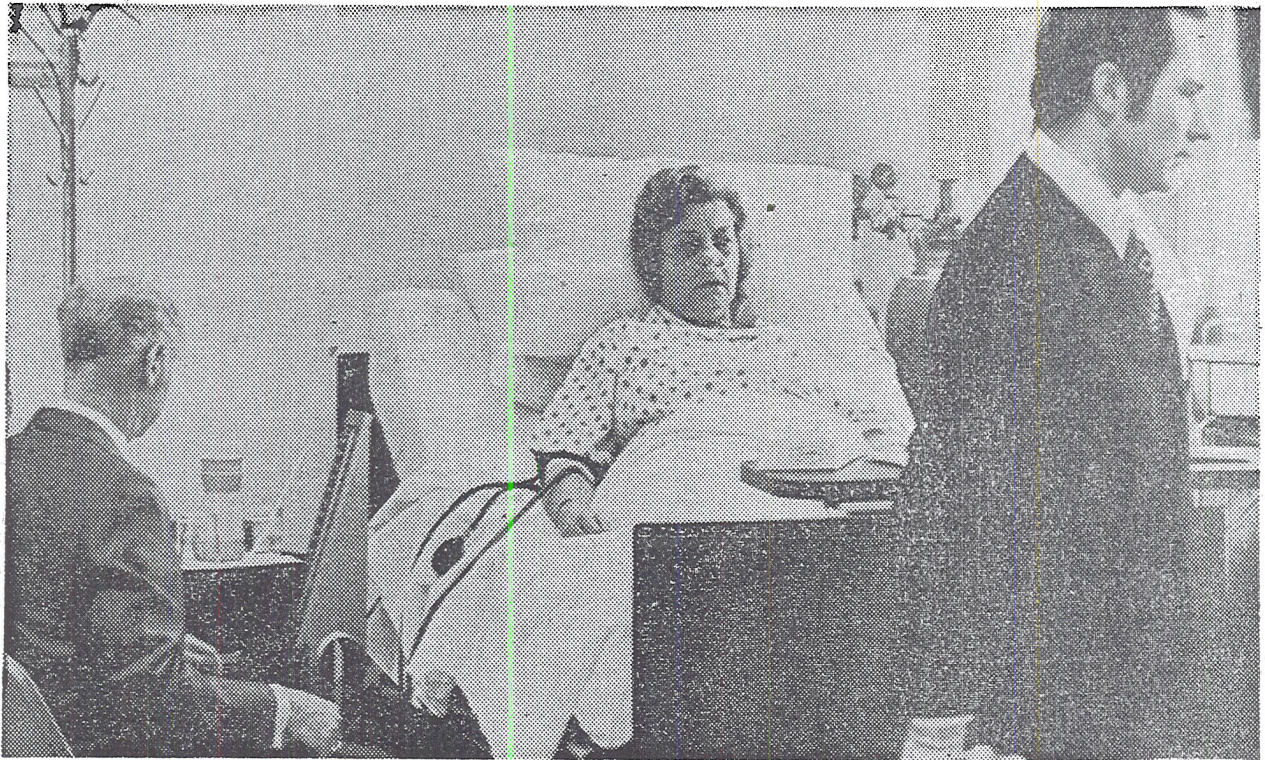
I now state categorically to this committee that I did not write the Anderson memorandum.

I want this committee and the world to know that the Anderson memorandum is not my memorandum, that I am innocent of any wrongdoing and that I shall spend the rest of my life, for however long that might be, in an unceasing effort to find out who did this to me and why.



MAR 27 1972

THE NEW YORK TIMES, MONDAY, MARCH 27, 1972



Associated Press

**BEFORE SESSION BEGAN:** Mrs. Dita D. Beard, I.T.T. lobbyist, having her heart checked by her doctor, left, and her lawyer, David Fleming, waited for the session to start at the Rocky Mountain Osteopathic Hospital yesterday.