

Geneen

Another ITT Contradiction

WASHINGTON — (UPI) — International Telephone and Telegraph President Harold Geneen testified today he never talked with presidential assistant Peter Flanigan about the administration's antitrust policy, contradicting ITT's earlier assertion that he had.

Sen. Sam Ervin Jr. (D-N.C.) asked Geneen if he had ever discussed antitrust policy with Flanigan. Geneen answered no.

Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.) then read a March 13 statement issued by ITT saying "... Mr. Geneen also registered his views on the administration's (antitrust) policy with White House staff members Dr. Arthur Burns, Charles Colson, John Ehrlichman and Peter Flanigan ..."

Meeting

Geneen said he was invited in February 1971 to a Washington meeting with other businessmen, headed by Flanigan, to discuss revenue sharing and government reorganization. He said that antitrust policy may have been mentioned in passing but that he never discussed it as such with Flanigan.

The Senate Judiciary Committee called Geneen to testify in the complicated case involving an offer of \$400,000 by ITT to the 1972 Republican convention in exchange for a favorable antitrust ruling.

The hearings are holding up the nomination of Richard Kleindienst, who was deputy attorney general in July 1971 at the time of the ruling, to become attorney general.



A LIGHT MOMENT FOR ITT HEAD
Harold S. Geneen starts his testimony with a laugh

Refused

Sen. Roman Hruska (R-Neb.) asked the committee to go into executive session to consider halting the investigation.

Sen. James Eastland (D-Miss.), the chairman, refused the suggestion but called a closed-door hearing for April 6.

Two weeks ago Geneen testified that he had discussed the administration's antitrust policies with high officials throughout the gov-

ernment while the ITT case was pending. —AP Photo

view in the department at the time involved ITT. These talks, he said, included a conversation with then Attorney General John Mitchell. He insisted, as did Mitchell before him, that the talks were of a philosophical nature, even though four of the antitrust cases under re-

An interoffice memorandum purportedly written by ITT lobbyist Dita Beard and published by columnist Jack Anderson set off re-opened hearings into Kleindienst's fitness to be attorney general.