

# Dita a 'major contributor' on secret Nixon fund list

WASHINGTON — From the confidential files of President Nixon's campaign finance committee, we have obtained a list of "major donors" with ITT lobbyist Dita Beard's name on it.

Down the list is also the name of ITT director Felix Rohatyn, who lobbied with the top brass at the Justice Department to drop three antitrust suits against ITT.

The ITT pair are listed with such multimillionaires as Robert O. Anderson, Henry Ford II, Helen Clay Frick, Richard M. Scaife and W. Clement Stone, who have contributed heavily to the Republican cause in the past.

Yet Mrs. Beard, who worked as a secretary before she became a \$29,000-a-year lobbyist, is clearly not in their financial class. It is doubtful that she, with five children to support and medical bills to pay, has ever made any "major" donations to the GOP out of her own pocketbook.

Her name, incidentally, is misspelled as "Deida Beard" on the GOP list of millionaire contributors. But her affiliation with International Telephone and Telegraph is spelled out quite accurately. Her address is given as 1706 L St., N.W., Washington, D.C., which happens to be the location of ITT's Washington office.

## The implications

The implications, since she has no money of her own, is that she can raise money through her ITT connection for President Nixon's campaign. It would be against the law for ITT to contribute directly to the campaign.

The confidential list was drawn up from "known major donors" to Republican senatorial campaigns in 1970. It was thought the same people would be good prospects to approach for contribution to the Nixon campaign this year.

This list doesn't give the amount the "known major donors" passed out to GOP candidates in 1970, nor does it mention how much they may be willing to contribute in 1972. Insiders say, however, that the President's chief money grubber, Maurice Stans, has used the list to raise hundreds of thousands of dollars.

To hide the contributions, Stans has set

up phony financial fronts in the District of Columbia.

## Stans refuses comment

We asked Stans a series of questions about his major donors, but he refused all comment except to say that he had nothing

## Jack Anderson

to do with the 1970 campaign.

In fairness, it should be mentioned that the Democrats use the same techniques to raise campaign funds. Indeed, some of the big-money men, listed as major GOP donors, have also made substantial contributions to Democratic candidates.

ITT's Felix Rohatyn, for example, has managed to find funds for Republican and Democratic candidates alike. He made a \$2,500 donation, for example, to the presidential campaign of Sen. Edmund Muskie.

It was Rohatyn who dropped by the Justice Department last April 29 to discuss ITT's antitrust problems with Richard Kleindienst, the then deputy attorney general. The same day, Rohatyn had two meetings with then Attorney General John Mitchell, who had disassociated himself from the ITT suits because of a conflict of interest.

## Mitchell's meetings

Everyone involved swore under oath that the ITT cases never came up when Rohatyn and Mitchell met. The senators were asked to believe that an ITT director, in town to discuss the most crucial lawsuits in the company's history, would float freely from floor to floor in the Justice Department never telling one official the subject of his meeting with another.

ITT President Harold Geneen, himself, also called upon Mitchell. Both men testified that they didn't mention the ITT cases but merely discussed antitrust philosophy.

In May, Geneen pledged to Republican officials in San Diego that ITT would put up \$400,000—or whatever portion of this amount was needed—to bring the Republican convention to San Diego. A check for \$100,000 subsequently was made out to the convention bureau.