

FBI Told to Probe Phony Circulars

Jacksonville, Fla.

United States Attorney John L. Briggs said yesterday that he has asked the FBI to trace the source of a campaign flyer, distributed during the Florida presidential primary, which accused two Democratic candidates of illicit sexual affairs.

Briggs said the campaign flyer, which was distributed on stationery bearing Senator Edmund Muskie's name, was obviously phony and designed to hurt the purported sender.

The flyer, which was distributed in the Tampa area during the Florida primary campaign last March, accused Senators Hubert Humphrey (Dem - Minn.) and Henry Jackson (Dem - Wash.) of illicit sexual affairs.

"The charges (on the flyer) are so ridiculous that it is apparent it has the purpose of hurting the person who has supposed to have sent it," said Briggs.

"It is so obvious that only a moron would have believed the charges," he continued. "The impact was to anger the voter against the sender — allegedly Muskie. It is a scurrilous type of literature."

Briggs emphatically denied a report by syndicated columnist Jack Anderson that Jackson had asked the U.S. attorney's office in Tampa to investigate the incident. Anderson said Jackson had received no answer to his request for an investigation.

"Senator Jackson's office has not made any inquiry," said Briggs, whose jurisdiction covers the Tampa area.

Briggs said the campaign flyer was not investigated last March because no investigation was requested and there was no evidence federal law had been violated because it had not been distributed through the mail.

United Press