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Reinecke Enters Plea

--'Not Guilty'

SF Chronicle

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Washington

California Lieutenant Governor Ed Reinecke pleaded "absolutely not guilty" yesterday to three counts of perjury stemming from the investigation of the International Telephone and Telegraph Corp. affair.

U.S. District Judge Barrington D. Parker immediately set trial for June 19 — two weeks after the California primary election in which Reinecke is running for the Republican gubernatorial nomination.

However, after Reinecke's attorney argued that Reinecke should be allowed to "establish his innocence before the primary," Parker said that he will consider moving the date up to May 20.

The judge, who was appointed to the court five years ago by President Nixon, did not indicate when he would rule on the date or on Reinecke's request that the trial be moved to California.

Special prosecutor Joseph J. Connolly said the government had no objection to the earlier date. But he later told reporters he would probably fight the motion for a change of venue.

Reinecke was charged with lying to a Senate committee investigating the nomination of former U.S. Attorney General Richard Klein-

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dienst. The committee was probing an alleged connection between a guarantee of funds for the 1972 Republican national Convention and the out-of-court settlement of an antitrust case against ITT.

The indictment charged that Reinecke lied when he said that, so far as he knew, then Attorney General John Mitchell did not know ITT had offered a \$400,000 guarantee for the convention before Reinecke told him about it on September 17, 1971. Settlement of the ITT case had been announced July 31, 1971.

Reinecke arrived at the court house shortly before 10 a.m. with attorney F. Joseph Donohue, a well-known Washington attorney and friend of late President Truman.

Wearing a gray suit with an American flag miniature in his lapel, Reinecke sat quietly as Judge Parker swiftly arraigned three youths on drug charges.

Asked how he would plead, the lieutenant governor said softly, "Absolutely not guilty."

Judge Parker demanded no bail on the charges but said Reinecke must surrender his passport to the court and maintain weekly contact with his attorney.

Donohue argued for an early trial because of "special circumstances which exist," but Parker said his calendar was filled.

"I can appreciate your request," the judge said, "but I have other defendants who are before me who would like a similarly swift disposal of their cases . . . these other persons have their problems, too."

Later, however, Parker relented somewhat and said "I will reconsider my calendar."

Dates for motions and hearings were set for April 17, April 24 and May 13.

In filing his motion for a change of venue, Donohue argued that Reinecke's "absence from the state of California imposes an undue burden on the citizens of that state."

The lieutenant governor

was escorted from the half-hour session by Chief Deputy U.S. Marshal James F. Palmer and remarked to reporters that "this gentleman has to print me" before being taken across the street to the District of Columbia Municipal Center.

In the basement central cell block of the district's police station, Reinecke was seated at a table and his fingers were inked and rolled twice each on booking cards.

Reinecke sat somberly during the session, making what appeared to be one light-hearted remark, and was then photographed for police records wearing identification number 281912.

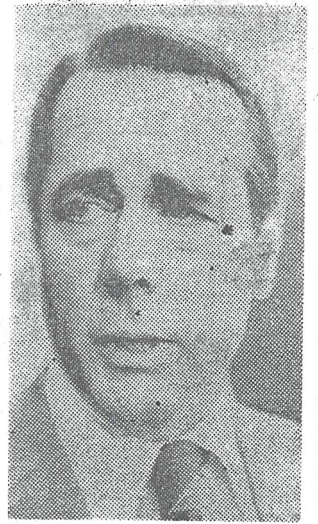
Back in the sunny and cool outdoors, Reinecke told reporters it was the second time he had been fingerprinted.

"The first time was when I joined the Navy in 1942," he said.

The change of venue to California is important, Reinecke insisted, because he wants to call 20 witnesses to bolster his case "and I don't have the money to fly them all to Washington."

And, he said, "I want to be judged by my peers — and my peers are in California."

No supporters have dropped out of the campaigning because of the indictments, he said, "and I'm still the front runner. So long as you guys continue to spell my name right it won't be all that bad—all the other guys are having to buy this sort of time."



AP Wirephoto

ED REINECKE
Fingerprinted

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