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# Reinecke Claim Is Disputed

Washington **SFChronicle**

Watergate prosecutors filed in court yesterday a sworn statement from the chief counsel of the Senate Judiciary Committee disputing Ed Reinecke's claim that it was not a competent tribunal at the time he allegedly committed perjury before it.

Reinecke, lieutenant governor of California, faces trial here starting July 15 on an indictment accusing him of lying to the Senate committee on April 19, 1972. The committee at that time was holding hearings on the nomination of Richard G. Kleindienst to be attorney general.

Reinecke's attorneys have contended there was not a quorum of the Judiciary Committee present when, on Jan. 26, 1972, it adopted a rule providing that one member of the committee would constitute a quorum for the purpose of taking sworn testimony.

Peter Stockett, the committee's chief counsel, said in the affidavit filed yesterday that a quorum of nine Senators was present.

"The minutes of the... meeting show that action on certain proposals raised at the beginning of the meeting was deferred because the absence of a quorum was noted and that such proposals as well as the aforesaid quorum rule were adopted later in the meeting," Stockett's statement said.

Reinecke's attorneys had questioned also a reference in the minutes to adjournment of the January 26 session. The minutes say, "at 2:20 p.m., the subcommittee adjourned."

Stockett's affidavit said this was an error by the official reporters, and that the meeting was one of the full committee.

Reinecke, defeated earlier this month in his bid for the Republican gubernatorial nomination in California, is accused of lying about arrangements to finance the 1972 Republican national convention in San Diego.

*Associated Press*