

WITNESS SAYS SHE BRIEFED REINECKE

Asserts He Got Information Before I.T.T. Testimony

By E. W. KENWORTHY

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WASHINGTON, July 17 — Mrs. Darlene Housley, a former White House employe, described for a Federal jury today how she and two Presidential aides briefed Lieut. Gov. Ed Reinecke of California just before he testified before the Senate Judiciary Committee on April 19, 1972.

Mrs. Housley, who had worked for the former White House counsel John W. Dean 3d, denied, however, that she had told Mr. Reinecke what to say in answer to questions.

Mr. Reinecke, a Republican, was indicted by a Watergate grand jury last April 3 on charges that he lied when he told the Senate committee that he informed former Attorney General John N. Mitchell on Sept. 17, 1971, of a pledge of up to \$400,000 by the International Telephone and Telegraph Corporation if the 1972 Republican National Convention was held in San Diego. This was six weeks after the settlement of an anti-trust case against I.T.T.

Mr. Reinecke's testimony agreed with what Mr. Mitchell told the committee a month earlier in its hearings on the nomination of Richard G. Kleindienst to be Attorney General. The Government contends, however, that Mr. Reinecke had informed Mr. Mitchell of the I.T.T. pledge on May 21, 1971, during negotiations on a settlement.

Prepared Briefing

Today Mrs. Housley, a prosecution witness, testified that in April, 1972, at Mr. Dean's direction, she prepared a briefing paper to be given to Mr. Reinecke at the White House on the morning of April 19, the day he was to testify.

She said she worked most of the night on the briefing paper and turned up at the White House west wing at 6:30 A.M., as Mr. Dean had ordered.

Mr. Reinecke and Edgar Gillenwaters, an aide, arrived at about 6:45 A.M. after an overnight plane ride. Mrs. Housley said, and were met by Mr. Dean and Clark MacGregor, then a White House counsel for Congressional relations. They all went to Mr. Dean's office, she said, where Mr. Reinecke and Mr. Gillenwaters for the next "20 to 30 minutes" read the briefing paper she had prepared.

In the paper, Mrs. Housley said, she reviewed prior testimony before the Judiciary Committee that referred to Mr. Reinecke and his aide, with



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Lieut. Gov. Ed Reinecke of California arriving at U. S. District Court in Washington yesterday.

particular emphasis on any conflicting testimony. She also included references to news articles, including two quoting Mr. Reinecke as saying on March 2, 1972, that he had informed Mr. Mitchell of the I.T.T. pledge in May, 1971—a statement that he "corrected" a day later after, he said, he had consulted his records.

Much of the day was taken up with cross-examination of Benjamin Firshein, a Senate stenotypist who took down the Judiciary Committee proceedings when Mr. Reinecke testified.

Under questioning by James E. Cox, Mr. Reinecke's lawyer, Mr. Firshein said that, at the request of the prosecutor's office, he had rechecked his stenographic notes and made corrections in several pages of the transcript prior to the submission of the transcript to the grand jury last March.

Arguing that vital testimony may have been altered, Mr. Cox asked Judge Barrington Parker to dismiss the case. The judge rejected the request, saying that the changes made did not affect the portions of Mr. Reinecke's testimony on which the indictments were based. But he said Mr. Cox could raise later his request for dismissal.