

'Face the Nation'

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, July 19—Following is an excerpt from the transcript of the March 19, 1972, appearance on "Face the Nation" of Richard McClaren. He was questioned by George E. Herman and Neil Strawser of C.B.S. In the excerpt, which was presented to the House Judiciary Committee by the White House, the I.T.T. contribution to the Republican party is discussed.

HERMAN: Let me ask you one other in-their-shoes question. Do you think it was right and proper, and also wise for ITT to make this large pledge to an organization connected with the Republican Party while it was engaged in this litigation or these negotiations?

JUDGE McLAREN: I just have no way of commenting on that. I knew nothing about it. It never came to my attention, even where the convention was going to be, until long after our negotiation. I never met Mrs. Beard, I never had anything to do with that. According to their story, as I understand it, for the big hotels to make opening, as I understand that Sheraton's going to have out there, that's a pretty customary thing.

HERMAN: But by five times customary. They are the second largest chain, they gave five times as much, I understand, as the first largest chain.

JUDGE McLAREN: Well, they've got three hotels—I don't—I can't argue that—I knew nothing about it at the time, and I guarantee you that that Republican convention site and ITT's contribution had absolutely 100 per cent nothing to do with this settlement that I made.

STRAWSER: If, as Mrs. Beard claims, that memorandum that did link the two was a forgery all along, do you feel that it was unnecessary for you to sit through all those days of hearings in the Senate?

JUDGE McLAREN: I don't—I—Mr. Strawser, it's completely inexplicable to me. Based on my knowledge of the events, what I said before was that the memorandum is absolutely incredible. Now whether it's spurious, a forgery, or just name-dropping, I just don't have any. . . .

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