

STATINTL

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PROGRAM Drew Pearson

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CITY Washington, DC

SENATOR DODD AND THE CIA

PEARSON: "The Central Intelligence Agency.

"Senator Dodd did some smart political juggling to wangle a letter out of the CIA partly supporting his claim that he went to Germany, not for General Julius Klein, but to investigate Soviet terror tactics.

"CIA Director Helms, without commenting on the reason for Dodd's trip, now has confirmed that the Senator did make some inquiries from CIA before and after going to Germany.

"Helms did not tell, however, about the smart indirect pressure Dodd used to get the letter. He asked for it just at the moment CIA was up for a Senate vote as to whether it should be investigated. Ordinarily Dodd would have voted vigorously for CIA, which he has always championed, but this time he gave his Foreign Relations Committee Proxy vote to Senator Gene McCarthy, the chief CIA critic. This helped Dodd with McCarthy, who's a member of the Ethics Committee, and it also kept CIA guessing.

"When the final Senate vote came up on creating the watchdog committee to investigate CIA, Dodd ducked out, he didn't vote. Even though he's made a big show of interrupting our deposition to attend a mere quorum call. It was on the day of that vote, July 14, that Central Intelligence finally wrote the letter partially alibying for Dodd's trip to Germany."