

# Dodd Accuses 5 Ex-Employees Of Removing File Documents

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Five former employes of Sen. Thomas J. Dodd, D-Conn., have been named in an affidavit filed in U.S. District Court here by the attorney representing Dodd in a \$5 million libel suit against columnists Drew Pearson and Jack Anderson.

Washington lawyer John F. Sonnett, in an affidavit filed Friday, said "a former secretary in the local office of a public relations agent" witnessed one of the five employes copying Dodd's files with the assistance of Anderson's secretary.

Sonnett named the five ex-employes as Miss Rose Marie Robertson, Mrs. Majorie Carpenter, Michael V. O'Hare, Miss Terry Golden and James P. Boyd. The affidavit said they "induced and participated in the scheme" to remove Dodd's files.

Boyd, named as the individual who copied the "unlawfully removed" files, told a reporter "at least six people in Dodd's office have furnished documentary evidence and approximately a dozen other persons have contributed substantial other information."

## \$23,000-a-Year Aide

Boyd was the first person selected for Dodd's staff after Dodd was elected to the Senate in 1958. In his six years with Dodd, Boyd rose to a \$23,000-a-year assistant who many regarded as the senator's "alter ego."

"I understood the pressure on the senator, his motives and his interests," Boyd said. "But his record keeping didn't inspire much confidence."

Boyd said it was Dodd's financial report to the secretary of the Senate after the 1964 election "which raised a doubt in my mind—it put up a red flag."

"I supervised all major expenditures in the campaign—radio, television, newspaper ads and so forth. I knew what was coming in and going out, and I raised some questions to the senator," Boyd added.

## Shifted To Outside Work

Boyd said that in late 1964 Dodd "sent me a note saying my services were no longer needed." Before the day was over, Dodd changed his mind about dismissing Boyd but asked him to work outside the office in the future, Boyd added.

Boyd, 37, said that when he asked Dodd about the reasons for the action, "he said I listened to criticism of him by a staff member in public, but didn't defend him."

Boyd said he remained on Dodd's payroll, working at home, until May 1965, when Dodd asked him to return to the office but imposed conditions which Boyd said he could not accept. At that point Boyd said he left the senator's payroll.

Mrs. Carpenter, 28, said she became Dodd's personal secretary in June, 1961 and worked for him until dismissed in December, 1964, with the exception of several months in 1963 when she was employed by a House committee.

"Dodd called me back from Connecticut after we had a big dispute over campaign funds, told me he was reorganizing the office and didn't need my services any more," she told a reporter.

"All we have ever wanted is that the whole story be known," she said.

Mrs. Carpenter denied a published report quoting her saying she aided in removing Dodd's files. She said she would "gladly explain before any congressional committee, grand jury or court."

## Fired Last Year

Miss Golden, 23, said she was hired by Dodd in July, 1963 and dismissed in October, 1965. "I don't know why I was fired. I don't think it had to do with my work. I tried to talk to the senator about it and I think he knew what it was all about, but he was too embarrassed to talk about it."

O'Hare, 30, began working for Dodd in May, 1961 and was office manager for the senator until he left in January, 1966 "because I was dissatisfied with my job."

Miss Robertson was not available for comment.

## Columnists Statement

The other ex-employes still live in the Washington area, and all said they have been questioned by the FBI or the Senate Ethics Committee about the removal of Dodd's files.

Pearson and Anderson, replying to Dodd's legal allegations that they wrote "false, malicious and defamatory state-

ments" about the senator, issued this statement yesterday.

"We accept Sen. Dodd's challenge to spread the evidence of his misconduct on the public record, despite the fact that he notified us by mimeographed press release rather than by due process of law.

"Since he has accused us of quoting certain records out of context, we will be delighted to release the full text so the press and public can judge for themselves whether we have been telling the truth.

"The witnesses Dodd seeks have already volunteered to testify before the Senate Ethics Committee and will be available to give first-hand testimony of Dodd's improprieties and to answer any questions."