

Charges by Pearson, Anderson

Thoro Dodd Case Probe Assured by Senate Unit

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Members of the Senate Ethics Committee reported today that it is conducting a thoro "fact-finding" investigation of charges involving Sen. Thomas J. Dodd (D., Conn.). The inquiry probably will continue for several months.

The bipartisan Committee is looking into:

- Sen. Dodd's alleged close associations with retired Maj. Gen. Julius Klein, a Chicago public relations man and registered foreign agent for a group of West German industrialists.

- Published charges that Sen. Dodd has diverted campaign contributions to his personal use.

DENIALS

Sen. Dodd has issued general denials of these charges and has submitted to the Committee detailed, but undisclosed, answers to them.

The Connecticut Senator himself asked the Committee to investigate charges by columnists Drew Pearson and Jack Anderson which they

claimed were based on letters and other documents in Sen. Dodd's office files.

LEARNED

It was learned from authoritative sources that the Committee has:

- Decided to go to "original sources" to determine the accuracy and validity of all the charges made against Sen. Dodd and his answers to them.

- Borrowed several investigators from the General Accounting Office to augment its one-man staff.

The Committee also is investigating how material from Sen. Dodd's files was "leaked" to Mr. Pearson and Mr. Anderson.

Several Committee members, while asking not to be identified, indignantly denied that it plans to "brush off" the case.

HEARINGS

They predicted that the Committee eventually will hold hearings.

Ultimately, they said the Committee virtually is certain to file a public report on the inquiry with the Senate.