

ETHICS COMMITTEE TRYING TO TRACE CLASSIFIED DATA

WASHINGTON, March 18 (UPI)—The Senate ethics committee has questioned more than 100 people, including several Senators, in an attempt to find out who has been giving out classified information from the Senate intelligence committee.

The investigation has been led by two retired agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, John Marshall and Julian Engelstad, hired as consultants. Two intelligence committee staff members also are working for the ethics committee in the inquiry.

The ethics committee is trying to trace information from an intelligence committee inquiry involving a United States bugging operation against the Panamanian leader Omar Torrijos at the time of the canal treaty negotiations. General Torrijos discovered it when an Army sergeant tried to sell him tapes and transcripts.

The other investigation concerns published material from a classified intelligence committee report on oil embargoes. The Ethics committee chairman, Adlai E. Stevenson 3d, Democrat of Illinois, said the report came from an intelligence subcommittee he heads. Someone apparently "mimeographed it and handed it out," Senator Stevenson said.