

## KEY FACTS – KLEINDIENST CONFIRMATION

1. The lengthy hearings did not produce even a vestige of evidence that in any way reflects adversely upon Mr. Kleindienst's qualifications to be Attorney General, and have produced much to justify his confirmation.
  
2. After receiving unanimous Committee approval of his confirmation, Kleindienst requested the hearings be reopened to permit response to a Jack Anderson column accusing him of negotiating a favorable settlement of ITT merger cases in exchange for an ITT contribution to the Republican Party. The evidence presented disproved this charge and established the following:
  - The contents and authenticity of so-called "Dita Beard" memo linking a contribution and the settlement are questioned or denied by every witness except Anderson.
  - The ITT "political contribution" was in fact a guarantee of financial support to the City of San Diego where ITT has several hotels, so that it could bid for its first major convention.
  - Kleindienst and then Attorney General Mitchell didn't even know of ITT's guarantee at the time of the settlement, and there was no connection between the events.
  - The settlement of the ITT cases was negotiated by then Assistant Attorney General McLaren, the toughest anti-trust chief in recent history; Kleindienst was only involved to the extent of the normal role of an acting head of the Department.
  - There was no White House interference in the settlement of these cases.
  - McLaren's settlement was very favorable to the Government and harsh for ITT:
    - ITT was forced to divest over a billion dollars of assets and is restricted from future acquisitions.
    - The Government had lost two of the three cases in the lower courts and was denied an injunction in the third; prospects for successful appeals were doubtful, and the settlement accomplished what the U.S. sought.
  
3. Evidence presented disproved a LIFE charge that Kleindienst covered up illegal acts of U.S. Attorney Steward; to the contrary, Kleindienst ordered an administrative inquiry into the matter which determined Steward was guilty of poor judgment, for which he was censured, but not of illegal conduct.
  
4. The Senate should now put aside partisan political considerations and move to confirm Mr. Kleindienst at the earliest opportunity.