



UPI

Former Whip McFall:
\$4,000 for expenses



James K.W. Atherton—The Washington Post
Majority Whip Brademas:
\$5,250 in contributions



Louisiana Governor Edwards:
Total payments of \$25,000



AP photos

Speaker O'Neill: Golf clubs and two lamps

The Cloud Is Lifting

He scribbled notes with a gold Cartier pencil, squinted at the television lights through blue-gray tinted glasses and breezily described himself as nothing more than a man pursuing the American dream. "I wanted to make a buck," said Tongsun Park. "What's wrong with that?" Testifying before the House ethics committee after eighteen months of artful dodging, Park publicly admitted last week that during his ten years as a man-about-Washington he had passed \$850,000 to 31 congressmen, fourteen of whom are still in office. He insisted he did it only to promote his rice-brokering business, not as a covert Korean agent. Few people believed he acted on his own, but when he finished his two days of testimony, there was a sense of relief in Congress. The scandal, dubbed Kor-eagate when it threatened to implicate more than 100 congressmen, now seems highly exaggerated. "The Korean scandal is not quite behind us," said Rep. Clement Zablocki. "But it's settling down. The cloud is not as dense."

Park added little new to what investigators had already learned. Nearly three-fourths of the money, he said, went to three former representatives—Otto Passman of Louisiana, Cornelius Gallagher of New Jersey and Richard T. Hanna of California. Hanna has pleaded guilty to conspiring to defraud the government. Passman has been indicted on conspiracy and bribery charges, and Gallagher is under investigation by the Justice Department. Ex-Congressman William Minshall, one of the few Republicans on Park's list, got \$31,500 plus \$25,000 he was supposed to forward to Richard Nixon's 1972 Presidential campaign. He, too, is under investiga-

\$25,000, including payments to his wife and brother. And former Congressman Nick Galifianakis, who lost a 1972 Senate race in North Carolina, received \$10,500, Park said. Most of Park's other gifts were relatively small campaign contributions (Rep. Morris Udall of Arizona got \$300) and were legal at the time, as long as candidates reported them.

Mysterious Letter: But just being on Park's list is an embarrassment to such prominent Democrats as House Speaker Thomas (Tip) O'Neill of Massachusetts, who received a set of golf clubs and two lamps; Majority Whip John Brademas of Indiana, who got \$5,250; and the former Majority Whip, Rep. John J. McFall of California, who received a total of \$4,000 for office expenses. Last week, O'Neill also found himself the subject of a mysterious letter that Justice Department investigators found in one of Park's Wash-

Tongsun Park: 'I wanted to make a buck'

James K.W. Atherton—The Washington Post



ington mansions. Written in Korean and unsigned, it said that O'Neill had asked Tongsun Park for money for some of his friends in Congress. Park testified that he never saw the document and O'Neill told NEWSWEEK that it was "a total fabrication." O'Neill believes that either Park or his secretary, a known agent of the Korean Central Intelligence Agency, wrote the letter "to impress the Korean Government" with their influence in Washington. But the Boston newspapers had a field day anyway. DOCUMENT LINKS PARK, O'NEILL headlined the Globe last week.

Now that Park has finally testified, the ethics committee must decide what punishments to mete out, if any. Though it is illegal to accept money from agents of foreign governments, Park still insists he never worked for the KCIA. "I denied that a thousand times," he shouted at one point last week. But the ethics committee has documents to the contrary, including reports from the FBI. "Legally, politically and constitutionally, he was in every way a representative of the Korean Government when he gave money to members of Congress," said Peter White, the committee's deputy special counsel. Still, even if Park was a secret agent, the congressmen who received his largesse could argue that they had no way of knowing.

Illegal: The ethics committee still hopes to get testimony from Kim Dong Jo, Korean ambassador to Washington at the time. He has been accused of giving money to congressmen, too, but the South Korean Government has refused to let him appear before Congress. O'Neill and other House leaders are holding up the transfer of \$800 million in military equipment to Korea, while they try to arrange for his testimony, perhaps secretly, in Korea. If Kim had given money, it would have been illegal because he was a repre-

few congressmen—either for violating House rules or committing perjury. "Some members told very different stories [to closed sessions of the committee] than what Tongsun Park told," said Rep. Bruce Caputo. But Caputo acknowledges that at the most only about six members face any further trouble. And with little new evidence at hand, the House Democrats seem to have contained the scandal well before the start of next fall's election campaign—with little political damage.

—DON HOLT with ELAINE SHANNON and HENRY W. HUBBARD in Washington

THE FBI: Wringing Bell

Pay close attention, please—this gets a little tricky. The Socialist Workers Party, a Trotskyite group much unloved by the late J. Edgar Hoover, sued the government for \$27 million, charging illegal surveillance by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Last month, a Federal district judge told the Justice Department that it must reveal to SWP lawyers, under a pledge of secrecy, the names of all appropriate FBI informers

and infiltrators. So far, nothing strange. But *this* time, the judge said, the government could not just forfeit the case; it sometimes does rather than blow its agents' covers. The government, the judge held, must furnish the name of Attorney General Griffin Bell sought higher court review of the ruling. But turned out that the only way Bell could win the appellate review he wants is to defy the ruling—leaving the Attorney General of the United States in contempt of court. Last week, Bell asked the Supreme Court to review the matter as soon as possible.

THE TWO DR. POLATINS

For psychiatrist Peter Polatin, the mystery began with a telephone call to his Washington office. The caller identified himself as Dr. Carl Boreland, said he had met Polatin years before in Los Angeles and proposed a meeting between them and an HEW physician who might have an interesting job to offer. But "Boreland" arrived at the meeting place alone, a dark, slightly built man with a fleshy nose and a strong chin. He slipped into Polatin's car, drove with him to the Ellipse, then jumped into the back seat and clumsily tried to choke him. Polatin burst free, bolted from the car and reported the attack.

The assailant got away, but within two weeks police in California had arrested Israeli Carmi Bar-Ilan, 38. The astonishing thing was that the man charged with trying to take Peter Polatin's life had already stolen his identity, investigators say—working for more than a year under Polatin's name as a \$43,720 staff psychiatrist at Patton State Hospital near San Bernardino. In a masterly improvisation, authorities say, Bar-Ilan supervised 200 patients, testified in court on questions of insanity and even wrote prescriptions for powerful drugs. "To pass the initial hurdle and get hired is one thing," says Patton's acting medical director, Dr. Al Walker. "To be sharp enough to survive on the job is something else."

Phony Claims: As investigators told the story, Bar-Ilan had a long history of getting jobs by falsifying his credentials. Though he earned a Ph.D. in psychology from the University of Michigan in 1971, he desperately wanted to be a physician. He got a job as a child psychologist at the Kedren Community Health Center in Los Angeles by falsely claiming to have a state license in clinical psychology. Meanwhile, Polatin applied for a job at Kedren and was interviewed by



Bar-Ilan, California hospital: 'His credentials looked very good'



Jim McHugh—Sygma

Bar-Ilan who put together a detailed history of Polatin, including his medical license number and letters of recommendation. Using Polatin's name and credentials, Bar-Ilan applied for a job as a doctor at Patton. "We have a deep need for doctors, especially psychiatrists," said Patton's Walker. "And his credentials, quite honestly, looked very good."

Bar-Ilan looked pretty good on the job as well, authorities say, thanks to his academic studies in psychology, his regular attendance at seminars and his wholesale requests for drug samples—plus the brochures that manufacturers send with them. Staff-

ers later recalled how the phony Polatin always managed to duck detailed discussions of cases, and how several times he was caught prescribing overdoses of dangerous drugs. Bar-Ilan was also allegedly filing phony insurance claims—including one that named his own son as the patient.

For some time, everything went smoothly, investigators say. During the week, he was Polatin and lived in a rented cottage at Patton. On the weekends, he was Bar-Ilan and lived with his wife in Beverly Hills. But then came a hospital memo reminding staff doctors that their licenses were coming up for renewal. "He was in a position where he had to come up with more documentation than he had," said William Rockefeller, a state health-department investigator. "I think he panicked. He went [to Washington] to get it—and in my opinion he was going to eliminate [Polatin] and really take his place."

Wiped-Out: Unfortunately for Bar-Ilan, his name dropping to Polatin about the Kedren Center during the attack in Washington and the insurance claim he put through on his own son (which was mistakenly paid to the real Polatin) helped police locate him. At his two homes, they found embossing machines with the shields of the University of Michigan and Jerusalem's Hebrew University,

several half-altered school transcripts and phony letterhead stationery in several names. Bar-Ilan was apparently in the process of seeking medical licenses and psychiatrist jobs in several states. Now he is awaiting trial on charges of assault with intent to commit murder and six violations of California law involving the improper practice of medicine. "The guy truly wanted to be a doctor and would do anything for it," said deputy U.S. attorney J. Stephen Czuleger. "He's pretty well wiped his life out and it's too bad, because he's a bright guy."

—DAVID M. ALPERN with MARTIN KASINDORF in Los Angeles and DAVID C. MARTIN in Washington