

FOR RELEASE THURSDAY A.M., JULY 23

Harold F. Stewart, retired Chief of the U. S. Park Police, has been retained as a consultant to the Congressional ad hoc committee formed to receive and investigate evidence of wrongdoing by Congressmen and their employees.

Announcement of Mr. Stewart's appointment was made by Rep. Robert Dole (R-Kan.), one of five members of the House of Representatives who recently formed the investigating committee to see that evidence of Congressional conflicts of interest and abuse of power are brought to the attention of the proper House Committees. Other members of the group are Representatives John Anderson (R-Ill.), Steven Deroonian (R-N.Y.), Glenard P. Lipscomb (R-Calif.) and William C. Cramer (R-Fla.)

Mr. Stewart, now a public affairs consultant, retired as Chief of the Park Police in 1963 after 24 years of service. A graduate of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Academy, he had also headed a special U. S. government police mission to Bolivia and performed a study of territorial problems in Guam during his Federal service. He is a veteran of both the U. S. Army and the Coast Guard.

Working out of the ad hoc committee's office at 103 C Street S.E., Mr. Stewart is available to assist in the collection of any evidence of misuse of Congressional authority. One of his first assignments, according to Representative Dole, is to check out the Congressional relationships of some 275 persons whose names have been made public as a result of their association with Bobby Baker. Assisting in the investigation have been two former FBI agents.

As a result of the reluctance of the Senate Rules and Administration Committee to delve thoroughly into the far-flung operations of Baker, a former aide to the Senate majority, nearly 40 Congressmen have introduced a resolution directing the House Administration Committee to investigate immoral, illegal or improper activities by Congressmen or their employees. Thus far, the House Rules Committee has not acted upon the resolution.

One of the principal targets of the ad hoc committee is William N. McLeod, Jr., former Chief Clerk of the House District Committee, who has acknowledged receipt of sizeable cash "gifts" from groups and individuals interested in legislation.

According to Representative Dole, there is a "growing feeling in Congress that it would be dangerous to sweep incidents like this under the rug, as has been done in the Baker case. We feel the time has come when we must re-establish the integrity of Congress in the eyes of our constituents. This is the objective of our ad hoc committee."