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## Justice Douglas Asked Parvin for Loan and Was Turned Down

BY THOMAS J. FOLEY

Times Staff Writer

WASHINGTON—Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas asked Los Angeles businessman Albert Parvin for a loan in 1968 to buy property adjacent to Douglas' Gooseprairie, Wash., mountain retreat but was turned down because it might have proved embarrassing, it was learned Thursday.

The incident was revealed in a letter from Parvin to Douglas. The letter is included in the report of a House judiciary subcommittee that has been investigating alleged improprieties by the 72-year-old jurist.

The subcommittee report will not be made public until it is approved by the full House Judiciary Committee but part of its contents became known to The Times.

The report also revealed that over

the last 10 years Justice Douglas had an income of \$473,740.19 from sources other than his court salary, which totaled \$389,749.26.

Meantime, members of the divided subcommittee said Thursday that the Democratic majority on the panel had decided no grounds existed for impeaching Douglas. Nevertheless, lawmakers both for and against the justice agreed the case was far from closed.

The letter from Parvin, the central figure in charges attempting to link Douglas with underworld figures, was dated July 15, 1968, almost two years after it was disclosed that Douglas had been receiving \$12,000 a year as president of the Parvin Foundation.

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## DOUGLAS LOAN

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The subcommittee record does not include any document to show the size of the loan Douglas sought from Parvin, whose foundation had paid the justice \$12,000 salary from 1960 until he resigned last year.

But the Parvin letter as quoted in the report said: "The matter of loaning you the money to acquire the property is no problem; the resulting innuendoes or repercussions as a result of a personal loan from me to you could be."

Parvin, former president of the Parvin-Dohrmann Co., a supplier of hotel furnishings and owner of three Las Vegas casinos, suggested that Douglas "check this out with Miss Agger. Because there are, I believe, other ways of handling the purchase more discreetly."

### Former Parvin Aide

This was a reference to Carolyn Agger, the wife of former Supreme Court Justice Abe Fortas. Fortas resigned under fire last year after a conflict of interest disclosure. An attorney, Miss Agger at one time handled tax matters for the Parvin Foundation.

Parvin told Douglas: "The opportunity for you to purchase the front two lots adjoining your property is one I know you have been looking forward to. I think you should acquire that property but if some broker in whom you have trust could handle the deal without disclosing you as the purchaser, the property could perhaps be acquired at a more reasonable price."

The Los Angeles businessman suggested that Douglas obtain a term loan from a Yakima (Wash.) or Portland (Ore.) bank, "said loan to be guaranteed by me." Another course, Parvin said, would be to give the sellers a

small down payment and pay the balance quarterly over a 5-to-10-year period.

"Making the loan to you is no problem, I would be happy to," Parvin wrote. "My anxiety stems from past experiences and I certainly would not want to do anything that would cause you embarrassment."

Chairman Emanuel Celler (D-N.Y.) and the two other Democratic members of the subcommittee that has investigated charges of impropriety against Douglas for the last seven months voted to issue a report ending the inquiry.

But Rep. Edward Hutchinson (R-Mich.) said he would file a minority report. He said, "The subcommittee has not subjected the evidence to any kind of test of inquiry under oath."

Rep. William M. McCulloch (R-Ohio), the top Republican subcommittee member, said he would not sign either the majority or minority report. He said, "The evidence we had did not constitute an impeachable offense, but the evidence wasn't all in."

The investigation began in April after House Minority Leader Gerald R. Ford (R-Mich.) charged that Douglas had indirect links with gamblers, participated in a libel case before the Supreme Court with a publisher who had paid him \$350 for publica-

tion of an article and that he advocated revolution in his latest book "Points of Rebellion." Douglas denied the charges in briefs filed with the subcommittee.

Celler said he expected the subcommittee reports to be ready in a week or 10 days.

Rep. Andrew Jacobs Jr. (D-Ind.), who sponsored the original impeachment resolution, said he would demand public hearings when the full committee meets. He said he believes a majority would support him.

"My resolution cannot properly be disposed of without public hearings," Jacobs said. "I would imagine that the justice himself would prefer a full and responsible hearing."

Rep. Louis C. Wyman (R-N.H.), sponsor of a resolution providing for a select committee to investigate Douglas last spring, said he would introduce it again on the first day of the new Congress next month.

The staff of the judiciary subcommittee interviewed dozens of persons in connection with the charges brought by Ford last April. However, none was under oath, a condition Ford and others have said is necessary to insure a thorough investigation.