

52 Months in Prison

End for Gordon Liddy

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By Eugene L. Meyer

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G. Gordon Liddy, the man who never would say he was sorry for his planning and supervisory role in the 1972 Watergate break-in, was freed on parole yesterday after more than 52 months in federal prison.

Still the tight-lipped mystery man, when a reporter stationed outside the prison in Danbury, Conn., asked him where he was heading, Liddy replied flatly: "East of the sun and west of the moon."

Indeed, he was not expected yesterday at his modest home in an Oxon Hill subdivision, where Liddy's sons Jim, 16, and Tom, 15, were in charge of a mildly disheveled household. Their mother, Frances, had gone to Danbury with a recently-purchased second-hand Pinto to pick up their father.

The boys kept their father's destination a secret, but at the L'Enfant Plaza Hotel in South west Washington two rooms were reserved in the name of G. Gordon Liddy and two men were seen carrying a sign saying "Welcome Gordon" through the lobby into an elevator.

By early evening Liddy had not appeared at the hotel, and his whereabouts remained unknown.

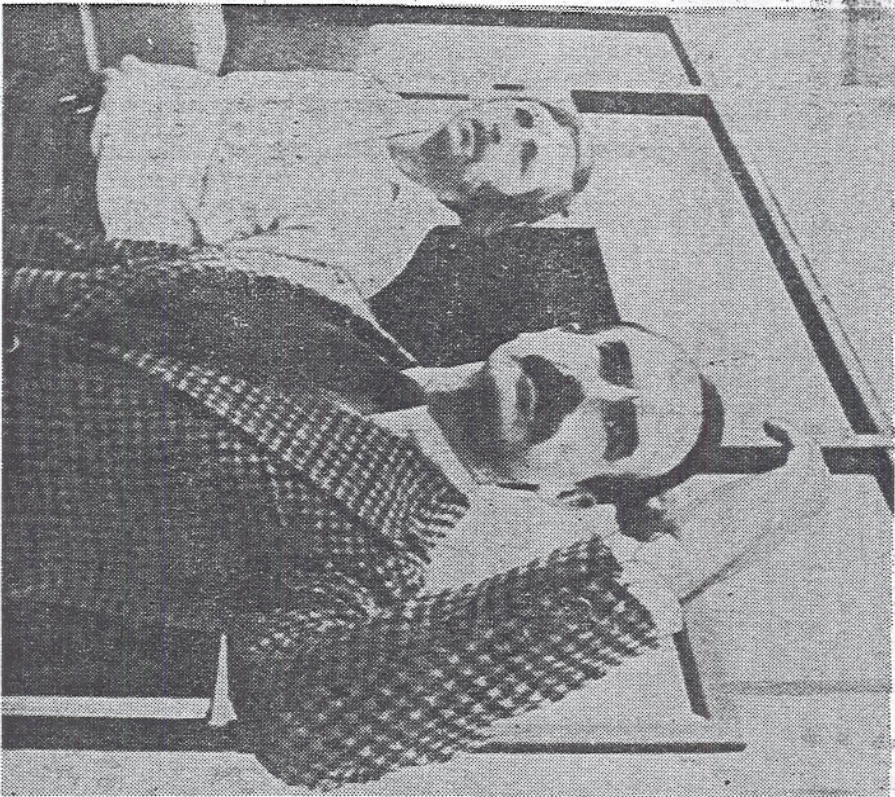
At the house in Oxon Hill, the color television was on yesterday and a sound tape recorder was nearby so the boys could capture any reports concerning their father's release. Two dogs relaxed on the living room couch. Outside, the family's 15 or 20 cats minded their own business.

"You can see our mother's been away for a while," said Jim Liddy, one of the couple's five children. Frances Liddy had missed the start of classes at Langdon Elementary School in Northeast Washington, where she teaches sixth grade, in order to pick up her husband.

It is a week of Watergate echoes: Liddy's release; the first installment of "Washington: Behind Closed Doors," the TV movie based on the John Ehrlichman novel; the final segment of Richard Nixon's taped television interviews with David Frost.

Jim and Tom Liddy said they had watched the end of the first episode of "Washington Behind Closed

See LIDDY, C6, Col. 1



Associated Press

G. Gordon Liddy beckons for his wife to bring car as he is released.