

Litton Firm, 4 Aides Indicted On Customs Fraud Charges

10/30/73
By Carole Shifrin

Washington Post Staff Writer

A federal grand jury yesterday indicted Litton Systems, Inc., a subsidiary of Litton Industries, and four of the firm's

officers on a charge of conspiring to import computer parts into this country by using false customs papers.

The company was also indicted on 120 counts of importing the parts—memory processing circuits known as memory core planes—by using false entry documents which undervalued their worth.

The 121-count indictment was returned in U.S. District Court in San Diego; Litton Systems, Inc., is headquartered in Beverly Hills, Calif. The company could be fined

government understating the value of the parts and failing to declare all the foreign components in them. The indictment says this conspiracy started at an unknown time and lasted until Aug. 31, 1972.

The other counts allege that Litton Systems used false customs declarations from November, 1968, to August, 1972 to import the parts.

Harry D. Steward, U.S. attorney in San Diego, said the alleged violations resulted in an estimated loss of \$216,000 in customs revenue. He said the indictment resulted from a long grand jury investigation which showed that Litton Systems was utilizing one set of invoices for customs purposes and a second set for its own financial records and internal accounting.

The four officers indicted were Donald Krueger, components group comptroller of Litton Systems; Robert Lurvey, president of Litton Memory Products Division; John Ross, general manager of the division; and Joseph Gaskin Jr., materials manager of the division.