

Bugging Suspects Complain

'Tails,' Taps Alleged

By Lawrence Meyer
Washington Post Staff Writer

Three defendants in the criminal trial of the Watergate bugging incident said yesterday that they are being followed and that their telephone lines have been tapped.

In court papers filed yesterday, former White House aide G. Gordon Liddy, one of the seven defendants, gave accounts of two cloak and dagger incidents in which he said he was under surveillance. In both cases, according to Liddy, he was able to shake his "shadows."

The first incident described by Liddy involved his driving west on the George Washington Parkway in a four-wheel drive vehicle on a weekday in September. Liddy said he detected "mobile surveillance" by two men in a sedan.

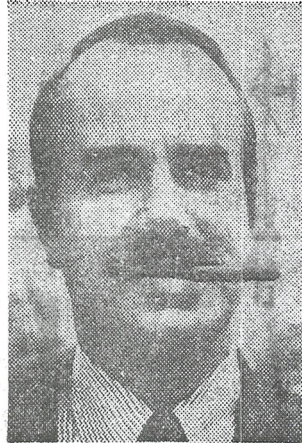
"Deponent (Liddy) broke the surveillance by undertaking a series of maneuvers on the aforesaid parkway capable of being performed by a four-wheel drive vehicle but not by a standard sedan, the net effect of which was to have the surveilling vehicle and the deponent traveling 180 degrees from each other," Liddy said in his affidavit.

Liddy said that he then proceeded to a meeting place with his lawyer.

In the second incident, on Oct. 10, Liddy said he was going to his lawyer's office at 14th and H Streets NW. At 15th and H, Liddy said he thought he was being followed.

Liddy, a former FBI agent, said he

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G. GORDON LIDDY
... shakes "shadows"



E. HOWARD HUNT JR.
... airs complaint

WATERGATE, From A1

tried to duck the two men following him, at first unsuccessfully. Finally Liddy said, he went into a movie near 14th and H. The two men followed him inside. "After some 40 minutes elapsed," Liddy said, he "stirred as if to leave."

The two men quickly left the theater, but Liddy stayed in the theater several minutes and then left. He walked to 14th and New York Avenue NW, Liddy said, where he stood in a doorway of a shirt and tie shop. "Less than a minute later, the aforesaid individuals came around the corner of 14th and New York from the north, walking south and turning west, and nearly colliding with deponent (Liddy).

"Both individuals appeared flustered and stood about the corner, whereupon deponent crossed New York Avenue to the south and mingled with a large crowd of people waiting apparently for a bus."

Liddy said the two men went to a nearby parking lot near New York and H, walked up a ramp and disappeared from sight. He followed them, Liddy said, but could not see where they went. Liddy said he then went to his lawyer's office.

The affidavits from Liddy, from E. Howard Hunt Jr. — also a former White House aide charged in the case—and from James W. McCord, former security director for the Committee for the Re-election of the President, were among a vast volume of documents filed yesterday—the deadline set for the filing of all motions in the criminal trial.

Lawyers for Liddy, Hunt and McCord sought to file the affidavits under a court seal but apparently their request was turned down by Chief U.S. District Judge John J. Sirica, the presiding judge in the case.

Hunt's affidavit says that during a Sept. 22 telephone conversation from his home in Potomac with his attorney, William O. Bittman, "I heard someone on the line make the statement, 'That's Bittman.' At the time of this conversation, no one was on any of the telephone extensions in my home."

McCord says in his affidavit that he tested the telephone lines in his home and at his two business offices. The tests, McCord said, "indicated that a tap exists, or has existed, at frequent intervals subsequent to my arrest in connection with the instant indictment." In addition, McCord said that he had been followed by two unknown individuals.

In none of the affidavits did any of the three defendants speculate as to the identity of those following them or bugging their phones.

In addition to asking that the affidavits be filed under seal, lawyers for the three defendants asked that oral arguments on motions filed along with the sworn statements be heard in closed court proceedings to avoid massive prejudicial publicity as to the defendants."

The motions filed today included Hunt's motion to dismiss the indictment against him and a motion to return property seized from his former office in the Executive Office Building.

Hunt's motion to dismiss the indictment against him revealed that he did not testify directly before the grand jury that indicted him but submitted himself to questions by principal Assistant U.S. Attorney Earl J. Silbert in Silbert's office. Silbert then turned a transcript of that session—in which Hunt invoked his Fifth Amendment privilege against self-incrimination—over to the grand jury.

Additionally, the lawyers for all seven defendants asked for time to conduct an independent poll of District residents to determine whether the seven can receive a fair and impartial trial here.

At the same time, motions were filed asking that the trial be conducted in another judicial district because of pre-trial publicity or that a lengthy continuance be granted. Hunt asked that he be tried separately from the other defendants and four of the defendants—Frank A. Sturgis, Virgilio R. Gonzales, Eugenio R. Martinez and Bernard L. Barker—asked they be tried separately from McCord, Liddy and Hunt.

(Companion story, "FBI Hindered at First," by Sanford J. Ungar, pasted separately.)