

Liddy the Writer

By Maxine Cheshire

Before Watergate, when they were both still working at the White House, G. Gordon Liddy and E. Howard Hunt used to get together socially with their wives.

Mrs. Hunt, a gourmet chef, would cook the dinner and the two men would spend the evening swapping stories about their respective careers as law enforcement officer and spy.

Mrs. Liddy used to tell her husband afterward that, in her opinion, he was a better yarn-spinner and storyteller than Hunt, who had 40-some novels to his credit.

Liddy, still in prison because of his refusal to testify, has been taking a creative writing course in prison.

In the opinion of professional writers who have read his work, Liddy can write, both dialogue and narrative.

One 40-page autobiographical manuscript has been forwarded to a literary agent and Liddy is being encouraged to follow Hunt's and former Vice President Spiro T. Agnew's lead and try his hand at fiction.

In the meantime, Liddy won't let anyone quote excerpts from anything he has written. A onetime copyright lawyer in his father's New York law firm, he has carefully typed a copyright line on all his work.

Because his continued silence arouses public curiosity, he is besieged with requests for interviews. One television production company has offered him \$50,000 for discussions on non-Watergate subjects.