

Nixon, 19 Aides Sued

Washington

Newspaper columnist Jack Anderson filed a \$22 million damage suit yesterday, accusing former President Nixon and 19 subordinates of conducting a five-year campaign to destroy Anderson's credibility and take away his First Amendment rights as a newsman.

Lawyers for Anderson said the suit is the first of its kind.

The civil damage suit, filed in U.S. District Court here, cites 17 separate allegations of harassment, investigation or surveillance by the White House investigative unit known as the Plumbers or the CIA.

The suit said the campaign included a tentative plan by Watergate figures G. Gordon Liddy and E. Howard Hunt to murder Anderson with an exotic poison and a comprehensive surveillance by CIA agents who allegedly followed the columnist, his wife and children seven days a week for several months in 1972.

At a news conference, Anderson said any proceeds from the suit will go for the benefit of other reporters' First Amendment rights.

Most of the allegations contained in the suit had been previously reported. Anderson released documents that he said demonstrated the direct role of the CIA in attempting to keep track of his activities.



JACK ANDERSON
He filed the suit

The suit said Nixon senior aides H.R. Haldeman and John D. Ehrlichman assigned high priority to ferreting out Anderson's news sources and destroying his credibility.

Others named as defendants include Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger, former CIA director Richard Helms, former White House aide Charles W. Colson, former FBI Director L. Patrick Gray and former Attorney General John N. Mitchell.

Besides the \$22 million, Anderson also seeks damage for each day Anderson's telephone was illegally wiretapped, as the suit alleges.

Besides Anderson, the suit is sponsored by the Fund for Constitutional Government.

In addition to the damages, the suit also asks that the government be enjoined from carrying on a similar campaign in the future.

Other Nixon aides named in the suit are former Attorney General Richard G. Kleindienst, former White House counsel John W. Dean III, former Assistant Attorney General Robert C. Mardian, former Nixon re-election campaign official Jeb S. Magruder, former Nixon lawyer Herbert W. Kalmbach, ex-White House aide David R. Young Jr., former White House investigators John J. Caulfield and Anthony T. Ulasewicz and former Nixon campaign security director James W. McCord.

Attorney General Edward H. Levi, FBI Director Clarence Kelley, CIA Director George Bush and Internal Revenue Service Director Donald G. Alexander were also cited, but only for purposes of obtaining a court order banning any future harassment of journalists. They were not accused of being part of the campaign against Anderson and no damages are sought from them.

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