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Liddy's 'Great Idea'--Bug Times

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LOS ANGELES — (UPI) — The Los Angeles Times reported today that a major figure in the Democratic Headquarters bugging case proposed during the 1971 Pentagon Papers incident

that the Justice Department bug the offices of the New York Times.

The newspaper said G. Gordon Liddy made the suggestion while he was serving as the White House coordinator for an inter-agency group set up by the administration to investigate leaks of government information.

'Great Idea'

Liddy told Justice Department attorneys that the pro-

posal to bug the New York Times was "a great idea" to discover who gave the secret documents to the newspaper, the Los Angeles Times said.

But when the attorneys determined that Liddy was serious, the newspaper said, they stopped dealing with him. They also did not mention the suggestion to Robert C. Mardian who was then head of the department's internal security division and is now an official of the Committee to Re-Elect President Nixon.

When the bugging of the Democratic Headquarters took place, one of the Justice Department attorneys

learned that Liddy was working at the Nixon committee and told Mardian of the Pentagon Papers incident.

Wouldn't Talk

Liddy was fired by the Nixon committee after he refused to answer FBI questions.

Liddy was named in a report by the General Accounting Office last Saturday as one of the figures in financial transactions in which checks totaling \$114,000 in GOP campaign funds wound up in the bank account of Bernard L. Barker.

Barker, a Miami real estate broker, was arrested in

the June 17 break-in at the Democratic Headquarters.

Liddy was unavailable for comment, the Times said, an Mardian declined to comment.

The Times also reported today that records of the Nixon committee showed that FBI agents had provided security for Martha Mitchell, wife of former Attorney General John N. Mitchell, for up to two weeks after her husband left government service.

Security For Martha

The committee's records revealed that two agents were reimbursed by the committee for \$243 in personal expenses incurred on

behalf of the Mitchells but that the FBI was not reimbursed for their salaries.

Acting FBI Director L. Patrick Gray III told the Times, "Of course it was improper. We're not in a good position."