

## Bugging Trial Testimony

# Ex-Nixon Aide Testifies

### Washington

The former treasurer of President Nixon's re-election campaign testified yesterday that former cabinet members John N. Mitchell and Maurice H. Stans approved payment of at least \$199,000 to G. Gordon Liddy, one of two defendants in the Watergate bugging trial.

The testimony of the ex-treasurer, Hugh W. Lloan Jr., marked the first time Mitchell and Stans have been mentioned in the trial.

Mitchell resigned as attorney general last March 1 to become Mr. Nixon's campaign director, a post he quit about July 1, citing domestic pressures. Stans, former secretary of commerce in the Nixon administration, served as the campaign's finance chairman.

Sloan's mention of Mitchell and Stans occurred after

U.S. District Judge John J. Sirica, for the second day in a row, excused the jury from the courtroom and indicated he was dissatisfied with the prosecution's questions. He then questioned Sloan himself.

Sirica said he wanted to know why Sloan, by his own testimony, gave Liddy at least \$199,000 in campaign cash—mostly in \$100 bills—and five campaign checks totaling \$144,000.

Sloan had testified, in response to earlier prosecution questions, that Jeb S. Magruder, the deputy campaign director, told him to disburse funds to Liddy for "intelligence gathering."

"that's a pretty good-sized piece of money," Sirica said. "You didn't question Mr. Magruder about the purpose of the \$199,000?"

"No, sir," Sloan replied. "I verified with Mr. Stans and Mr. Mitchell he (Magru-

der) was authorized to make those . . ."

Pausing at this point, Sloan said he asked Stans about the payments, and "he verified with Mr. Mitchell."

"That this '199,000 could be paid?" the judge asked.

"Not a specific amount, but that Mr. Magruder's authority was enough to turn over the sums in question," Sloan said.

Magruder, an earlier witness yesterday, testified that "I was basically totally responsible for all authorizations," including advertising and television expenses as well as \$250,000 in cash he agreed should be given to Liddy, then the campaign's general counsel.

Magruder said Liddy was supposed to use the funds to gather data on possible violent demonstrations that might be mounted against republican speakers in state

primaries or at the GOP national convention.

In response to questions from government prosecutor Earl J. Silbert, Magruder said he never authorized Liddy to install wiretaps and had no advance knowledge of the bugging of Democratic National committee offices last May and June.

*L.A. Times Service*