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James W. McCord Jr., left, and G. Gordon Liddy, defendants in the Watergate trial, arriving at Federal Court in Washington yesterday before the case went to the jury.

Liddy and McCord Guilty on All Counts In Spying on Democrats at Watergate

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Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Jan. 30—Two former officials of President Nixon's political organization were convicted today of plotting to spy on the Democrats during last year's campaign.

A jury of eight women and four men in Federal court here deliberated less than 90 minutes before returning guilty verdicts against the two defendants, G. Gordon Liddy and James W. McCord Jr.

They were convicted on all counts against them of conspiracy, second-degree burglary and eavesdropping. Liddy is subject to a maximum sentence of 35 years in prison, and McCord could receive a 45-year term.

The two men, who stood expressionless as the verdicts were read, were immediately sent to the District of Columbia jail by Chief Judge John J. Sirica of the United States District Court here.

The judge refused to consider bail tonight. He told attorneys for the two men that they could submit written motions on the matter tomorrow.

The guilty verdicts came as a culmination of one of the most bizarre episodes in modern American politics, but they did not mean that the Watergate affair was at an end.

A Congressional committee under Senator Sam J. Ervin Jr., Democrat of North Carolina, is expected to hold hearings on the case later this year, and

a civil lawsuit brought by the Democrats against the Republicans is still pending.

The criminal trial, which consumed 16 days and involved testimony by 62 prosecution and defense witnesses, left a number of broad questions unanswered.

The Government confined itself to the narrow issues set forth in the indictment, concentrating on the activities of the seven men who were named in the charges.

The prosecution consistently avoided taking up the wider questions of motive, of whether other persons had known of the conspiracy, and of whether other illicit operations had been

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mounted against the Democrats.

The five other men—E. Howard Hunt Jr., Bernard L. Barker, Eugenio R. Martinez, Frank A. Sturgis and Virgilio R. Gonzalez—pleaded guilty to the indictment at the outset of the trial.

Hunt is free on a \$100,000 surety bond pending sentencing. The four other men were unable to meet the same requirement and have been held in the District of Columbia jail.

Liddy Called 'Boss'

Liddy, who was counsel to the Committee for the Re-election of the President, was described by the prosecution as "boss" of the effort to wiretap a telephone at Democratic headquarters.

McCord was security coordinator for the Nixon committee when he and four other defendants—Barker, Martinez, Sturgis and Gonzalez—were arrested in the offices of the Democratic National Committee in Washington's Watergate complex on June 17.

When the Republican connections of three of the defendants became publicly known, the break-in at Democratic headquarters became an issue in the campaign. The burglary and wiretapping charges were followed by allegations outside the courtroom that the June 17 raid was only part of a wide-scale espionage operation.

With Wife and Daughter

The jurors began their deliberations at 4:34 P.M. after hearing a charge by Judge Sirica of 2 hours and 12 minutes. Just as they were about to be taken to dinner at 6 P.M., the news that a verdict had been reached was announced.

McCord waited with his wife,

Ruth, and a daughter, Anne, 19 years old, for the jury to file in. They sat smiling and talking in the spectator's section.

Liddy spent the time talking with his attorneys near the front of the courtroom.

When the panel filed in at 6:13 P.M. the foreman, Annie M. Williams, handed the written verdicts to the court clerk, LeCount Patterson, who in turn passed them to Judge Sirica.

The judge glanced at them quickly and then Mr. Patterson read the verdicts in staccato fashion. He read "guilty" to all six counts in Liddy's case and to all eight counts in McCord's. This reflects the longer possible sentence for McCord.

When McCord was arrested at the Watergate, he had eavesdropping and bugging equipment in his possession, thus accounting for the two additional charges in the indictment.

When Liddy's lawyer, Peter L. Maroulis of Poughkeepsie, N.Y., asked for a poll of the jury, each member agreed that the announced verdict was correct.

The judge thanked the panel and urged its members not to discuss their deliberations. The jurors, who had stayed in rooms on the seventh and eighth floors of the courthouse since their selection, were escorted home by deputy United States marshals.

After the verdicts were disclosed, Earl J. Silbert, the principal assistant United States Attorney, pronounced them "fair and just." McCord's lawyer, Gerald Alch of Boston, said that while he was disappointed by the verdict it did not greatly surprise him.