

# 2 Convicted In Watergate Spy Case

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Two former officials of President Nixon's political organization were convicted yesterday of plotting to spy on the Democrats during last year's campaign.

The jury deliberated less than 90 minutes before returning guilty verdicts against the two defendants, G. Gordon Liddy and James W. McCord Jr.

They were convicted in U.S. District Court on all counts against them — 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 Judge John J. Sirica.

## BAIL

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

The guilty verdicts offered one climax to one of the most bizarre episodes in modern American politics, but they did not bring the Watergate affair to an end.

A congressional committee under Senator Sam Ervin (Dem-N.C.) is expected to hold hearings on the case later this year, and a civil law suit 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 unanswered questions.

The government confined itself to the narrow issues set forth in the indictment, concentrating on the activi-

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ties of the seven men who were named in the charges.

The prosecution consistently avoided taking up the wider questions of motive, of whether others had known of the conspiracy, and of whether other illicit operations had been mounted against the Democrats.

The other five 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.

## COUNSEL

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 Democrat 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 elegant Watergate complex on June 17.

When the Republican connections of three of the defendants became publicly known, the break-in at the Democratic headquarters became a campaign issue. The burglary and wiretapping charges were followed by allegations that the June

17 raid was only part of a widescale espionage operation.

## CHARGE

The jurors began deliberations at 4:34 p.m. after hearing a charge by Judge Sirica of two 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



AP Wirephotos

G. GORDON LIDDY      JAMES McCORD JR.  
Judge denied bail after verdict

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

Liddy spent the time talking solemnly with his attorneys toward 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, Legount Patterson, who in turn passed them to Sirica.

The judge glanced at them quickly and then Patterson read the verdicts.

## POLL

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.

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