

Mardian Is Ordered To Answer Queries On a Liddy Meeting

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WASHINGTON, May 7—Robert C. Mardian, a former official of President Nixon's campaign organization, sought unsuccessfully today to invoke a lawyer-client privilege in refusing to answer some questions posed to him by the Watergate grand jury.

Mr. Mardian, a lawyer, who is a former Assistant Attorney General, testified for more than an hour before citing the privilege in connection with grand jury questions dealing with a June 20 meeting with G. Gordon Liddy, a convicted Watergate conspirator then working at the Nixon headquarters.

Mr. Mardian argued that Liddy had sought his advice and that the conversation was therefore confidential. Prosecution lawyers argued that Liddy had already retained two lawyers and that a third official, Frederick Larue, had also been present.

Chief Judge John J. Sirica of the United States District Court here ruled that "no bona fide lawyer-client relationship" had been established by Liddy. He ordered Mr. Mardian to return to the grand jury and answer the questions involved.

It was also reported today that Judge Sirica had granted immunity from further prosecution for E. Howard Hunt Jr., one of Liddy's co-conspirators. The grant covers testimony by Hunt before the Senate Watergate committee.

Hunt has already received immunity for his grand jury testimony, as have five other men for whom the Senate panel is seeking immunity — Liddy, Barnard, L. Barker, Eugenio R. Martinez, Frank A. Sturgis, and Virgilio R. Gonzales.