

Liddy's the Most Popular Man in Jail

Washington

The word among inmates at the District of Columbia jail is: If you want help, see Mr. Liddy.

Liddy is George Gordon Liddy, a convicted Watergate conspirator and former lawyer and prosecutor. He has become something of a hero to inmates of the ancient, huge stone building, according to city officials and other sources.

The flamboyant Liddy, they say, has set himself up as a jailhouse lawyer for the 700 men who are awaiting trial, sentencing, a hearing or transfer to other institutions.

"He is enjoying the limelight and really holding court," one city official remarked.

"He is revelling in it and is fascinating the inmates with stories of his exploits, and advising them in their cases," an official reported. "He has become a folk hero among the inmates."

CONCERN

Officials at the jail are concerned about the popularity and activities of Liddy, informed sources said.

"The authorities are watching him and are suspicious that he is organizing the inmates to complain about conditions," one source said.

"There have been no complaints yet, but they might come. We are also concerned that he is organizing the men to intimidate and harass Mr. Hunt" (E. Howard Hunt Jr., a co-defendant

of Liddy's who pleaded guilty in the Watergate conspiracy).

STYLES

Informants report that the jail life-styles of the two men have been the antithesis of each other.

"Mr. Liddy adjusted almost immediately and became liked instantaneously because he was helping the men by giving legal advice," one source reported.

"On the other hand," the source reported, "Hunt is quiet and keeps to himself, mainly wanting only to make a lot of phone calls." Officials are concerned about his possible physical and mental deterioration.

When James M. McCord (also a convicted conspirator) started talking to the



G. GORDON LIDDY
'Holding court'

grand jury, Hunt got hysterical and at 3 o'clock one morning he began hollering for his lawyer.

"While both men have lost weight," the source continued, "Hunt seems to be suffering from it more than Liddy."

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