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JACK ANDERSON



GORDON LIDDY

**Q.** I've heard that the Committee to Re-elect the President planned to assassinate your Washington bureau chief, Jack Anderson, because he knows and tells too much. Is that true?—Carl S., Covington, Ky.  
**A.** At one point during the 1972 Presidential campaign, Gordon Liddy was under the impression that he had been ordered to assassinate Jack Anderson. What happened was that during the course of a meeting with Jeb Magruder of the Committee to Re-elect the President, Magruder said, "We've got to get Jack Anderson out of our hair. I'd like to get rid of this guy." What Magruder meant was that he was tired of Anderson coming up with scoops on the internal activities of the committee.

Liddy left the meeting and in the outer office ran into Bob Reisner, Magruder's assistant. "I've just been ordered to kill Jack Anderson," he confided.

Reisner, alarmed, ran back into Magruder's office. "Did you order Liddy to assassinate Jack Anderson?"

Magruder and Reisner immediately got hold of Liddy. Magruder explained that he had just been talking figuratively. He didn't want Anderson assassinated, he pointed out. All he meant was that Anderson's incisive reporting constituted a problem that he would prefer to be rid of.

"Where I come from," Liddy said, "that means a rubout."

Liddy was persuaded to forget all about Jack Anderson.

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