

High Court Rejects Liddy Appeal

Washington

The Supreme Court refused yesterday to reduce the sentence of G. Gordon Liddy, the enigmatic Watergate conspirator who shredded \$100 bills and hatched plots to supply Democratic conventioners with call girls.

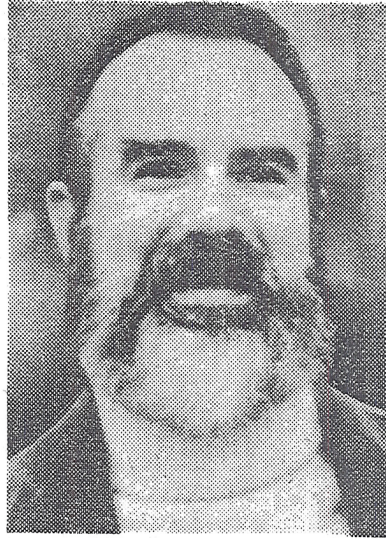
The court turned down without comment the appeal from Liddy, who has steadfastly refused to discuss the scandal despite a 20-year prison term and a fine of \$40,000.

Liddy's appeal was based on the fact that U.S. District Judge John Sirica reduced the sentences of other Watergate burglars' but refused to reduce Liddy's term because of non-cooperation. Liddy said this violated his constitutional rights.

Liddy, a former FBI agent and government prosecutor, was alleged in Senate testimony to have been the mastermind of a series of bizarre plots aimed at discrediting potential Democratic opponents of then-President Nixon.

Liddy reportedly toned down his scheme when then-Attorney General John Mitchell refused to allot him \$1 million to conduct his "dirty tricks." What evolved was the fateful break-in June 17, 1972, at Democratic headquarters at the Watergate building.

Liddy had originally suggested



G. GORDON LIDDY
Watergate conspirator

spending the money on such grandiose schemes as wiretapping, surveillance, photographing documents, abducting radical demonstrators who might disrupt the GOP convention and employing call girls at the Democratic convention — aboard yachts equipped for sound and photographs.

Mitchell reportedly was appalled — not at the ideas, but at the cost. Later the cost was scaled down to \$250,000, and Mitchell was quoted as saying "OK, let's give him a quarter of a million dollars and see what he can come up with."

Liddy is now at the federal prison in Danbury, Conn.

Having been given the longest prison term of any Watergate figure, Liddy must serve at least five more years before he is eligible for parole.

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