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ASSASSINATION PLOTS DESCRIBED BY LIDDY

Watergate Figure Says Hunt and
Jack Anderson Were Targets
— He Feared for His Life

G. Gordon Liddy, the former White House staff member who allegedly masterminded the 1972 Watergate burglary, has broken his long silence on the affair in a new book in which he describes purported plots to kill E. Howard Hunt, a fellow conspirator, and Jack Anderson, the newspaper columnist, according to Time magazine.

In addition, excerpts from the book appearing in this week's Time indicate that the 49-year-old Mr. Liddy expected to be killed on orders from the White House for the failure of the break-in at the Democratic National Committee headquarters in Washington. The excerpts also suggest that he was prepared to submit to assassination.

Time reports that the book, entitled "Will" and published by St. Martin's Press, also gives Mr. Liddy's first detailed account of the burglary and its aftermath, as well as an account of an attempt to drug and discredit Dr. Daniel Ellsberg, who disclosed the Pentagon Papers study of the Vietnam War.

The magazine said that 100,000 copies of the book had been printed under tight security and sent to booksellers before they were even aware of the book's existence.

Like many of the 25 defendants who served prison terms for Watergate offenses, Mr. Liddy turned to writing to pay off his heavy legal expenses when he emerged from jail in September 1977.

Started With Novel

His first book, a novel called "Out of Control," appeared to generally adverse reviews last fall. Until now he has been the only major figure who has refused to tell his story of the Watergate affair.

Mr. Liddy, who refused to plea-bargain with prosecutors and served 52 months in prison, longer than any other Watergate conspirator, says in the excerpts that he had been prepared to participate in a project to poison Mr. Hunt, while they were incarcerated together, for cooperating with the prosecutors.

Recalling that Mr. Hunt returned from a court session one day to say he was "not holding out any longer," Mr. Liddy writes: "I stood and moved back from Hunt's side as if from a loathsome thing. I started to say something, thought better of it, and walked out. I have never spoken another word to Howard Hunt."

However, according to the excerpts, he says he did expect to receive orders to kill Mr. Hunt and made arrangements to have Mr. Hunt's food poisoned, adding: "It would be a simple matter to send a coded message to my friend to poison Hunt, and just as simple for my supervisors to get the message to me. I waited, but because the message never came, Hunt lives."

Plot to Kill Anderson

The alleged plot to kill Mr. Anderson arose burglary over lunch in Washington one day with Mr. Hunt and a Central Intelligence Agency operative, he says. The assassination was suggested, he writes, because a column by Mr. Anderson had supposedly compromised an American agent abroad. This was before the Watergate burglary, he said.

A plan to kill Mr. Anderson with the hallucinogenic drug LSD was dismissed as impractical, according to the excerpts. Mr. Liddy then says he volunteered to kill him on a Washington street, but was eventually advised by Mr. Hunt to "forget" the whole thing.

LSD also figured in a plot to discredit Dr. Ellsberg, Mr. Liddy writes. Charles E. Colson, Mr. Nixon's special counsel, was said to have developed a plan to drop the drug in Dr. Ellsberg's soup at a fund-raising dinner at which he was to speak in Washington.

Mr. Liddy says: "We waited and waited for an answer, but when it finally came in the affirmative, there was no longer enough lead time."

After the failure of the Watergate burglary, he says, he thought that he himself would be marked for assassination and told John W. Dean, the White House counsel: "Look, John, I said I was the captain of the ship when she hit the reef, and I'm prepared to go down with it. If someone wants to shoot me, just tell me what corner to stand on and I'll be there. O.K.?"

While in prison in Allentown, Pa., Mr. Liddy says he got word that he was to be killed on the night of Feb. 3, 1977. Rather than seek protection, he says he prepared to defend himself. He writes that he wore his clothes to bed and concealed an ax handle under the covers and a knife and a length of pipe under his pillow.