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Columnist, Liddy talk of murder plot

United Press International
NEW YORK — Watergate conspirator G. Gordon Liddy and the man he once considered killing, syndicated columnist Jack Anderson, met face to face Thursday on the ABC-TV "Good Morning America" program to discuss the proposed murder plot described in Liddy's autobiography.

"You were a pain in the butt," Liddy scolded Anderson. "You were seriously damaging the United States" in conducting foreign policy.

That was Liddy's explanation for a discussion he said he held in February 1972 with Watergate co-conspirator Howard Hunt and an unidentified former CIA physician to "neutralize" or kill the columnist.

Liddy's recently published book "Will" detailed the plot to discredit or kill Anderson because Anderson allegedly revealed in a column the identity of a U.S. intelligence agent who, if not already dead, would have been killed within days because of the disclosure.

At the meeting in the Hay Adams Hotel in Washington, D.C., Hunt suggested that Anderson be drugged with LSD so he might discredit himself in public. But the physician "shot down the idea," Liddy said.

Liddy said Hunt later told him to forget the project after it was vetoed by unidentified superiors.

Hunt, who was interviewed on the NBC-TV "Today" program, denied Thursday that he gave tacit approval to any plot to kill Anderson. He suggested that the discussed plan to discredit Anderson might have come from President Richard Nixon.

"The picture that one gets," Hunt said, "is that Mr. Liddy was forever volunteering to rub people out. Himself on one occasion, Jeb Magruder on another occasion, Bernie Barker on another occasion, possibly Jack Anderson, and ultimately myself."

Hunt apparently referred to "Will," in which Liddy wrote that he at one point considered killing Hunt

because Hunt testified in the Watergate case.

Liddy, who was recently released from jail after serving 52 months, said in the book and on the television program that it was his idea to kill Anderson.

Anderson denied ever revealing the identity of a CIA agent and suggested Nixon himself might have been behind the plot to kill him.

"This kind of thing doesn't come spontaneously," said Anderson. "The president of the United States had a deep hostility toward the press."

But Liddy denied Nixon had proposed the idea to kill Anderson.

"I wasn't following orders. I proposed it," he said.

Anderson told Liddy it would have been "cold-blooded murder."

"I would consider it to be justified given the truth of the situation," said Liddy, although he admitted he didn't know for sure that Anderson had revealed the identity of a security agent.

Group wants to stop U.S.-Soviet meddling

United Press International
WASHINGTON — An influential foreign policy group Thursday proposed that the United States and Soviet Union negotiate a "Non-Intervention Pact," which would ban both superpowers from using their own combat forces or proxies to interfere in the Third World.

The American Committee on East-West Accord, headed by former diplomat George Kennan, economist John K. Galbraith and businessman Donald Kendall, made the proposal because "the competition

needs to be constrained by a code of conduct if we are to survive."

Under the committee's proposal, the agreement would cover Africa, the Middle East and Southern and Southeast Asia.

The proposal would bind both superpowers "to a ban, without exception, of direct or indirect intervention by combat forces, by either of the powers — even if a state in the Third World territory should request such assistance."

It would also forbid intervention of proxy forces, such as the Cuban

operations in Africa, or the Soviet-backed Vietnamese invasion of Cambodia. It would have banned U.S. intervention in Vietnam.

The proposed pact would not forbid military aid programs, non-combat military advisers or arms sales to Third World countries.

Former CIA and State Department official Arthur Cox, who helped prepare the proposal, said preliminary talks with Soviet diplomats have shown the Soviet government might be interested in the idea.

House panel OKs registration funds

United Press International
WASHINGTON — The House Appropriations Committee Thursday narrowly voted to provide the money President Carter needs to begin registration of men for a possible draft.

The measure now goes to the House floor, where opponents are expected to wage a hard fight to defeat the plan.

The committee voted 26-23 to approve an amendment providing \$13.3 million to begin registration of 19- and 20-year-old men this year.

No money would be provided for registration of women, which Carter had originally proposed. That idea was voted down earlier by a House Armed Services subcommittee.

Carter announced the registration plan as part of the overall U.S. re-

sponse to the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. The administration, fearful of an embarrassing setback in Congress, has been pushing hard for approval of the necessary funding.

The president has the authority to order registration of men, but has been waiting to issue that order until he is assured of the funds necessary to carry out the process.

Under the plan that he announced Feb. 8, men would be required to go to their local post offices to fill out registration cards that would then be sent to the Selective Service System.

Registration of 19- and 20-year-olds would provide a pool of 4 million men from which the military could draft the estimated 650,000 needed if the president orders full mobilization in time of national emergency.

Although the committee vote was

close, the action gives a new push to the president's registration plan, which has languished in Congress for over a month.

An appropriations subcommittee considered the issue in late February, but was unable to decide on whether to provide the full money needed for a peacetime mobilization or just enough to allow the Selective Service System to get ready for registration in time of emergency.

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Trapped krypton causes problems

United Press International
HARRISBURG, Pa. — State Health Secretary H. Arnold Muller said Thursday a new study showing citizens were upset about Three Mile Island couldn't necessarily be used to block the proposed controversial venting of radiation at the crippled plant.

The new study, released Wednesday by the Health Department, suggested more than 10 percent of the 300,000 people living within a 15-mile radius of Three Mile Island continued to be "quite upset" a year following the nuclear crisis.

"I don't think you can conclude anything from this study" about the way the krypton should be removed, Muller said.

The federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission is considering the proposal of the plant operator, Metropolitan Edison Co., to

vent 57,000 curies of radioactive krypton now trapped inside the reactor containment building into the air.

Before the Health Department study was released, the NRC staff, which had recommended the NRC commissioners approve the Met-Ed proposal, said it would re-evaluate its recommendation and take citizen unrest into account.

Earlier this week, scientists including Karl Z. Morgan, a former director of the federal government's nuclear research lab at Oak Ridge, Tenn., said the venting could have physical and psychological effects.

Many who did not flee the Harrisburg area during the week-long nuclear crisis that began March 28, 1979, believed their fates were "in God's hands," the study revealed.

16-foot great white shark caught on California coast

United Press International
AVALON, Calif. — A 16-foot great white shark — one of the largest such sharks ever caught off the West Coast — was trapped in a fishing net three miles off Santa Catalina Island.

"In the darkness we thought at first it was a whale," boat owner Rob-

bie Barker said Wednesday. "When we saw those teeth flashing, we backed off fast."

Robert R. Johnson, curator of the Cabrillo Marine Museum, confirmed the identity of the huge fish lying dead on the deck. Barker, 23, had shot it with a .22-caliber rifle.

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