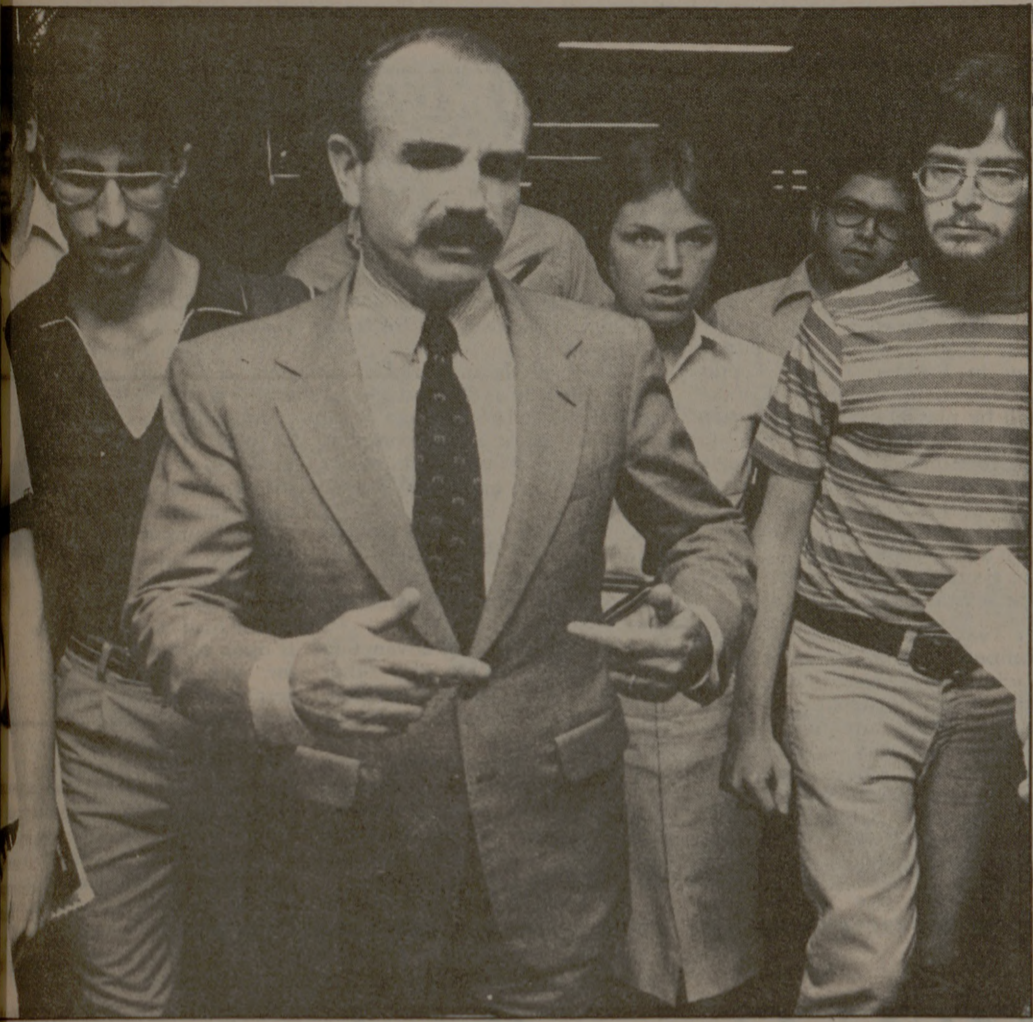


Local



Staff photo by Greg Gammon

Students asking questions and seeking autographs mob G. Gordon Liddy Monday as he walks from the Rudder Auditorium to the

MSC where a public reception was held for him following his speech.

# Liddy: US must face reality

By M. WALTER CARROLL  
Battalion Reporter

G. Gordon Liddy, mastermind of the Watergate break-ins, told an audience at Rudder Auditorium Monday night that the United States and its people are engulfed in a world of illusions.

Liddy's speech on "A Retrospect of American Politics" was sponsored by MSC Great Issues.

He said illusions that Patrick Henry had warned the American people against are now deeply embedded in American politics and society.

An illusion, Liddy cited, is the fact that citizens of the United States are looking at the world not as it is, but as they would like to see it. People are not looking at situations realistically, he said.

Liddy said people are turning away from the harsher aspects of life.

Examples he cited were using euphemisms such as underprivileged and sanitary workers for the poor and garbage collectors, respectively.

These examples, Liddy said, are how the public has lost its sense of reality.

Liddy said another illusion is how the words of Thomas Jefferson were taken out of context and placed on his memorial. The people rearranged Jefferson's words, he said, believing that if he was alive, that is how he

would have said it.

Liddy also painted a dim view of the U.S. role in world politics, saying that today "the world is a bad neighborhood at 2:30 in the morning."

The United States is now taking the role of the "little old lady" in world politics, he said, whereas a few years ago it was the "270-pound Philadelphia Eagle offensive tackle."

He blamed the abolishment of effective intelligence gathering as a factor contributing to the demise of U.S. power.

The top 15 friendly nations to the United States have recently shut our country off from any clandestine information, Liddy said, because of indiscriminate leaks of top secret information to the press and other sources.

Intelligence gathering is a norm of international politics, Liddy said. "Spies are the nations eyes and ears, and without them you are blind and deaf."

He said a spy's job is to discover the capabilities of other nations, and decide what these nations' intentions are.

Another aspect which has added to this country's decline in world power is its loss of military prowess, Liddy said.

He said today's all-volunteer army is a "hollow army" because of the low-quality serviceman. He added that many of those in the army now are in the lowest I.Q. range allowed.

Liddy said it is unfair to the country to populate the armed forces with these people and expect them to defend it properly. He said the country must have intellectual soldiers like those of the Soviet Union.

Man cannot be taught how to use a firing mechanism, controlled by laser, if it had taken him two weeks to learn how to brush his teeth, he said.

Consequently, Liddy said, you can count on the draft returning. The American public cannot continue to turn its back on reality.

He said the American people must be ready for war and if the country is powerful, others will not "mess with it."

Liddy said comparison of the United States to the Soviet Union is an illusion of equality and will not work any longer because of the U.S.S.R.'s dominance.

He said the only way to rebuild the American people's outlook on this society is to bring the country back to its respected position.

But, he said, "There's no cheap way to get away from illusion."

Liddy told the audience that during the time he was on trial for his part in the Watergate break-ins, and afterwards, he kept quiet and refused to cooperate with prosecutors because he was "the captain of the ship." He said he felt nothing could be done if only those below him on the ship spoke out.

Liddy said he "believed in the presidency of Richard Nixon" at that time and still does.

## Mentors taught how to counsel students

By NANCY WEATHERLEY  
Battalion Staff

Texas A&M professors became students Tuesday as they listened to a psychologist from the Personal Counseling Center explain ways to detect and help students suffering from stress.

The psychologist, Dr. Nick Dobrovolsky, was a guest of the University Mentors Program — a program in which faculty members volunteer to counsel students about academic and personal problems.

A professor should try to place himself in the student's shoes when counseling, he said.

"A counselor needs to become empathetic towards the person with a problem," Dobrovolsky said. "Listen to what the person is saying and then paraphrase it back to them."

Paraphrasing puts the problem in a different perspective for the student and enables him to concentrate on it, he said. But, he suggested, "Allow the person to talk you can't be an over-listener."

Dobrovolsky said some common symptoms of stress include unexplained weeping, withdrawal and inability to sleep.

He suggested several simple solutions to help alleviate stress once it is detected. "A common method is deep relaxation," he said.

"At the Personal Counseling Center we have tapes students can listen to so they can relax."

Dobrovolsky demonstrated the tapes' messages by hypnotizing his audience for 10 minutes. The process involved making the pro-

fessors aware of their breathing habits and the way their bodies felt while they relaxed.

"Relaxation is very important," he said. "Stress builds up and then something makes it break, sometimes so severely the person might consider suicide."

In a second part to the meeting, Ed Guthrie, assistant director of academic services, presented 10 students who talked to

the professors about situations they encounter at Texas A&M which have been stressful and frustrating to them.

Problems the students addressed included communication gaps between students and professors, prejudices of professors to certain groups and qualms students have in approaching professors.

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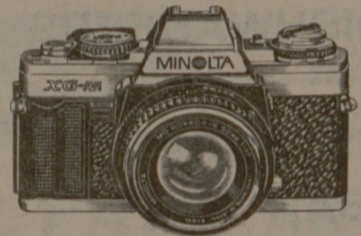
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