IMPORTANT WATERGATE NAMES

John Ehrlichman

President Nixon's assistant for domestic affairs, John D. Ehrlichman, directed the White House "plumbers" unit. He also approved the break-in at the office of the psychiatrist of Daniel Ellsberg, the defense analyst who leaked the Pentagon Papers to the press. Ehrlichman resigned from his White House post in 1973; he was convicted of conspiracy to obstruct justice and perjury in the Watergate case and of conspiracy in the Ellsberg case.

Ehrlichman served 18 months in prison after unsuccessfully trying to negotiate a sentence under which he would provide legal service to Native Americans. After his release, Ehrlichman lived in New Mexico and wrote novels and a memoir, "Witness to Power: The Nixon Years" (1982). He moved to Atlanta in 1991, becoming a business consultant and continuing to write. In 1996, an Atlanta gallery displayed 43 of Ehrlichman's pen-and-ink drawings from the Watergate era. Ehrlichman died in his home in Atlanta on Feb. 14, 1999 at the age of 73.

G. Gordon Liddy

The former FBI agent who helped plan the Watergate break-in capitalized on his Watergate legend and took his political views to the airwaves. Gordon Liddy's conservative radio talk show, "The G. Gordon Liddy Show," was broadcast on 232 stations nationwide. He has written the novels "The Monkey Handlers" and "Out of Control" and an autobiography, "Will," which became a best-seller. He is also an actor.

Liddy has been known to support a conspiracy theory that the Watergate break-in was a means of covering up a call-girl ring run out of the Democratic National Committee headquarters. The theory got him involved in a defamation lawsuit filed by Ida "Maxie" Wells, a former DNC headquarters secretary who sued Liddy for saying that the her desk was targeted in a search for pictures of prostitutes by Watergate burglars. The case was dismissed by the U.S. District Court in Baltimore after jurors could not reach a verdict. Wells appealed that decision.

Liddy was convicted for his role in the Watergate break-in, for conspiracy in the Daniel Ellsberg case and for contempt of court, spending about four and a half years in prison. In 1986, a federal appeals court found Liddy liable for $20,499 in back taxes on Watergate slush-fund money, rejecting his claim that his benefits did not exceed $45,000. As one of the White House "plumbers," Liddy spent about $300,000 engineering political dirty tricks and the Watergate break-in. Liddy lives in Fort Washington, Md.

H.R. Haldeman

H.R. "Bob" Haldeman, Nixon's chief of staff, spent 18 months in prison for his role in Watergate. A former advertising executive, Haldeman had a stern reputation as Nixon's gatekeeper and once called himself "the president's son-of-a-bitch."

The chief of staff was part of the conversation on the so-called "smoking gun" tape, in which Nixon discussed using the CIA to divert the FBI's Watergate probe. Haldeman resigned in April 1973 and was convicted of conspiracy and obstruction of justice the following year.

After prison, Haldeman wrote "The Ends of Power," a memoir published in 1978. He spent his later years working as a real estate developer in Southern California. Haldeman died of cancer at his home in Santa Barbara on Nov. 12, 1993 -- six months before publication of "The Haldeman Diaries." He was 67.

John Mitchell

Nixon's former law partner served as attorney general before resigning in 1972 to head the Committee for the Re-election of the President. He stood trial in 1974 and was convicted on charges of conspiracy, perjury and obstruction of justice. He served 19 months in a minimum-

security prison in Alabama before being released on parole for medical reasons.

In September 1972, stories by The Washington Post linked Mitchell to a secret campaign fund that paid for the Watergate burglary. When Post reporter Carl Bemstein called for a comment, Mitchell directed his response at the Post's publisher:"Katie Graham's gonna get her tit caught in a big fat wringer if that's ever published." According to later testimony, Mitchell approved $250,000 for the break-in.

After his release from prison, Mitchell lived in Georgetown with longtime companion Mary Gore Dean -- part owner of the exclusive Jockey Club and mother of Deborah Gore Dean, a central figure in the Reagan-era scandal at the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Mitchell's outspoken wife, Martha, died in 1976.

In 1981, Simon and Schuster sued the former attorney general after he failed to deliver a promised Watergate memoir. Mitchell died after collapsing near his 30th Street row house on Nov. 9, 1988. He was 75. Nixon led the funeral procession for his most loyal supporter. A decorated Navy veteran, Mitchell was buried at Arlington National Cemetery.

Maurice Stans

An Eisenhower official who served as commerce secretary in the first Nixon Cabinet and finance chairman for the Committee for the Re-election of the President, Maurice Stans was indicted on charges of conspiracy, obstruction of justice and perjury. He was accused of trying to influence the Securities and Exchange Commission to favor a $200,000 donor named Robert Vesco. Both Stans and his co-defendant, the former attorney general John Mitchell, were acquitted of the charges.

Stans's fund-raising efforts for Nixon brought in nearly $60 million for the reelection campaign and ended up financing the Watergate burglaries and political dirty tricks. However, Stans maintained that he had no knowledge of how the money he raised was used.

Stans authored two books about his experiences: "The Terrors of Justice: The Untold Side of Watergate" (1985) and "One of the Presidents' Men: Twenty Years With Eisenhower and Nixon" (1995). Though no longer involved with politics, Stans remained loyal to the former president, raising $27 million for the Nixon Library in Yorba Linda, Calif. In 1998, Stans died at the age of 90 in Pasedena, Calif.

DEEP THROAT

The identity of Bob Woodward's background source during Watergate remains the best-kept secret in American politics and journalism. Only four people on the planet are known to have the name -- Woodward; his partner, Carl Bernstein; Ben Bradlee, the former executive editor of The Washington Post; and of course, Deep Throat himself.

In "All the President's Men," their 1974 account of the Watergate scandal, Woodward and Bernstein describe their source as holding an extremely sensitive position in the executive branch, and as one "who could be contacted only on very important occasions." Dubbed "Deep Throat" by managing editor Howard Simons after a popular porn film at the time, the source encouraged Woodward and Bernstein to "follow the money" and confirmed or denied reports from other sources.

Woodward has kept his 1972 promise to protect his source's identity because he says Deep Throat wishes to remain anonymous. But some bits of information have been disclosed over the years, providing fodder for Watergate addicts.

Woodward noted that Deep Throat was a smoker and that he drank Scotch. "Aware of his own weaknesses, he readily conceded his flaws," the reporters wrote. "He was, incongruously, an incurable gossip, careful to label rumor for what it was, but fascinated by it…

He could be rowdy, drink too much, overreach. He was not good at concealing his feelings, hardly ideal for a man in his position."

Deep Throat Revealed – "Deep Throat" revealed his identity to the public in June of 2005 (see *Washington Post* article). But there were numerous theories as to the secret source's identity:

The FBI Theory

Woodward and Bernstein's Watergate coverage seemed to parallel the FBI's own investigation, leading some within the bureau to suspect that Deep Throat was an FBI official. In an article published in the May 1992 issue of the Atlantic Monthly, former Washington Post reporter James Mann said he remembered Woodward talking about a "friend at the FBI." Mann pointed out that FBI investigators not only worked with Justice Department prosecutors but had access to information from the White House and the Committee for the Re-election of the President (CRP).

A possible FBI motive, according to Mann, was the desire of the bureau to protect itself from criticism and stave off White House interference. Exposing the White House's cover-up efforts would have accomplished both goals.

One oft-mentioned possibility is L. Patrick Gray, appointed by President Nixon to be acting director of the FBI in 1972 upon J. Edgar Hoover's death. Barely a month into Gray's tenure at the bureau, the Watergate burglars were arrested. A documentary entitled "Watergate: The Secret Story," co-produced in 1992 by CBS News and The Washington Post, calls Gray the prime suspect, saying that he not only fits Woodward and

Bernstein's Deep Throat description, but also was the only one of the possible suspects who could have met with Woodward on the pertinent dates.

In his article, Mann said three FBI officials confronted Gray and protested what they saw as the White House's interference with the bureau's Watergate probe. They were W. Mark Felt, FBI deputy associate director (and known by reporters as someone willing to take their calls); Charles W. Bates, the assistant director in charge of the FBI's general investigative division; and Robert Kunkel, the special agent in charge of the Washington, D.C., field office. Mann identified all three as Deep Throat suspects.

The CIA Theory

Some Deep Throat theorists have guessed that Deep Throat was an FBI or White House official, but it is possible that a CIA official would have had access to the same information. In his 1994 book, "Wedge: The Secret War Between the FBI and the CIA," author Mark Riebling suggests two prime suspects from the agency's ranks.

Cord Meyer

Meyer joined the CIA in 1951 at the behest of Allen Dulles, director of central intelligence. At the CIA, Meyer adopted a strident anti-Soviet stance and became a top aide to Richard Helms, director of central intelligence under presidents Johnson and Nixon. Helms was fired from his post in 1973 after he refused to help Nixon use the CIA to stall the FBI's Watergate probe.

According to Riebling, Meyer fits the Deep Throat profile that Bob Woodward has sketched: intellectual, combat veteran, heavy drinker and chain smoker. Like Woodward, Meyer attended Yale. He described his experiences in a 1983 book, "Facing Reality: From World Federalism to the CIA."

William E. Colby

Remembered as one of the last great "gentleman spies," Colby served as director from 1973 to 1976. Riebling counts Colby as a Deep Throat possibility because one of his given roles while working for Helms at the CIA was to protect the agency's image and thus to prevent it from being tarnished by the Nixon administration's troubles.

In April 1996 Colby disappeared while canoeing on the Potomac River. He was missing for nine days before his body was found in a tributary. An autopsy revealed that Colby, age 76, had possibly suffered a stroke or heart attack before falling into the water and drowning.

The prospects that William E. Colby was Deep Throat dim considerably in light of Woodward's assertion that he would reveal Deep Throat's identity upon his death.

The White House Theory

Woodward's secret source had access to such extensive inside information about the Nixon administration that many concluded Deep Throat must have been one of the president's men. Names including White House counsel John W. Dean III and adviser Leonard Garment have been vetted as possibilities over the years. However, speculation that Deep Throat was a White House source has focused primarily on two men who left the administration without being heavily tarnished by the scandal.

Alexander Haig

Former Nixon chief of staff Alexander Haig is one of the most frequently mentioned suspects in the Deep Throat guessing game. An aide to Gen. Douglas MacArthur during the Korean War, Haig served as an aide to Secretary of the Army Cyrus Vance during the Kennedy administration and as a member of the Pentagon staff during the Vietnam War. He joined the Nixon administration as a military aide to Henry Kissinger, then Nixon's national security adviser.

Haig took over as White House chief of staff after H.R. Haldeman resigned April 1973. In his 1992 memoir, "Inner Circles: How America Changed the World," Haig vehemently denies the speculation that he is Woodward's deep background source. The notion of Haig as Deep Throat was made popular in a 1991 account of the Watergate scandal entitled "Silent Coup: The Removal of a President." The book's authors, Len Colodny and Robert Gettlin, contended that, while Bob Woodward was a communications officer in the Navy in 1969 and 1970, he had the opportunity to brief then-Brigadier General Haig, a member of the National Security Council.

Haig served as secretary of state during President Reagan's first term, and managed to avoid much of the fallout from the Iran-Contra scandal. In 1988, he mounted an unsuccessful bid for the Republican presidential nomination.

Henry Kissinger

Henry Kissinger is an oft-cited Deep Throat suspect, if for little reason other than his proximity to the president and his fondness for media appearances. As Nixon's national security adviser during his first term and secretary of state in his second, Kissinger rose to prominence for his role in shaping American foreign policy. He won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1973.

Even after his tenure at the White House, Kissinger has remained intimately in foreign affairs, advising presidents and presidential candidates. He has also served as a free-lance international policy adviser, working with a mediation team in South Africa in 1994 to solve conflicts arising from the country's first post-apartheid elections and testifying before Congress on foreign policy matters. Kissinger writes a regular column for the Los Angeles Times Syndicate and his consulting firm, Kissinger Associates, has extensive business in China, allowing him to capitalize on the connections he established as a diplomat.