CARSWELL VOTE INCENSES MRS. MITCHELL

Fulbright Takes Drubbing

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP) — The Arkansas Gazette today reported Martha Mitchell, wife of Atty. Gen. John N. Mitchell, called the paper early this morning and said it was a "damn shame" that Sen. J. W. Fulbright, D-Ark., voted against confirmation of Judge G. Harrold Carswell.

The call to the newspaper came at about 2 a.m. and an account of it appeared in today's late morning editions.

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This is how the conversation went, according to the newspaper story. Mrs. Mitchell said Fulbright's vote on the Supreme Court nomination was "crucial for Arkansas" and for the nation, saying Fulbright could have "swayed" other votes to the extent that Carswell would have been confirmed. He lost, 51-45.

"IT MAKES ME SO damn mad I can't stand it," Mrs. Mitchell was quoted as saying. "He could have done a great deal for the whole vote."

Mrs. Mitchell, a native of

Pine Bluff, said Arkansas is her home state and "Mr. Fulbright does not represent the state."

"I want you (the Gazette) to crucify Fulbright and that's it," Mrs. Mitchell said.

Mrs. Mitchell told the Gazette, the largest daily newspaper in the state, that she had just talked to "three or four people" from Arkansas who are "very influential" and they said "they would disown" Fulbright.

SHE REFUSED TO comment on how her husband felt about the vote.

"I don't know how my husband feels about it because I am the one most interested," she said.

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She said her husband has told her he learned Fulbright has said he will not run for reelection and this probably played a part in his decision to vote against Carswell.

Fulbright, chairman of

Fulbright, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, has not said publicly whether he will seek reelection. Fulbright will not face the voters again until November, 1974. He was reelected in 1968.

FULBRIGHT COULD NOT be reached in Washington but his press aide, Hoyt Purvis, said the senator declined to comment, at least for the time being.

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The report that the senator will not seek reelection is "idle gossip, pure speculation," Purvis said.

He added about 200 telegrams, including about 100 from Arkansas, have been received since Fulbright voted against Carswell.

"I would say a substantial majority side with Carswell," Purvis said. "There were a few against him, but most of them opposed the senator's position."