

Mrs. Mitchell Says Aide of Mrs. Nixon Is Guilty of an Insult

WASHINGTON, Nov. 19 (AP) —Martha Mitchell is sizzling over what she regards as a deliberate slap at her by Mrs. Richard M. Nixon's press secretary.

"Connie Stuart is trying to kill me," was the way Mrs. Mitchell put it to reporters today.

The wife of attorney general John N. Mitchell, known for her telephone calls to newspapers and reporters, is the most controversial of the Cabinet wives.

And she was in a tiff today.

According to Mrs. Mitchell, she was the hostess at a Blair House luncheon today for the Cabinet wives to announce a needlepoint sewing project she expects them to undertake. The luncheon came off as scheduled.

But she said Mrs. Stuart, in a Monday briefing announced that Mrs. Nixon would attend a Blair House luncheon "sponsored by the Cabinet wives."

"I haven't spoken to her since," Mrs. Mitchell said of Mrs. Stuart.

She said she had not been able to find out why Mrs. Stuart had not acknowledged that it was her luncheon.

"This is the worst thing I've ever been through since I've been in Washington," she said with irritation.

At a press briefing two hours later, Mrs. Stuart said she had not talked to Mrs. Mitchell in months and had not known she was the host for the luncheon when she announced on Monday that Mrs. Nixon would attend.

Martha Irked Again—Slight in Sewing Circle

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Yesterday the capital hummed with rumors of a Nixon administration shake-up. Now there's a new struggle. Martha Mitchell is sore at Mrs. Nixon's press secretary, Constance Stuart.

Mrs. Mitchell, outspoken wife of Attorney General John N. Mitchell, griped to newsmen that Mrs. Stuart failed to credit her as hostess of a sewing-circle luncheon attended by the First Lady and wives of Cabinet members.

"Connie is trying to kill me," Martha lamented. "I haven't spoken to her since."

"This is the worst thing I've ever been through since I've been in Washington."

Mrs. Stuart shrugged it off.

"I don't think I've made a mistake," she said. "I did my job."

She said she didn't know Martha was the hostess when she announced Monday that Mrs. Nixon would attend.

For what it's worth, the luncheon came off at Blair House as scheduled yesterday.