

Insanity Lie Began In
White House: Martha

Martha Bitter: 'Half
Crucified by Top GOP'

NEW YORK — (AP) — Martha Mitchell says she was "half-crucified" by the White House after the Watergate affair last year when she publicly demanded that her husband quit as President Nixon's campaign manager.

"It was about that time that all the Republicans were trying to say I was in an insane asylum—they put that out from the White House."

Her husband quit as re-election manager two weeks after the June 17 Watergate. Asked who put out the story that she was insane, she replied: "Well, the top echelon, I presume."

Even Mrs. Nixon put out word that she "understood that Mrs. Mitchell was very, very ill," Mrs. Mitchell was quoted as saying.

Very Ill

The loquacious Mrs. Mitchell has said often she knew of "dirty business" in the campaign, but after yesterday's deposition lawyers said she had little new to offer. She testified in one of a series of civil suits growing out of the Watergate affair. Lawyers described her as cooperative.

Mrs. Mitchell, talking with reporters later, said that if Mitchell knew in advance about the Watergate "I didn't know it—he wouldn't have been in Washington as long as he was. He has always assured me that he was not involved."

A Mitchell deputy, Jeb Stuart Magruder, has told prosecutors that Mitchell was at meetings when the burglary was planned. Mitchell said he heard the discussions but always vetoed the scheme.

'Abominably'

In her deposition, Mrs. Mitchell reportedly said: "I wanted Jeb Magruder fired from the very beginning . . . because I didn't like him either . . . I just didn't trust him."

At another point, she reportedly said the White House had "treated me abominably, half crucified me . . . sent lies out through the press and . . . started rumors galore about me. I

—See Back Page, Col. 8

—From Page 1
did nothing against the administration to cause so many miserable stumbling blocks to be put in my way."

She complained to the Committee for the Re-election of the President that she had been given so many engagements she needed an appointment secretary, sources said.

Instead, she reportedly told the lawyers, she got a succession of bodyguards, hired by James W. McCord Jr., later convicted as a conspirator, burglar and wire-tapper.



MARTHA MITCHELL CLUTCHES BIBLE AS SHE MEETS NEWSMEN
'I wouldn't want to swear on a dictionary,' she told press

—AP Photo