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**TRANSCRIPT LINKS**  
**MITCHELL ACTION**  
**WITH WATERGATE**

**White House Conversation**  
**on His Quitting Campaign**  
**Post Studied by Panel**

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WASHINGTON, May 17—

The transcript of President Nixon's June 30, 1972, conversation with John N. Mitchell and H. R. Haldeman shows that the three men related Mr. Mitchell's resignation as the President's campaign director to the Watergate burglary.

Last year, Mr. Mitchell said in testimony before the Senate Watergate committee that his resignation was the subject of the June 30 conversation, but he swore that he had resigned solely because of family responsibilities and not because of the Watergate case. His resignation was announced the day after the June 30 conversation.

Some members of the House Judiciary Committee said today that Mr. Nixon could be considered culpable for not reporting Mr. Mitchell's alleged false statement under oath to the authorities, but the members agreed that it was highly unlikely that the matter would become the basis for an article of impeachment.

**Part of Tape Played**

A portion of the tape of the June 30 meeting was heard in closed session Wednesday during the Judiciary Committee's impeachment hearing, and the transcript of that portion has been published in several newspapers in the last two days. The transcript was not one of those made public by the White House.

Mr. Mitchell's lawyer said today that his client would stand by his testimony to the Senate committee.

In his testimony before the Watergate committee last July, Mr. Mitchell was asked by Senator Herman E. Talmadge, Democrat of Georgia, why he had resigned as campaign director.

Mr. Mitchell replied, "I had some long-range telephone and publicized threats [from his

wife, Martha] that if I didn't get out of politics, I was going to lose my marriage."

**Risk Is Cited**

Senator Talmadge then asked, "It had nothing whatever to do with the Watergate matter?"

Mr. Mitchell answered, "None whatsoever."

According to the Judiciary Committee's transcript, the portion of the tape that the committee heard begins with Mr. Haldeman, the former White House chief of staff, saying, "Well, there maybe is another facet. The longer you wait, the

**Continued on Page 14, Column 1**

**Continued From Page 1, Col. 3**

more risk each hour brings. You run the risk of more stuff valid or invalid surfacing on the Watergate caper-type of things."

Mr. Nixon agreed, saying, "Yes, that's the other thing, if something does come out, but we won't—we hope nothing will. It may not. But there is always the risk."

Then Mr. Nixon made it clear that the matter under discussion was Mr. Mitchell's resignation, and the President told Mr. Mitchell the "story" that would be used to announce the resignation.

"Well, I'd cut the loss fast," the President said. "I'd cut it fast. If we're going to do it, I'd cut it fast."

He then went on to say: "I think the story is, you're positive rather than negative, because as I said as I was preparing to answer for this press conference, I just wrote it out, as I usually do, one way—terribly sensitive (unintelligible). A hell of a lot of people will like that answer. They would. And it'd make anybody else who asked any question on it look like a selfish son of a bitch, which I thoroughly intended them to look like."

Mr. Nixon told Mr. Mitchell that "otherwise" the resignation "will be tied right to Watergate," and he assured Mr. Mitchell that the matter would be handled "in a way that—Martha's not hurt."

Mr. Mitchell replied, "Yeah, O.K."

**Transcript Ambiguous**

William G. Hundley, Mr. Mitchell's attorney, was asked today about the discrepancy between the transcript and Mr. Mitchell's testimony. The lawyer responded, "We'll just stand on our sworn testimony."

Committee sources said that the June 30 transcript was so ambiguous that it was not an important link in the chain of evidence being developed about the Watergate cover-up. But the sources said that an infer-

ence could be drawn that the President was concerned about concealing the full truth less than two weeks after the burglary on June 17, 1972.

Last week, the committee subpoenaed the tape of a meeting on June 23, 1972, in which Mr. Nixon, according to public testimony, ordered that limits be placed on the Federal Bureau of Investigation's inquiry into the Watergate break-in.

That tape is considered by committee officials to be much more important evidence about the cover-up.

Mr. Nixon, in a public statement last May, acknowledged that he had ordered the initial F.B.I. investigation restricted, saying that he had feared that covert national security operations might be exposed by a full investigation.

The committee heard this week the tapes of two other meetings—on Sept. 15, 1972, and Feb. 28, 1973—and a first-hand comparison of the transcripts made by the committee with those made by the White House shows some discrepancies.

Most of the discrepancies are innocuous, but a few have aroused interest.

The committee's transcript of the Sept. 15 meeting, for instance, contains a passage deleted from the White House version in which Mr. Nixon threatens to take action against The Washington Post and the paper's lawyer, Edward Bennett Williams.

The committee's transcript also supports an allegation made by John W. Dean 3d, the former White House counsel, that the President had expressed pleasure that Republican lawyers were having out-of-court contacts with a Federal judge.

That transcript shows that the President replied, "Good," when he was told of the contacts.

The White House version does not contain the affirmative remark, and in an analysis of the transcripts, the Presi-

dent's attorney, James D. St. Clair, criticized Mr. Dean for false testimony on the matter.

One unexplained remark on the committee's transcript has the President, during a telephone call, apparently with Clark MacGregor, who succeeded Mr. Mitchell as campaign director, calling the person at the other end of the line, "Henry."

In the White House transcript of the Sept. 15 meeting, a number of passages are omitted and replaced by the phrase, "expletive deleted."

These passages are apparently printed in full in the committee's transcript. The expletives were such phrases as "God Damn" and "for Christ's sake." The President did not use cruder profanity.

One committee member, William S. Cohen, a Maine Republican, said after hearing the tapes, "Imagination would make you think the expletives are much more incendiary and blasphemous than they are."

The Feb. 28 committee transcript includes a comment by the President that is omitted from the White House version and replaced by the phrase, "characterization deleted."

The passage comes at a point in the President's discussion with Mr. Dean about rumors that the Watergate burglars would get long prison sentences.

According to a committee official, the passage deleted from the White House transcript reads, "One of these blacks, you know, goes in there and holds up a store with a God damn gun, and they give him two years and then probation afterward."

Mr. St. Clair said yesterday that he would reply today or Monday to the committee's request for Presidential tapes of meetings that allegedly concerned campaign contributions by milk producers and the International Telephone and Telegraph Corporation.

A committee official said that there was no word from Mr. St. Clair today.