

Chooses Martha

Over Politics

MITCHELL QUILTS FOR WIFE

JUL 1 1972

SF Examiner Mitchell Quits as Director

WASHINGTON—(AP) — Former Attorney General John Mitchell, faced with his wife's ultimatum that he choose either her or politics, picked his wife today and quit as head of President Nixon's re-election effort.

Mitchell, who stepped down as attorney general to take over the Nixon campaign, said he was quitting in order to devote more time to his wife and family.

Martha's Statement

Mitchell's wife, Martha, told a reporter last weekend that she would leave her husband if he continued in a political role.

Francis L. Dale, chairman of the Committee for the Re-election of the President, said Mitchell's resignation was accepted with "deep regret."

He said Mitchell's successor would be former Rep. Clark McGregor, (R-Minn), currently Nixon's counsel for congressional relations.

The Mitchells returned to Washington Thursday after he went to Rye, N.Y., to talk with his wife.

Mrs. Mitchell told a reporter last weekend that she was leaving her husband until he left his campaign position. She called herself a "political prisoner."

Mrs. Mitchell went from California to the Westchester Country Club in Rye. Mitchell flew there Monday to see her.

Nixon, in a letter to Mitchell, said he understood and appreciated the "compelling reasons" for his decision to withdraw.

'Understanding'

"When you came to Washington," the President

wrote, "you made a most substantial sacrifice, personal and financial."

"However, in my 26 years of political life, I have often noted that the greater sacrifice is usually the wife's, since she must not only share the disappointments

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and brickbats but must accept the frequent absence of a husband and father."

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'Appreciative'

"I am well aware," Nixon added, "that this has been particularly true of the Mitchell family and I am most appreciative of the sacrifice Martha and you have both made in the service of the country."

Mitchell, in his letter to Nixon announcing the decision, said he had looked forward to devoting "all my

time and energy" to Nixon's re-election.

"I have found, however," he said, "that I can no longer do so on a full time basis and still meet the obligation which must come first: the happiness and welfare of my wife and daughter."

"They have

patiently put up with up with my long absences for some four years, and the moment has come when I must devote more time to them."