

Rumor That Martha May Leave John

Washington

Martha Mitchell, flamboyant and wife of former Attorney General John Mitchell, has told friends that she plans to leave her husband and has retained a lawyer to advise her on a separation.

Mrs. Mitchell, who has accused President Nixon of lying about the Watergate affair, says her life with her husband has been ruined by Watergate, according to a friend whom she called recently.

John Mitchell, who was President Nixon's campaign director until July 1972, is under indictment in New York on charges of conspiracy in connection with a \$200,000 contribution to the Nixon campaign from indicted financier Robert Vesco.

Mrs. Mitchell said she was under a great strain and sounded "as angry as I've ever heard her," the friend said, "but she was perfectly coherent."

Reuters
