

Talk Costs Mrs. Mitchell Her Office

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Mrs. John N. Mitchell has talked herself right out of a newly decorated office in her husband's department.

The wife of the Attorney General, along with Mrs. Richard G. Kleindienst, the wife of Mr. Mitchell's deputy, were due to move into a well-

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appointed two-room suite full of new furniture and carpeting in the Justice Department's Building at 633 Indiana Avenue, N.W. Mrs. Mitchell and Mrs. Kleindienst were to use the offices with other Justice Department wives on a project to educate teen-agers and their parents about the dangers of drugs. Staff members of the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, which is housed in the building, were reported to be extremely nervous about having the wives of their top bosses sitting right in the middle of their operations.

But what really persuaded the Justice Department to drop the idea was the mounting pile of press clippings of Mrs. Mitchell's free-wheeling comments about such public affairs as the peace movement and the rejection of Judge Clement F. Haynsworth Jr. for the Supreme Court.

Now Mrs. Mitchell and Mrs. Kleindienst will have to work on their drug project out of their homes.

UNNOTICED, even in Manila, was the role played by two of the Democratic party's chief strategists in

the successful campaign to elect Ferdinand E. Marcos as President of the Philippines.

The two who took the American style of political campaigning—including polling and television spots—to Manila were Lawrence F. O'Brien, the former Democratic National Chairman, and Joseph Napolitan, who masterminded Hubert H. Humphrey's broadcasting program last year.

Mr. Napolitan concedes that Mr. Marcos really didn't need the assistance. Early polls showed him leading 2 to 1, close to his final victory margin. But, Mr. Napolitan observes, Mr. Marcos's insistence on not overlooking a single opportunity was a reason for his easy triumph.

THE crime problem in the nation's capital is beginning to take on the dimensions of an international issue as embassies complain about their employes being mugged and robbed. In recognition of the problem, President Nixon has asked Congress to more than double the White House police force, which now has about 275 men. The main duty of the 300 additional men would be to protect missions and embassies. The expanded organization would be called the Executive Protection Section.

THE was lots of talk about a year ago that the first man to leave the new Administration would be Daniel Patrick Moynihan, the White House assistant whose liberal approaches to domestic problems were expected to create waves too large for the conservatives who domi-

nate the Nixon Administration. But here it is almost 1970 and Mr. Moynihan is stronger than ever.

One of the reasons he remains cheerful despite the dispiriting ways of government is the philosophy he has developed.

"The way I see it," he says, "you can't lose 'em all."

ONE Eastern European Communist nation has taken to heart one of the chief topics of conversation in Washington: the money to be made in real estate. The Communist country decided it could not afford to spend the money to build a new embassy at a site on upper Connecticut Avenue that the American Government is opening up for an embassy complex. But it has picked out a choice plot because it recognizes the bargain price the Government is offering the property for.

LAST week representatives of the four major auto companies were scheduled to appear before the President's Air Quality Advisory Committee to discuss auto exhaust controls. Ralph Nader, the consumer advocate, was out of town, but his followers heard about the meeting, and asked to monitor it. When they were turned down they suggested that such a meeting might violate a consent decree that recently ended an antitrust case against the auto companies. The Justice Department advised that indeed there was such a possible violation. So the auto men were told to stay away.