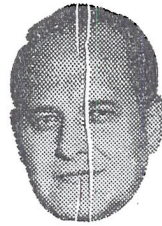


Mitchell's Plans for Nixon Campaign



Jack Anderson

ATTORNEY GENERAL John Mitchell plans to step down from the cabinet, probably in the fall, to take charge of President Nixon's 1972 campaign.

Intimates say Mitchell will return to his former law firm, Mudge, Rose, Guthrie and Alexander, with offices at 1701 Pennsylvania avenue across the street from the White House until the President is ready to announce his candidacy.

Another key member of the President's political team, Murray Chotiner, has already left the White House to take up offices at 1701 Pennsylvania avenue with the Reeves and Harrison law firm one floor directly above the Mudge, Rose offices.

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MITCHELL will run the campaign from behind the scenes, say intimates, with authority over Senator Robert Dole (Rep.-Kan.), the Republican National Chairman.

The Attorney General, who is beginning to enjoy the accoutrements of high office, is reluctant to leave the cabinet. He has discussed the possibility of keeping his position and running the campaign out of the Justice Department. As a precedent, he cited evidence that the late Attorney General Robert Kennedy had intended to play both roles in the 1964 campaign if his brother had lived.

But Mitchell already has been accused by Democrats of mixing politics with justice. After he took over the Justice Department, he ordered criminal investigations of several prominent Democrats for alleged election irregularities but showed little interest in investigating Republicans for the same offenses.

Under Mitchell, the Justice Department has obtained indictments against such big-name Democrats as Maryland's ex-Senator Dan Brewster and San Francisco's Mayor Joseph Alioto.

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BUT MITCHELL has shown a strange reluctance to prosecute such prominent Republicans as West Virginia's Governor Arch Moore, who was caught short-changing the government \$131,000 in taxes over a five-year period; Texas congressman James Collins, who collected at least \$15,000 in illegal kickbacks from his employees as a slush fund to help pay office expenses; and Alabama congressman Bill Dickinson, who accepted a \$1000 check from Spears Service, Inc., and later intervened with the Army to get a million-dollar contract for the company.

For the sake of public confidence, therefore, Mitchell has agreed that he should give up the Attorney Generalship while he plunges into Presidential politics.

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