

Martha Calls McCord a 'Double Agent'

WASHINGTON — (UPI) — Martha Mitchell, claiming it is "a damned lie" that her husband was involved in any way in the Watergate bugging affair, accused the Administration late yesterday of trying to make him the scapegoat in desperation.

She called convicted Watergate conspirator James

W. McCord Jr. a "double agent."

The wife of former Attorney General John N. Mitchell made the charges in a telephone conversation from her New York City apartment shortly after Senate sources said that McCord has testified under oath that he was in daily contact with Mitchell last spring.

"I think this Administration has turned completely against my husband," she said. "In other words, they're desperate and I will not under any circumstances permit them to pin it on my husband."

Mrs. Mitchell was unable to identify those she accused of trying to make her husband "the whipping boy" for

the June 17 break-in and bugging of Democratic National Headquarters in the Watergate Building where the Mitchells once lived.

"My husband laid eyes on McCord only once and I only met him once," Mrs. Mitchell said, as her husband has maintained on numerous occasions before McCord's alleged testimony was reported earlier in the day.