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She's Angry With the President

Martha's Still Boiling

New York

Mrs. John N. Mitchell continued to maintain last night that her husband is innocent of any wrongdoing in the Watergate case.

For months she has been saying that the former attorney general and head of President Nixon's re-election campaign was not involved, that she got him out of Washington because of "the dirty things going on there," but that now "they're all trying to pin this on him."

But last night when a reporter asked her, "Did you get him out in time?" Martha Mitchell hesitated and said: "I don't know. I really don't know."

The interview initiated by the New York Times went like most telephone conversations between Mrs. Mitchell and the press. She said she was still angry that the White House denied that her husband and President Nixon had met in Washington last Saturday when she was sure they had. She said she wanted to prove that the White House was lying.

Mrs. Mitchell asserted that White House press secretary Ronald L. Ziegler was lying yesterday when he said Mitchell had met on Saturday only with John D. Ehrlichman the President's adviser, and not with the President. On Monday she called it a "God-blessed lie." Yesterday it was "a Goddamn lie." She added that she had no proof.

She told United Press International that he took a telephone call from the President Saturday morning which confirmed the meeting. She told the Times she

had spoken only with a White House secretary, that her message from the President was "personal," and that her husband delivered it to her verbally.

Mrs. Mitchell said "They're all trying to blame it (the Watergate case) on my husband."

"But they won't hang him," she continued. "If they try that—if they have the audacity to blame my husband—I'll embarrass everyone around."

Asked how she was going to embarrass "everyone," she replied, "I have some choic tidbits that would wake them all up."

In past conversations, she has been defensive of the President, describing him as someone who is protected from the truth. Last night, she was upset with Mr. Nixon too.

"He's trying to save himself and the party," she said. "All these people are messed up in a deal. I don't think he (the President) knows what's going on. He's

protected from every angle. What he gets is what people tell him."

The problem, however, is still whether Mitchell was involved and what, if anything, his wife knows about it.

"I don't know anything," she wailed recently, then quickly demanded that this be kept "off the record."

Last night, United Press quoted Mrs. Mitchell as saying that it was "incredible" that the President did not name high officials she insisted were involved in the Watergate case.

Shortly after this, she told the Times she knew nothing—"absolutely nothing"—about Watergate.

While she was talking last night, a man's voice which she said was that of her husband, could be overheard saying, "Are you on the phone again?"

She answered: "Yes, and



UPI Telephoto

MARTHA MITCHELL
'I'll embarrass everyone'

I'm trying to stay on the phone to my friends the press. They're the only friends I have."

N.Y. Times Service