

Martha: Honesty

United Press International

Martha Mitchell, saying she was phoning from Washington, "where I'm staying with my husband," told UPI early yesterday that former Attorney General John N. Mitchell was being completely honest with Senate Watergate investigators.

"I want you to know that my husband is absolutely correct in all of his testimony," she said.

"He is completely honest. I'm standing completely beside him because I know he's telling the truth."

Mrs. Mitchell broke her silence in a predawn telephone call to the Washington bureau of United Press International. She said only that she was calling from "Washington, D.C."

Mrs. Mitchell has not accompanied her husband in his two days of testimony before the Senate Watergate Committee, as have the wives of other key witnesses, and Mitchell has refused to say where his usually talkative wife is staying.

Before resuming his interrogation yesterday, Mitchell said he spoke to his wife by telephone several times after his nearly five hours of testimony Tuesday. He spoke to his wife by telephone several times after his nearly five hours of testimony Tuesday.

Asked if he had seen his wife Tuesday night, he replied, "in my dreams, yes."

Mitchell said his wife didn't think his testimony was "good enough" to warrant a repeat appearance yesterday. "Martha said maybe I ought to stay home today. I told her I didn't have that simple a choice."

Asked if his wife thought the committee's questions were tough, Mitchell replied: "No, she didn't think so—she had the answers to all of them."