SFChronicle

Martha Talks of Nixon and Mafia

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Washington

Martha Mitchell said yesterday the Senate Watergate committee is "trying to go easy" on President Nixon and for that reason probably will not call her to testify.

She also said, in an early morning telephone call to UPI reporter Helen Thomas, that "I think the Mafia was involved (in President Nixon's re-election campaign last year) and I think Nixon was involved with the Mafia."

She did not explain the basis for that conclusion, or elaborate on it.

Mrs. Mitchell said she was

"very upset" about the delay in the trial of her husband, former Attorney General and Nixon campaign manager John N. Mitchell, on charges of perjury and obstructing justice.

"I want him tried immediately," she s'aid. "I can face the outcome better and he can, too, if it is not prolonged."

Mitchell and Maurice Stans, finance chairman for the Committee to Re-elect the President, are charged in New York in connection with a \$200,000 donation to the re-election campaign by fugitive financier Robert L. Vesco.

United Press