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Mitchell-Stans Trial May End This Week

NEW YORK, April 21 (UPI) —The Mitchell-Stans conspiracy trial is expected to go to the jury Thursday following 10 weeks of intense grilling and often bitter exchanges involving witnesses and attorneys for the prosecution and defense.

The government rebuttal testimony is to continue Monday with the prosecution's lead-off witness, Richard Vine, a Foreign Service officer.

Washington Post staff writer Sally Quinn is also scheduled to appear Monday as a prosecution rebuttal witness after the judge rejected a motion by Post attorneys to quash the subpoena.

U.S. District Court Judge Lee P. Gagliardi's charge to the jury is scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday.

John Mitchell, 60, former Attorney General, and Maurice H. Stans, 66, former Commerce Secretary, are accused of conspiracy to influence a fraud investigation of finan-

cier Robert L. Vesco in exchange for his \$200,000 cash contribution to President Nixon's 1972 re-election campaign. They are accused also of lying to the federal grand jury which indicted them last May 11.

If either or both is found guilty it would be the first conviction of a one-time Cabinet member since 1929 when Interior Secretary Albert B. Fall was convicted of accepting a bribe in the Teapot Dome oil scandal of 1921 during the administration of President Harding.

In Friday's tumultuous court session, the last before the weekend recess, Stans and prosecutor John R. Wing traded shouted accusations of false testimony and lying.

Wing asked if Stans had not started a talk with G. Bradford Cook, then counsel to the Securities and Exchange Commission, with the words: "This is one of those conversations

that never took place." Cook had so testified.

"Mr. Wing, that's an absolute lie," Stans said.

"In that conversation, weren't you doing your best to conceal any connection between you and the SEC investigation?"

"No, that is not a fact."

"Do you think you could testify falsely under oath at the time you appeared before the grand jury?"

"Certainly not, and I had no intention of doing so," Stans said.

"Haven't you testified falsely during the last few days?"

"Absolutely not, Mr. Wing, that's a lie and you know it!" Stans shouted angrily.

On at least two occasions during the nine weeks of jury selection and testimony the case came perilously close to a minstrial.