

WXPost

# Martha Blames Nixon for Breakup

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United Press International  
Martha Mitchell said yesterday that she wants a legal separation from her husband, former Attorney General John N. Mitchell, and blames President Nixon for her marital troubles.

In another of her celebrated telephone calls, Mrs. Mitchell also told UPI reporter Helen Thomas that her husband, former Nixon campaign manager, had told her "Richard Nixon has figured out the most complete espionage plans for the campaign. I stood and I raised

my right hand and said 'I don't want to hear about it.'"

Mrs. Mitchell's California lawyer, Melvin Belli, served a summons for separate maintenance on Mitchell's lawyers earlier this week.

She laid the blame on the President. "Nixon, President Nixon," she said, "caused the breakup of my marriage."

Asked if she still loved her husband, Mrs. Mitchell said, "I loved the man I tried to make him be."

She recalled that early 1973,

she found Mitchell conferring with several lawyers in their apartment for several days and was told that it concerned former Commerce Secretary Maurice H. Stans—"that Stans was in trouble."

But she said he did not tell her that he, too, was being implicated. Mitchell and Stans were both acquitted in New York of influence-peddling charges involving a contribution by fugitive financier Robert Vesco to the 1972 campaign.