



UPI Telephoto

JUROR JOANNE L. WILLIAMS
The papers she saw were full of air

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Juror Disputes Haldeman Claim

Washington

Describing her life on the Watergate coverup jury, a member of the panel says there was "no possible way" for jurors to get news accounts of trial-related events during the 11 weeks they were sequestered.

The 17 jurors and alternates were strangers when they met, but grew to be like a family, Joanne L. Williams said in a weekend interview at her home.

Attorneys for former White House chief of staff H. R. Haldeman, one of four men convicted New Year's Day of trying to cover up the Watergate scandal, have asked for a new trial on the ground that the jurors may have seen television or newspaper accounts of the trial while federal marshals did not have them under surveillance.

But Mrs. Williams said U.S. marshals always were present when the jurors

watched television.

Newspapers made available to the jury, she said, had been clipped so heavily to get rid of Watergate-related items that they looked like "ragdoll papers."

"Sometimes you saw more air than paper when you held them up," she said.

The Watergate jury was sequestered — separated and sheltered from the outside world — on October 11.

The five alternate jurors, including Mrs. Williams, were sent home when the case went to the jury December 30 and the rest were released after they delivered their verdict last Wednesday.

A professional model, Mrs. Williams celebrated her 24th birthday while the trial was going on. She was one of 11 black women among the 17 persons making up the jury and its alternates.

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