

# Judge Orders Mitchell to Pay Alimony

## New York

Former Attorney General John Mitchell was ordered yesterday to pay \$36,000 in back alimony to his estranged wife, Martha. She is bedridden with a rare bone disease and says she is destitute.

State Supreme Court Justice Manuel Gomez ordered the money paid to Mrs. Mitchell "in absence of any denial" by her husband that he owed the amount in court-ordered temporary alimony payments of \$1000 a week.

Mrs. Mitchell was released last week from the Hospital for special surgery after undergoing chemotherapy for a cancer-like bone disease called multiple myeloma. She said she was afraid the electricity in her Fifth Avenue apartment would be turned off for lack of payment.

Mrs. Mitchell's attorney, William C. Herman, said Mitchell has not paid alimony to his wife for the last eight months.

"When she got sick, she wasn't cashing the checks," Herman said. "When he saw they weren't going through his bank, he said, 'Isn't this delightful,' and even stopped payment on some of the earlier checks. He never asked the judge to reduce it."

*United Press*

---