
Martha Mitchell's Theory on Cancer

New York

Martha Mitchell was convinced that members of the Nixon administration induced the bone marrow cancer that eventually killed her, a blood specialist who treated Mrs. Mitchell says.

"She never gave up the lingering idea that 'those guys' had induced her illness," Dr. Klaus Mayer was quoted as saying in the current issue of Ladies' Home Journal. The article was written by Helen Thomas of United Press International, long a confidante of Mrs. Mitchell.

Mrs. Mitchell, the doctor said, suspected her disease had been brought on by tranquilizers she claimed were injected into her in California in 1972 to insure her

silence at the outbreak of the Watergate scandal.

"A highly inaccurate supposition," Mayer said.

"She was a decent person," the New York hematologist said. "Flamboyant, and a little manic in a way. But pleasant and nice to other people. She wept for other patients; she always asked about my children.

"When you found her alone, she sometimes seemed depressed. She'd say, 'I wish I could live. There are so many interesting things to do.' She was a very patriotic person. She really believed that country did come first, and that she had sacrificed her family to tell the truth to the country."

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