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Description
On the first day of Senate's televised Watergate hearings, Margaret Mitchell, wife of the former attorney general and former Nixon campaign manager John Mitchell, vehemently defends herself and her husband.

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Transcript

Martha Mitchell/Watergate

BRIAN WILLIAMS: On May 17, 1973, the global theater known as the Senate Watergate hearings started. And on the first day of the televised hearings, NBC spoke with the wife of the former attorney general and former Nixon campaign manager John Mitchell.

MARTHA MITCHELL: Mr. Mitchell’s reactions to the televised hearings are the same that I am telling you. That Mr. Mitchell and I went to Washington to help this country, we didn’t profit one iota from anything. Nothing!

I am sick and tired of people saying I’m after publicity. But if I have to get publicity in order to clear two guiltless people, my husband and myself, and you can place all the blame right on the White House and if you’ve got any sense at all you’ll go out and find out where it is.

Well, where do you think all of this originated? Do you think my husband’s that stupid? And whom do you think he’s been protecting? Whom?

Reporter: I have no idea, who?

MITCHELL: Mr. President, he has been protecting. Under no uncertain circumstances. And as I told you a few minutes ago, that when I ask him he said to me that if anything happened to Mr. President, the whole country would fall apart. And if you remember a few weeks ago I suggested that Mr. President resign. Well it’s a darn better idea that he resign than be impeached.