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Nixon, High Court And A-Blast

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Ousted White House aide John Dean says President Nixon was "prepared to defy the Supreme Court" if it had ruled against allowing the underground atomic blast at Amchitka in 1971, Time magazine reported yesterday.

"He (Mr. Nixon) was going to say 'pull the trigger,' and then explain that he had taken the action because it was vital to the military position of the United States vis-a-vis Russia," Dean told Time.

The high court ruled 8 to 1 against a suit by conservationists, allowing the blast to go ahead. But, said Dean, "Everyone was in readiness to act if the ruling had gone the other way . . . the President was prepared to defy the Supreme Court."

United Press