To the Editor:

In your Feb. 9 editorial "The Haldeman Smear" you write: "It strinkingly recalls the hysterical, irresponsible cry of treason that paralyzed public debate and policy making in the dark days of the late Senator Joseph R. McCarthy."

To this reader it also strikingly recalls the similarly dark days of Richard M. Nixon, who is alive and well and now living in the White House. Let's not forget Helen Gahagan Douglas and all the others.

Juliet Lewis New York, Feb. 10, 1972

See Nix Ad, 8 Feb 72 et seq.