

SFChronicle
Defending Nixon

Editor—God bless Robert L. King for his most welcome letter August 28 in defense of President Nixon . . .

I find it horrifying that people can be so vicious and malicious toward this great man they've elected as President of the United States. What is the matter with good old-fashioned loyalty? . . .

CAROLE PLESSAS.

Piedmont.

Editor— . . . The platform from which King speaks, as a former Presidential aide, may qualify him to speak about Mr. Nixon, but I don't think it necessarily represents a more valid basis for judgment of Mr. Nixon's character and motivations. My opinion is simply that Mr. Nixon is tarred with the same brush as the other bad actors, and I agree that they are indeed "victims of an over-zealous power-bred myopia." In fact, some of the lesser characters are now in jail.

I consider some of King's statements and conclusions incongruous and downright frightening, such as the one about the President being "constitutionally unable to lie"! It is obvious to me, as it is to everyone, that he has deceived and lied to the people many times, constitutionally or not. As for his assessment of Mitchell's testimony "towering above" that of the others, I say it was just plain garbage, along with the rest of it.

WILLIAM J. ROMAINE.

El Cerrito.

Editor—I have one question for Robert L. King . . . He states that "Nixon is constitutionally unable to lie." He continues, later: "His concept of his own mission in life, and of the Presidency itself, would make it impossible for him to present a false front."

How does King square these comments with the known fact that Mr. Nixon knew of, if indeed he did not personally order, 3630 sorties of B-52's which dropped

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100,000 tons of bombs on Cambodia while he, Mr. Nixon, was publicly assuring the United States citizens that they were respecting the neutrality of Cambodia?

Neither Congress, which authorizes the money for operations, nor any member of the public was informed of these deadly secret raids. The money was certainly obtained under false pretenses: the public was certainly lied to. Outright. Correct?

MRS. C. A. BITTS.

Stockton.

Editor—Thank you for printing Mr. King's letter. The ferocity with which President Nixon has been attacking the news media is far more disgraceful than Watergate. His office alone, for he is the President of the United States, entitles him to some portion of respect . . .

S. B. MORSE.

Walnut Creek.

More letters, 10 Sep 73.