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Debt to John Doar

To the Editor:

In the general euphoria that has followed Mr. Nixon's resignation, we have had much talk about how the system really does work; and indeed it has worked. But it worked only because of the integrity, ability and devotion of a small number of journalists, judges and lawyers.

Most of these people have received appropriate public recognition, but it seems to me that John Doar, special counsel to the House Judiciary Committee, has not.

Mr. Doar made it a point not to seek personal publicity. He appeared on no TV shows, gave no interviews, did not resort to "leaks." His staff was equally circumspect. By normal Congressional committee standards the security aspect of the Judiciary

Committee's investigation was phenomenal.

The committee's televised debate on the articles of impeachment was a seminar for the American people on the origins and significance of Watergate. The dramatic surge of public and Congressional opinions in favor of impeachment was the direct result.

Unquestionably the committee members deserve, and they have received, high marks for the quality of the debate and the fairmindedness of their approach. But the superb organization and presentation of the vast evidentiary record was the work of Mr. Doar and his staff. All of us are in his debt.

JOHN E. TOBIN

New York, Aug. 26, 1974

The writer served as chief counsel to the Congressional investigation of tax scandals in 1952-53.