

SEP 17 1975
**Clemency Board Ends;
President Praises It**

NYTimes

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16 — President Ford today praised his outgoing Presidential Clemency Board for its diligence in seeking to reconcile opponents of the war in Vietnam.

In a statement released by the White House one day after he signed an Executive order terminating the limited clemency program, he said "many deserving young Americans will have been helped" to find their place in American Society.

The clemency program, announced by Mr. Ford on Sept. 16, 1974, officially ended at midnight last night. Mr. Ford also arranged a courtesy meeting with the board to thank members for their work.

The program was frequently criticized and was also the subject of a boycott by many of those it aimed to help. The resisters felt that they should be granted an unconditional amnesty rather than the limited clemency — with an alternate service provision — required under Mr. Ford's program.