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### President's Rights

To the Editor:

When questioned during a television interview on July 1, as to whether there is any legal justification for continuing to fight an undeclared war in Vietnam now that the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution is dead, President Nixon replied in the affirmative, citing his "constitutional rights—not only the right but the responsibility — to use his powers to protect American forces when they are engaged in military actions."

With perhaps uncharitable skepticism, I proceeded to obtain a copy of the Constitution of the United States of America and to read it carefully. There is nowhere the slightest mention of such a Presidential right or responsibility. Mr. Nixon has apparently appended to that venerable document an apocrypha of his own.

MARTHA JANE MOUNT  
New York, July 2, 1970

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