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Nixon Didn't Mean It

Washington

President Nixon was not in any way at all being derogatory toward the Peace Corps when he said last week that the price to be paid by draft deserters "is not a junket in the Peace Corps," his chief spokesman said yesterday.

Press Secretary Ronald L. Ziegler said Mr. Nixon's news conference remark related to the penalty the President believes the deserters should pay for leaving the country to avoid Vietnam service.

The President appreciates, Ziegler said, the "very selfless and dedicated service" by Peace Corps volunteers—many of whom were annoyed by his reference to a junket.

Associated Press