

NYTimes

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Mr. Garment's Mistake...

To the Editor:

In his Jan. 7 column, your William Safire referred, with displeasure, to a New Leader article in which I chided Leonard Garment for playing the role delegated to him by the White House in recent months.

Mr. Garment, Mr. Safire and I could probably agree that when a citizen is summoned to public service he ought to respond if he can, political tastes notwithstanding. We disagree over what said citizen ought to do when his name and his skills are turned to the private interests of a devious officeholder. Then, it seems to me, the same sense of public interest that brought him to Washington should send him home.

WALTER GOODMAN

White Plains, N. Y., Jan. 8, 1974