

St. Clair's Job

To the Editor:

In a March 13 news article you write: "James D. St. Clair says he represents 'the office of the Presidency,' not the occupant of that office 'individually.'" It is difficult to understand how he could make such a statement.

One of the highest officials in the Federal Administration is the Attorney General. It is his duty, according to my understanding, to defend the Administration and Administration officials when acting in their official capacities in all legal actions and to prosecute all legal actions taken in their behalf as officials when necessary. It would appear obvious that the "Presidency" and the President when exercising the functions of the Presidency is, or should be, the foremost client of the Attorney General.

It would seem, therefore, that the "Presidency," the "Office of the Presidency" and the President himself when acting in his official capacity have an "official counsel" who has a large supporting staff and hence should be in a position to provide full protection and support to the Presidency and the occupant of that position when he is acting officially.

It would appear, therefore, that Mr. St. Clair is in grievous error when he made the statement quoted above. He is not acting as "counsel" to the Presidency but simply as counsel to Richard M. Nixon as an individual acting as such.

PAUL M. ATKINS
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