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The Spared Perjurer

To the Editor:

The deferential treatment accorded Richard Kleindienst by both Special Prosecutor Jaworski and Judge Hart has at least two harmful effects: It condones lying to Congress by high Government officials and it further demonstrates the double standard "rule" in law enforcement which has so disillusioned the public in recent years [editorial June 8].

Kleindienst should have been held to a higher standard as a public official, as it could be argued that his perjury before Congress cut off lawful inquiry into the President's efforts to obstruct justice in the I.T.T. matter for many months. It will be interesting to see whether, after much soul-searching in recent months, the organized bar has the courage to deal with Mr. Kleindienst's now-established moral turpitude.

ELIOT STANLEY
Dobbs Ferry, N. Y., June 7, 1974