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Garment Quits Job at White House

Leonard Garment, a Democrat in the Nixon administration who worked on Richard Nixon's Watergate defense, resigned from the White House staff yesterday to return to private law practice.

Garment was a member of the New York law firm headed by John N. Mitchell when Nixon joined it after his defeat in 1962 for the California governorship.

They became friends and Garment worked in the 1968 Nixon presidential campaign and joined the White House staff in 1969. He was one of the first aides to warn Nixon of the potential dangers of Watergate, but his advice went unheeded.

Garment worked on a variety of matters as assistant to the President, concentrating on the arts and humanities and problems of minority rights.

Garment will join the New York law firm of Trubin, Sillcocks, Edelman and Knapp and also will be associated with the Washington firm of Ruckelshaus, Beveridge and Fairbanks, headed by former Deputy Attorney General William D. Ruckelshaus.