

NYTimes • SEP 10 1976

Of Pardons and Hypocrisy

To the Editor:

When Senator Robert Dole spoke of President Ford's position on draft dodgers and deserters, he demonstrated the basic hypocrisy and inconsistency that has typified the Ford Administration. When President Ford pardoned Richard Nixon, he claimed that it was to end the tragedy of Watergate. Surely the Watergate scandal pales to insignificance when compared to the disastrous U.S. involvement in Vietnam, yet President Ford refuses to end that tragedy by pardoning people who continue to be victimized by that misguided effort.

But then, pardoning draft dodgers and deserters will not make Gerald Ford President.

T. G. WICKER

Washington, Aug. 30, 1976