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White House Aides Scoff At Idea of Elite Club

The White House yesterday described a report that Democratic Party contributors could buy a gilt-edged invitation to a formal White House party as "too ridiculous to merit a comment."

Rowland Evans and Robert Novak, in a column published yesterday in The Washington Post, reported that a new group of \$10,000 contributors to the Party is unofficially known as the "Elite President's Club" and guaranteed an invitation from President Johnson to a White House social function.

The First Lady's press secretary, Elizabeth Carpenter, called the claim "ridiculous."

Presidential press secretary Bill D. Moyers said:

"That charge by Mr. Evans and Mr. Novak is so absurd as not to warrant a comment."

"Is there an 'Elite President's Club?'" a reporter asked.

I don't know of one," Moyers said.

"Is there a \$10,000 contributors club?"

"No."

Is there anyone who has ever given \$10,000 to the Democratic Party, who has not been invited to the White House?" another reporter asked.

"Any further questions?" Moyers responded.