

The original documents are located in Box C54, folder “Presidential Handwriting, 1/3/1977 (1)” of the Presidential Handwriting File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 3, 1977

ADMINISTRATIVELY CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR: MAX FRIEDERSDORF
FROM: JAMES E. CONNOR *JEC*
SUBJECT: Letter from Edward L.R. Elson

The attached was returned in the President's outbox with the following notation:

"I wish to sign the letter of appreciation."

Please follow-up with appropriate action.

cc: Dick Cheney

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MR PRESIDENT:

The attached is for your information.
It will be handled in a routine manner
unless you indicate otherwise.

Jim Connor

JAC
I wish to sign
the appreciation

This has been
acknowledged
V. Olson

UNITED STATES SENATE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

December 17, 1976

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

Dear President Ford:

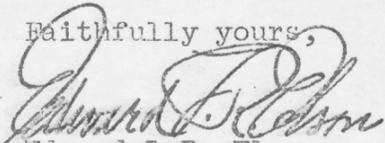
Before the opening of the new Congress and the Inauguration I want to express to you my abiding appreciation for your great service to our nation.

You had already made a superb contribution to the Congress when the Vice Presidency and later the Presidency were thrust upon you.

In the history of our nation few presidents have contributed so much in so short a time. Greater and vastly more difficult than legislation, diplomatic or military achievement is the work of reconciliation and healing of the people. In your term as President you have already done what others have promised. Above all the notable achievements of your long career you have restored integrity and dignity to the office of President. You have established a standard of genuine piety, high character, and consistent fidelity to high principles which Americans in coming generations will do well to emulate. It has been a great privilege to have known you and to work with you at various times during your career in Washington.

Helen Elson joins me in wishing you and Mrs. Ford and your family a joyous Christmas and continued usefulness in the years to come.

Faithfully yours,



Edward L.R. Elson

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500