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2/19/77

WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
January 19, 1977

Dear Carla:

I have your letter of January 17, tendering your resignation as Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, effective January 20, 1977.

In accepting this resignation, I am happy to have an opportunity to express my profound gratitude for the outstanding manner in which you have served in a vital and difficult assignment, and my admiration for your ability to work endless hours and still retain your inexhaustible energy and enthusiasm. Because your Department is so closely linked with the well-being and happiness of all our fellow citizens, it is imperative that it be headed by someone of courage, compassion and conviction. You possess those three qualities in great abundance and have displayed those characteristics throughout your almost two years of service in this assignment. You have made a real and lasting contribution to the Department, to this Administration and to our Nation, and we are all in your debt.

As you prepare to return to private life, you take with you my deep appreciation and my warmest good wishes for health, happiness and success for you, Rod, and your fine family.

Warmest personal regards,

Jimmy Ford
P.S. you have been super.
J.

The Honorable Carla Anderson Hills
Secretary of Housing and Urban Development
Washington, D. C. 20410