

The original documents are located in Box C3, folder “Mathews, David” of the Gerald and Betty Ford Special Materials Collection at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN . . .



THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20201

December 10, 1976

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

Dear Mr. President:

I want to say again (what Mary said last evening at the Christmas Ball) that you have added a dimension to our lives for which we will always be grateful. As you know well, it is a great honor to serve this country. And it has been equally a great pleasure to serve it in your company.

You certainly don't need any advice from me on what to do next, but I hope you will consider the fact that you really don't have to make any decision. You are The President and you will always be that, whether in the White House or not. And having that office, you have a great role still to play in the life of our country. I am convinced you will enjoy a rare respect and affection that will give you a platform to express the good common sense that has been your hallmark.

I could offer more evidence for my view, but I think it is strong enough to rest on a recent letter I received from the Dean of the Law School at The University of Alabama, a man of sound judgment and insight (enclosed).

With warmest good wishes to you and Mrs. Ford, I remain

Faithfully yours,

Donald
Secretary

Enclosure

DEC 11 1976

DEC 13 1976

SECRET

SECRET

[Handwritten signature]

SECRETARY

After receiving your letter to the effect that you are a member

and member (continued)

of the Board of Directors of the National Security Agency, I am pleased to hear that you are a member of the Board of Directors of the National Security Agency. I am pleased to hear that you are a member of the Board of Directors of the National Security Agency.

Best regards,

Very truly yours,
I am pleased to hear that you are a member of the Board of Directors of the National Security Agency. I am pleased to hear that you are a member of the Board of Directors of the National Security Agency. I am pleased to hear that you are a member of the Board of Directors of the National Security Agency.



Best regards,

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Best regards,

Secretary, D. C. 20520
The White House
The President

December 10, 1976



WASHINGTON, D. C. 20520
THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

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



Handwritten signature and initials, possibly 'JRC' and '4/17'.

Thomas W. Christopher

*The University of Alabama
School of Law
University, Alabama 35486*

November 5, 1976

Dear David:

It may be that your successor historians 50 years from now will conclude that the election of Governor Carter started the downfall of the South. Up to this point we have taken comfort, strength, and joy from the feeling that we have been discriminated against and to the extent even that a Southerner could not be elected president. Now that this situation no longer exists, we have lost our main crutch and will have to take our responsibilities in the mainstream. It may be our undoing.

I know that it is not much comfort at the moment to President Ford, but a lot of people who voted for Governor Carter would have been almost as glad if the President had won. Without any question, President Ford will receive a very good place in history for he has served the country well.

Sincerely,



Thomas W. Christopher

TWC:bp

Honorable David Mathews
Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare
Washington, D. C. 20201

Washington, D. C. 20501
Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare
Honorable David Mathews

JMC:pb

Thomas M. Christopher



Sincerely,

Dear

Let's face it, the country is in a state of confusion. The President will receive a letter from me soon, and I am sure that the President and President Ford, and a lot of people who voted for Governor Ford, will be very comfortable at the moment to

may be our nation's

will have to take our responsibilities in the world. If the situation no longer exists, we have lost our way and a government could not be elected President. Now the people have been discriminated against and to the extent that taken comfort, especially, and joy from the fact that we started the downfall of the South. Up to this point we have from now will conclude that the election of Governor Ford is the way to get our nation back on its feet.

Dear David:

November 2, 1976

Handwritten notes at the bottom left, including "most people" and "all of it".

Handwritten signature at the bottom center, likely "Thomas M. Christopher".

WHITE HOUSE MAIL
RECEPTION & SECURITY

DEC 10 1976

Processed by: 5



1976 DEC 10 PM 6 24

RECEP. AND SECURITY UNIT
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON