The original documents are located in Box C3, folder "Rinaldo, Matthew J." of the Gerald and Betty Ford Special Materials Collection at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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MATTHEW J. RINALDO

WASHINGTON OFFICE: 314 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515 (202) 225-5361

> DISTRICT OFFICE: 1961 MORRIS AVENUE UNION, NEW JERSEY 07083 (201) 687-4235

Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Mashington, D.C. 20515

COMMITTEES: INTERSTATE AND FOREIGN COMMERCE

SUBCOMMITTEES: OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND FINANCE

MERCHANT MARINE AND FISHERIES

SUBCOMMITTEES: FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT PANAMA CANAL

December 3, 1976

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

President Gerald R. Ford The White House Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

Thank you for your kind message of congratulations on my reelection to Congress.

I shall greatly miss having you in the White House, as will many millions of Americans who voted for you.

You will be leaving office with a very proud record. In the years ahead, many more Americans and historians will reflect back that the Jerry Ford Presidency was a time of healing the wounds of war and Watergate; that your patient and mature leadership steered America from the brink of economic disaster; that your administration began the long and difficult period in which public confidence was restored in government.

Moreover, your initiatives in energy research and development, I feel sure, will be enormously significant to America as we enter the next century.

In my judgment, you were the right man at the right time for America. Even though your presidency was all too brief, it accomplished a great deal for the benefit of our nation and for world peace and order.

I also am proud to have served with you in Congress, where your good nature and understanding of the special problems of each of the members of the House made you a leader of very rare qualities. Your gift of bringing people together for the common good is a standard that others need to follow in Congress.

MATTHEW J. RINALDO

District offices 11/11 Internet Avenue 11/21 Internet Avenue 11/21 Internet Avenue 10/21 offices

Congress of the Elnized States

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EVERENTITIES

MERCHANY RIARING

FIGHERITE AND WILDLIFE FIGHERITE AND WILDLIFE CONSCIPLATION AND THE SAVIRONIENT PANAMA CANAL President Gerald R. Ford December 3, 1976 Page 2

With the tremendous burden of the Presidency lifted from your shoulders, it is my hope that your new career will be filled with many years of personal happiness and good health for you and all the members of your family.

The able assistance of Betty and your children did indeed make the Fords America's First Family in every sense.

Cordially,

Matt

MATTHEW J. RINALDO Member of Congress

MJR/bjr

President Gerald R. Ford December 3, 1976

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Cordially,

MATTHEW J. RINALDO Member of Congress



DEC 9 1976

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