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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

December 6, 1976

Dear Dr. Chauncey:

It was with great pleasure that I read your thoughtful letter of November 23, extending an invitation to me to attend the Commencement Services at Yale University on May 18, 1977, when the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws would be conferred upon me. I am most honored by the decision of the President and Fellows of Yale University and respectfully accept your invitation.

I have asked my Executive Assistant, Robert Barrett, to work with you directly to handle the details of my visit. I look forward to this event with strong sentiment and satisfaction.

With warm good wishes,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gerald R. Ford". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed text of the letter.

Dr. Henry Chauncey, Jr.
Secretary
Yale University
New Haven, Connecticut 06520

Original letter and file to Bob Barrett
- no copy to Stripping -

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

November 23, 1976

Personal and Confidential

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

I have the honor to inform you that the President and Fellows of Yale University have voted to confer upon you the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws, provided you can be present at the Commencement Exercises of the University in New Haven on Monday, May 16, 1977. The laws of the University require that candidates for honorary degrees receive them in person and prohibit the award of such degrees in absentia.

I shall be glad to send you later full information regarding the Commencement Exercises and other details in which you may be interested.

In keeping with tradition, it is requested that this invitation and your response to it be treated as confidential. On behalf of Yale University may I tell you how pleased we are and how much we hope you will accept.

Sincerely yours,



Henry Chauncey, Jr.
Secretary of the University

HCJr: sjf