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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

January 19, 1977

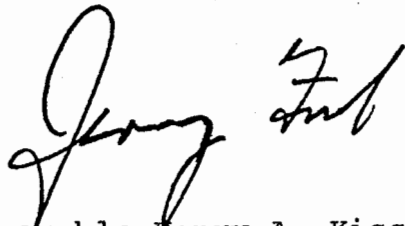
Dear Henry:

Thank you for your letter. It is with appreciation for your distinguished contributions to our Nation that I accept your resignation as Secretary of State, effective January 20, 1977, as you requested.

During your years of service, your dedication, integrity, and strongly held faith in free men and free institutions have made a deep and lasting impression on all Americans -- and people throughout the world. In an era when the United States has faced increasingly difficult international challenges, your reasoned, candid counsel has been of the greatest value to me, to this Administration, and to our Nation. It will forever remain a source of pride for me to have had you as my Secretary of State.

As you prepare to return to private life, you and Nancy may be sure that you take with you my heartfelt best wishes for the future. I very much look forward to continuing our friendship in the years ahead.

Warmest personal regards,



The Honorable Henry A. Kissinger  
Secretary of State  
Washington, D.C. 20520

*P.S. No words can  
express our gratitude.  
We thank you.  
J.*