

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AUGUST 10, 1974

Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

MEMORANDUM FOR MEMBERS OF THE VICE PRESIDENTIAL STAFF

AUGUST 9, 1974

On a number of occasions in the past, I have told you that I was only the "front man" in our efforts. Behind the scenes, each of you worked, sometimes day and night, and often all weekend, to facilitate our joint efforts. Some have been with me longer than others, but all of you have combined in a short time to perform at a singular level of excellence.

As I assume the new responsibilities of the Presidency, I want you to know how mindful I am of your past labors -- and how grateful and indebted I am to you. You have contributed indispensably to the successful operation of the Office of the Vice President and to my ability to assume my new responsibilities. Our staff has been close to one another, much as a family, and I hope all of you understand the depth of my appreciation and affection. Although I am moving to another office, my loyalty and esteem for you remain unchanged.

I have asked some old friends to come in and help us during this difficult period, which we all hoped would not come. I hope you will render all possible cooperation to those who will be here to facilitate the transition, as well as to those of Mr. Nixon's staff for whom this time is even more difficult than it is for us.

With heartfelt thanks,

Gerald R. Ford

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