

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 16, 1974

Dear Mr. President:

Having returned this past weekend from San Clemente, I am now in the process of dismantling my office and clearing up the loose ends left from nearly six years at the White House. I hope to have this substantially completed by the first week of November, and therefore ask you to accept my resignation as a member of the White House staff effective November 8. As most of my colleagues know, I wanted for the past year to return to private life, but felt an obligation to see the troubles here through to their conclusion; now I am anxious to begin work as soon as possible on a book which will, I hope, contribute significantly to a better understanding of what it was the Nixon Administration was trying to achieve in its foreign and domestic policies.

In leaving, I do so with every good wish for the success of your Administration. These will not be easy years. You will need, and I hope you will get, the cooperation of Americans of all political persuasions, pulling together. The Nation will need, and I hope it will find, on the part of those who sit in daily judgment on its leaders a greater willingness to recognize the complexities of life in the real world, the limitations of Government, the inherent frailties of human institutions, and the fragilities as well as the strengths of our democratic system. It will have to learn a better balance between the sensational and the important. It will have to develop a greater leaven of patience and forbearance than has lately been fashionable, and a greater appreciation of self-restraint and mutual respect as the cements of a free and civilized society. But I'm enough of an optimist to

The President

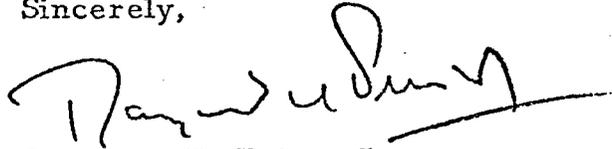
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believe that at least some of this is possible, if we work at it, and if we're diligent in drawing the right lessons rather than the wrong ones from what the Nation has gone through not only in the past year, but also in the past decade -- so that the brighter future that I know you will work to achieve for the country can be achieved.

With high respect, and with my very best personal wishes,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Raymond K. Price, Jr.", written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath.

Raymond K. Price, Jr.

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.