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Congress of the United States  
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Washington, D.C. 20515

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October 11, 1973

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

At your request, I am pleased to submit my choice for Vice President of the United States.

Since I am Rose Woods' personal Congressman, I have given this suggestion maximum thought in the limited time available. Following the three-qualifications guideline you established, my choice would be Congressman Gerald R. Ford of Michigan.

This choice was arrived at with the following logic. The Country and the Republican Party need a unifying figure at this moment. Gerald Ford's capabilities for being President are excellent. His position on foreign policy is identical to yours. He would be the near unanimous choice of both the House and Senate with minimal delay. I know of no one else fitting the above criteria.

My personal choice for the Presidency in 1976 would be John Connally of Texas; however, to put him through the scrutiny that the Democratic Congress would demand were he considered for the Vice Presidency at this time might lead to unknown ramifications.

Your possible reluctance to appoint Gerry Ford is quite understandable. Congress would be losing a leader who is head and shoulders above everyone else in steering your demestic policies through the House of Representatives. I think you could overcome this by announcing after his confirmation that he would be charged with direct responsibility for all legislative programs. The Vice President's offices could be greatly expanded in the Senate and in the Cannon House Office Building. He could select capable people,

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The President

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such as former Congressman John Byrnes, to help him.

I appreciate the opportunity of presenting this suggestion.  
Please be assured of my support for whomever your nominee is.

Respectfully yours,



William Stanton

WS:sm

