The original documents are located in Box C3, folder "Presidential Handwriting, 9/18/1974" of the Presidential Handwriting File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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September 18, 1974

Dear Susan and John,

I really appreciated John's recent letter. It was great to hear from you, and it was good to know that you had another enjoyable visit to Vail.

John, I am very pleased to have the encouragement you expressed in your letter. It is wonderful to have the support of long-time friends and to know that those friends continue to wish me well with my new responsibilities.

You asked whether we still plan to spend our Christmas holidays in Vail. As of now we are indeed planning to be there. We have our reservations all set, and unless there is some unforeseen emergency we will all be there. We are already looking forward to it!

Again, thank you for your thoughtful letter.

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Sincerely,

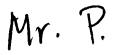
Mr. and Mrs. John O'Laughlin 44 Brinker Road Barrington, Illinois 60010

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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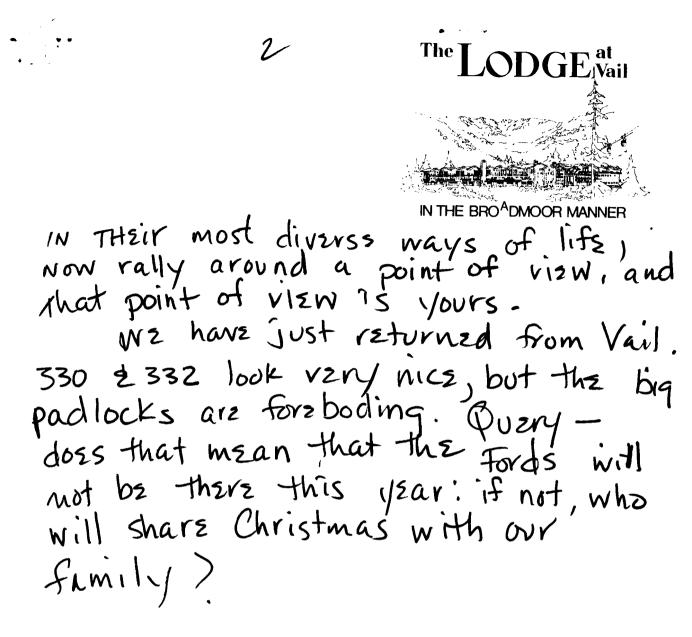
DELIVERED THROUGH THE COURTESY OF MRS. BATES HOWE

Szptzmbzr 7.



Dear Gerry, I Seems That it has been a very short time suice I have written to you to congratulate and compliment you on becoming Vice-President; Now I find myself in such a very short time saying, MR. PRESIDENT; How pleased I am to so address you.

Remember When we talked from time to time about the retirement of the minority leader? Wouldn't you think that retirement could tind itself in a somewhat less awesome atmosphere than that of being President of the United States? Now we must think in terms of all the things that can be accomplished. These things can only be done with the confidence of the people and goodness Knows we seek that confidence. My friends, my people and my associates, P. O. BOX 1168, VAIL, COLORADO 81657 TELEPHONE: VAIL 303-476-5011 DENVER 303-222-7078



John