

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON

February 23, 1968

Dear Mr. President

I cannot find words to express to you the feelings that lie in my heart.

Fifty-one months ago you asked me to serve in your cabinet. No other period in my life has brought so much struggle -- or so much satisfaction.

The struggle would have been infinitely greater and the satisfaction immeasurably less if I had not received your full support every step of the way.

No man could fail to be proud of service in an Administration which has recorded the progress you have made in the fields of civil rights, health, and education. One hundred years of

inequality can not be overcome overnight.
That you have pushed, dragged, and
cajoled the nation into basic reforms
from which my children and my
children's children will benefit for
decades to come. I know the price
you have paid, both personally and
politically. Every citizen of our land
is in your debt.

I will not say goodbye - you
know you have but to call and
I will respond.

Sincerely
FJR

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON

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The President
White House

Personal

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