

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

July 28, 1955

Dear Oveta:

This is a sad day in the annals of the Eisenhower Administration. Your departure is a great loss to the American people.

You played a major role in the Crusade which swept the President into office. You were one of his first appointments to a key position. Your negotiations with Senator Taft and the Congressional leaders resulted in the establishment of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, the first new Cabinet post in 42 years. You then undertook one of the biggest organizational and administrative jobs in Government. You made a comprehensive review and developed proposals for sweeping revisions in the basic Federal program of social legislation. You obtained the support of the President and the approval of the Executive Branch of the Government. You secured the support of Congress for the adoption of the major portion of the program and the additional funds necessary for these basic social advances. The result of your work has been increased efficiency and economy of operations and the extension of basic social services to all Americans.

It is a brilliant record of unique service in the fields of health, education and welfare.

But the official annals cannot adequately record your warmth, understanding and selflessness -- qualities which make you a truly wonderful person, friend and associate. The privilege of working with you is one that I shall never forget.

Sincerely,



Nelson A. Rockefeller

Honorable Oveta Culp Hobby  
Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare  
Washington, D. C.

