

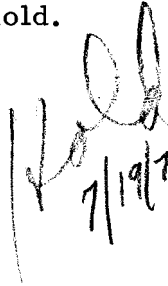
**The original documents are located in Box C44, folder “Presidential Handwriting, 7/12/1976” of the Presidential Handwriting File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

On 7/12/76 showed this to Jim Connor  
he said just hold.

 GBF  
7/19/76


OBE - never used.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 9, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: JIM CONNOR

FROM: DAVID LISSY 

SUBJECT: General Brown

Per our conversation, attached are two letters for the President's signature. Max tells me he discussed this matter with the President and the President agreed to send a letter. Also attached are copies of the NJCRA~~E~~ resolution, the telegram from Hoffberger and the letters the President signed a year and a half ago.

I am holding about 100 letters and telegrams. Once the President approves a letter, I would use that as the form for the replies -- most of which could go over my signature. The ones to leaders of national organizations should go over the President's signature -- but they are few in number.

Attachments



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Dear Mr. Hoffberger:

Thank you for your telegram regarding General Brown's response to questions during his recent confirmation hearings. I can understand the concern you express.

As you know, I personally rebuked General Brown for his comments at Duke University over a year and a half ago and General Brown publicly apologized at that time. I believe he fully understands that his remarks then were entirely wrong and were highly offensive. I appreciate that General Brown's latest statements raise questions in your mind. His choice of words was ill conceived, but taken as a whole his testimony meant to convey that he was wrong before and that he knew it.

There is certainly nothing inappropriate about American citizens expressing their point of view. That is the essence of our system and we would all do well to remain ever sensitive to that fact.

I have strong views on the subject of bigotry and intolerance. I have not hesitated to express myself on that score and I will not countenance either in any official of government. In fairness

to General Brown, however, the inelegance of his oral expression should be measured against his service to this nation, including his direction of the United States airlift to Israel in 1973.


You are right to be ever vigilant.

Sincerely,

Mr. Jerold C. Hoffberger  
President  
Council of Jewish Federations  
and Welfare Funds  
315 Park Avenue, South  
New York, New York 10010

THE WHITE HOUSE

Mr. Jerold C. Hoffberger  
President  
Council of Jewish Federations  
and Welfare Funds  
315 Park Avenue, South  
New York, New York 10010



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Dear Mr. Mann:

I have read the resolution passed by the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council regarding General Brown's response to questions during his recent confirmation hearings and I can readily understand the concern expressed.

As you know, I personally rebuked General Brown for his comments at Duke University over a year and a half ago and General Brown publicly apologized at that time. I believe he fully understands that his remarks then were entirely wrong and were highly offensive. I appreciate that General Brown's latest statements raise questions in your mind. His choice of words was ill conceived, but taken as a whole his testimony meant to convey that he was wrong before and that he knew it.

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to General Brown, however, the inelegance of his oral expression should be measured against his service to this nation, including his direction of the United States airlift to Israel in 1973.

You are right to be ever vigilant.

Sincerely,

Theodore R. Mann, Esq.  
Chairman  
National Jewish Community  
Relations Advisory Council  
44 West 42nd Street  
New York, New York 10036



THE WHITE HOUSE

Theodore R. Mann, Esq.  
Chairman  
National Jewish Community  
Relations Advisory Council  
44 West 42nd Street  
New York, New York 10036

General Brown's responses to questions by Senators yesterday at the hearing on his confirmation reflect again his marked insensitivity to a basic aspect of the American system. The application of such insensitivity and ignorance in the field of military preparedness and intelligence would plainly pose a serious hazard to the interests of the nation. The fitness of General Brown to hold the high office for which he has been nominated is called into question by his latest manifestation of lack of judgment and discretion.

NACRAZ statement  
6.29.76

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The White House  
Washington

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PMS PRESIDENT GERALD R FORD

WHITE HOUSE DC 20500

DEAR MR PRESIDENT

GENERAL BROWN'S STATEMENTS ABOUT JEWS TO THE SENATE ARMED SERVICES  
COMMITTEE ARE DEEPLY DISTURBING TO ALL AMERICANS WHO CHERISH OUR  
NATION'S BASIC DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES

THEY ARE PARTICULARLY DISTRESSING BECAUSE THIS IS THE SECOND TIME HE  
HAS UTTERED THEM AND NOW UNDERMINE HIS FORMER RETRACTIONS DESPITE  
YOUR REBUKE

KNOWING YOUR OWN COMMITMENTS TO AMERICA'S HIGHEST PRINCIPLES, I HOPE  
YOU WILL TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION IN YOUR CAPACITY AS THE HEAD OF  
THIS NATION AND IN YOUR UNIQUE RESPONSIBILITY FOR IT'S MORAL  
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JEROLD C HOFFBERGER PRESIDENT COUNCIL OF JEWISH FEDERATIONS  
AND WELFARE FUNDS  
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The White House  
Washington

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JEROLD C HOFFBERGER PRESIDENT COUNCIL OF JEWISH FEDERATIONS  
AND WELFARE FUNDS  
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*Mal M. Stevenson*

Re: General George S. Brown's remarks at Duke University

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

, 1974

Dear /s/

Thank you for your letter about General George S. Brown's remarks at Duke University. I not only appreciate and understand your concern but I have publicly rebuked the General and privately conveyed to him in no uncertain terms my disapproval of his comments.

Throughout his military career, as you may be aware, General Brown has had a distinguished record of service to his nation. For this reason, although I consider his remarks a serious mistake, I do not plan to ask for his resignation. The General has recognized his mistake and has publicly apologized.

I appreciate your taking the time to let me know your views on this.

Sincerely,

Cut - 11/26/74 - beo  
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/s/  
////////////////////  
////////////////////

GRF:RLE:PAT:/s/  
P-39 (2nd Rev.)  
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(Rec. 11/21/74)

*Mrs. Stevenson*

Re: Remarks of General Brown at Duke University

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 18, 1974

Dear /s/

I have your letter concerning the remarks of General Brown at Duke University and I want to assure you that I have given your comments, as well as the entire, very regrettable matter, my careful attention.

As you know, I have personally rebuked General Brown. He has publicly apologized. Also, because of the gravity of the incident, Secretary Schlesinger personally met with members of the American Jewish community to ascertain their views and suggestions on the matter. Following this meeting, it was reported that Dore Schary, National Chairman of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, indicated that a determination had been made not to press for General Brown's resignation.

Throughout his military career, General Brown has built a distinguished record of service and achievements. Among these was his very effective direction of the United States airlift to Israel during last year's war. Certainly, his offhand remarks were entirely wrong, and no one regrets them more deeply than he. However, I do not believe this single mistake destroys his ability to continue to serve our Nation. In fact, I would hope that it would perhaps make him more aware and more sensitive to the interests and needs of all the American people whom he is sworn to serve.

(Rec. 12/18/74)



Again, I want to assure you I fully understand and share your concern. While I would hope the incident is now closed, I guarantee you it is not forgotten. This Nation will always remain absolutely committed to the principles of freedom and brotherhood for and among all peoples everywhere.

With best regards.

Sincerely,

/s/  
///  
///

cut 12/18/74 - ki  
proofed mah/ki

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