

RG

EXECUTIVE

JF/NIXON

October 3, 1974



Dear Allen:

I have received your letter indicating your opposition to my pardoning of President Nixon. I appreciate having the benefit of your opinion and, while I am sorry that we are not in agreement, I do want to thank you for taking the trouble to let me know your views.

My assumption to the Presidency followed a year of turmoil and strife unprecedented in our nation's history. I just did not think that it would be in the best interest of the country to let this matter drag on for another year or longer and, thus, my decision to grant the pardon was made. Once the decision was made, I announced it publicly as I could see no good reason to hold off and wait for a good time to make the announcement.

To be sure, there were good arguments on both sides of this issue. It was a tough decision for a very exceptional case but I am certain in my heart that I have done the right thing and I am confident that time will prove that it was the correct decision.

Thank you once again for your letter, and warmest personal regards.

Sincerely,

JERRY FORD

X  
Mr. Allen Ludden  
506 North Carmelina Avenue  
Los Angeles, California 90049

GRF:ML:gct  
9

RECEIVED

OCT 18 1974

CENTRAL FILES

ay

15  
C-P can pardon  
ALLEN LUDDEN

September 13, 1974

President Gerald Ford  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear President Ford:

RE  
This letter is testimony to the depth of my disappointment in you. It is also evidence of my new determination to become politically active.

I have never spoken out publicly for a political party or candidate. I have been a quiet, private citizen who thought carefully about his part in government as a voter. Until now, I felt it was not my responsibility to influence anyone else--or to use my modest "celebrity" for a political cause.

Since your Pardon of Nixon, I have felt such fury at being duped again I have made up my mind to use as much money, as much energy, as much influence as I can to defeat anybody that has any connection whatsoever with the Nixon-Ford Conspiracy.

For the record, I believe the Ex-President should never have gone to jail. But for the sake of History, his crimes should have been determined by a Court of Justice. You have taken it out of the hands of the Courts. You have served as the ultimate cover-up.

You promised so much. Our hopes were so high. That's why this latest blow has been the most painful.

Now, History will, no doubt, place you along side Haldeman and Ehrlichman.

Very sincerely yours,

*Allen Ludden*

Allen Ludden

506 N. Carmelina Avenue  
Los Angeles, California 90049

AL:kw

