

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE STAFF SECRETARY

Fax Transmittal Sheet

TO: HAROLD GRACIE
Fax Number: 301-253-4904 Phone Number: 301-253-0161

FROM: TODD STERN
SUBJECT: SECRETARY BROWN LETTER
DATE: JUNE 7, 1997

NUMBER OF PAGES (including cover sheet): 2

MESSAGE:

Mr. Gracie:

Please call Debbie Bird at 202-45602702 to confirm that you received this fax. Thank you.

If all pages are not received, please call 202/456-2702

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 7, 1997

The Honorable Jesse Brown
Secretary of Veterans Affairs
Washington, D.C. 20420

Dear Jesse:

I have received your letter of May 21, 1997, and it is with deep regret that I accept your resignation as Secretary of Veterans Affairs, effective July 1, 1997.

I have been honored to have you as a key member of my team. From the first days of my Administration, I have been deeply grateful for all you have done -- not only in my behalf, but also as a strong voice for veterans across the nation. Your commitment to America's veterans reminds all of us of our great debt to those who have risked their lives, as you did, in defense of liberty. The courage and dedication you have shown to the ideals on which our country was founded will long be remembered with admiration by all of those with whom you have served, both during your distinguished military career and in your dedicated work for our veterans.

As you leave your position as Secretary of Veterans Affairs, you can look back with great pride on the many accomplishments that resulted directly from your able leadership. Whether advocating on behalf of those suffering undiagnosed illnesses as a result of Gulf War service, pushing for compensation for Vietnam veterans affected by Agent Orange, or working to restructure the Veterans Affairs' health care system, you have consistently strived to help improve the lives of veterans and their families. Your many contributions will long stand as evidence of your unceasing commitment to the rights of veterans and the honor they deserve.

I have enjoyed the benefit of your counsel, and I know I speak for your colleagues and friends when I say that you will be greatly missed.

Hillary joins me in wishing you and your family every future happiness.

Sincerely,

