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May 26, 1965

Dr. Lloyd M. Short
Professor of Political Science
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dear Dr. Short:

Thank you for your very helpful suggestions of last week concerning our review of the Office of Education. We are nearing the end of this project and expect to meet the President's sixty day schedule.

Your comment in the course of our conversation about retiring has run through my mind since we talked and has caused me to reflect a bit.

About fifteen years ago, I received my Master of Arts Degree from the University of Minnesota after completing my study at the Public Administration Center. The intervening years have been both interesting and satisfying from the standpoint of a public service career. These years have included work in the Federal, State and local levels of Government. They have provided opportunities to travel around the world and to confer with people of many nations. Six years as Assistant General Manager of the Atomic Energy Commission have led me into both the very serious business of maintaining an effective nuclear deterrent against aggression and the fascinating challenge of the peaceful applications of the atom. Finally, the Presidential assignments during this past year, with respect to Alaska reconstruction and organizing for the Office of Education, have been extremely interesting.

The point I wish to make to you is that this type of rewarding experience - for me and for many others - was made possible through the outstanding public administration program you have spearheaded for many years at the University of Minnesota.

Joe Robertson and I often reminisce about our student days around your seminar table. We still recall many of the points you stressed as underlying principles of public administration. I found these to be eminently practicable as I moved from the classroom to the City Hall, where controversy flourished and pragmatism was valued highly. It has seemed to me these same principles have proven themselves

equally valid in administering Federal programs of national policy.

Dr. Short

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As the business of government has become complicated, the significance of well trained public administrators has increased. Although your own contributions have reached into many important areas of government and political science, surely none of these has had as much impact upon effective government in this country as that which has grown out of your leadership within the Public Administration Center and the Department of Political Science at the University of Minnesota.

As former students of yours, many of us are deeply indebted to you in a very personal way. I very much hope that we may be able to see you from time to time in Washington as your continued work draws you to the Nation's capital, on occasion.

With very best wishes for you in your further work of public service.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Dwight A. Ink

Dwight A. Ink, Chairman
White House Task Force on Education

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