

Warren-Johnson Letters

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, June 26—
Following are the texts of a
letter of retirement and a let-
ter of explanation sent June
13 by Chief Justice Earl War-
ren to President Johnson and
the text of the President's

CHIEF JUSTICE'S LETTERS

My Dear Mr. President:

Pursuant to the provisions
of 28 U.S.C., Section 371 (B),
I hereby advise you of my
intention to retire as Chief
Justice of the United States
effective at your pleasure.

Respectfully yours,
Earl Warren

My Dear Mr. President:

In connection with my
retirement letter of today,
I desire to state my reason
for doing so at this time.

I want you to know that
it is not because of reasons
of health or on account of
any personal or associa-
tional problems, but solely
because of age. I have been
advised that I am in as good
physical condition as a per-
son of my age has any right
to expect. My associations
on the court have been cor-
dial and satisfying in every
respect, and I have enjoyed
each day of the fifteen years
I have been here.

The problem of age, how-
ever, is one that no man can
combat and, therefore, even-
tually must bow to it. I have
been continuously in the pub-
lic service for more than 50
years. When I entered the
public service, 150 million of
our 200 million people were
not yet born. I, therefore,
conceive it to be my duty
to give way to someone who
will have more years ahead
of him to cope with the
problems which will come to
the Court.

I believe there are few
people who have enjoyed
serving the public or who
are more grateful for the op-
portunity to have done so
than I. I take leave of the
Court with the warmest of
feelings for every member
on it and for the institution
which we have jointly served
in the years I have been

privileged to be part of it.

With my very best wishes
for your continued good
health and happiness, I am

Sincerely,
Earl Warren

THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER

My Dear Mr. Chief Justice:

It is with the deepest re-
gret that I learn of your
desire to retire, knowing how
much the nation has bene-
fited from your service as
Chief Justice. However, in
deference to your wishes, I
will seek a replacement to
fill the vacancy in the office
of Chief Justice that will be
occasioned when you depart.
With your agreement, I will
accept your decision to retire
effective at such time as a
successor is qualified.

You have won for yourself
the esteem of your fellow
citizens. You have served
your nation with exceptional
distinction and deserve the
nation's gratitude.

Under your leadership, the
Supreme Court of the United
States has once again dem-
onstrated the vitality of this
nation's institutions and their
capacity to meet with vigor
and strength the challenge of
changing times. The Court
has acted to achieve justice,
fairness, and equality before
the law for all people.

Your wisdom and strength
will inspire generations of
Americans for many decades
to come.

Fortunately, retirement does
not mean that you will with-
draw from service to your
nation and to the institutions
of the law. I am sure that
you will continue, although
retired from active service as
Chief Justice, to respond to
the calls which will be made
upon you to furnish con-
tinued inspiration and guid-
ance to the development of
the rule of law both inter-
nationally and in our own
nation. Nothing is more im-
portant than this work which
you undertook so willingly
and have so well advanced.

Sincerely,
Lyndon B. Johnson