



**THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON  
March 21, 1970**

**Dear Mrs. Thomas:**

**It is with great sorrow that I have learned of the death of your son, Sergeant Mitchell W. Stout.**

**Of all the hardships of war, the cruelest are the losses of men such as your son. The only consolation I can offer is the profound respect of the nation he died to serve, and the humble recognition of a sacrifice no man can measure and no words can describe. Those who give their own lives to make the freedom of others possible live forever in honor.**

**Mrs. Nixon joins me in extending our own sympathy, and in expressing the sympathy of a saddened nation. You will be in our prayers, and in our hearts.**

**Sincerely**

**RICHARD M. NIXON**

**Mrs. May F. Thomas  
Route Five  
Lenoir City, Tennessee**