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3	53	12/3/1969	<input type="checkbox"/>	White House Staff	Letter	From Charles C. Tillinghast, Jr. to Joseph L. Tauro RE: the search for Brown University's new president and Colson as a potential candidate for that role. 2 pgs.

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December 3, 1969

Mr. Charles C. Tillinghast, Jr.
Chancellor
Trans World Airlines
605 Third Avenue
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Tillinghast:

You may recall that on July 23, 1969, I wrote you a rather detailed letter expressing my views concerning the appointment of a new president at Brown University. I enclose a copy of that letter for your ready reference.

In addition to making rather extensive suggestions as to the type of man that should be selected for this important post, I made two specific recommendations for appointment, Dr. John Knowles, the General Director of the Massachusetts General Hospital and Charles W. Colson, then a partner in the Washington law firm of Gadsby & Hannah.

In the interim, you may have read that Mr. Colson was appointed by President Nixon as his special counsel. I enclose a brief announcement of Mr. Colson's appointment which appeared in the Boston Globe.

As my original letter indicated, Mr. Colson is a man deeply imbued with a sense of responsibility in the area of public service. He accepted this White House assignment, at enormous financial sacrifice, because of this sense of responsibility, although with some reluctance. Mr. Colson's reluctance centered around his awareness that his name had been suggested to your committee as a candidate for appointment to the presidency of Brown University. During the intervening months since my letter to you, Mr. Colson had never been contacted by anyone on behalf of the University, for interview or otherwise. Having no basis for determining whether or not he might receive your committee's favorable consideration, Mr. Colson felt it his duty to accept President Nixon's appointment.

Mr. Charles C. Tillinghast, Jr. -2- December 3, 1969

I point this situation out to you in hopes that Dr. Knowles will not similarly become unavailable due to a lack of communication as to the status of his consideration for this post. I recognize that your committee cannot and should not take any action which might be construed as a commitment prior to an ultimate decision having been made. I do think, however, that it would be appropriate for realistic candidates such as Dr. Knowles to be contacted, if for no other reason than to advise them that they are being considered and to inquire of them whether or not they would be available for appointment if selected.

As I told you in my original letter, I sincerely hope that you will not consider me presumptuous in writing to you on the subject of the Brown presidency. I have a great interest in Brown and recognize how tremendously important this appointment will be to the University's further progress. I have reread my original letter to you and, at the risk of sounding immodest, still feel that the points made therein have great validity. It is my sincere hope that my letter has been circulated to the other members of your committee for their consideration.

Please know that I stand available to assist you and your committee in any way you may see fit.

With very best wishes,

Sincerely,

JOSEPH L. TAURO

JLT:jc
Enc.