



Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee

6 Raymond Street, N.W.
Atlanta 14, Georgia

688-0331

AIR MAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY

January 12, 1964

Robert S. McNamara
Secretary of Defense
Washington, D.C.

[1965]

Dear Sir:

We wish to bring the following information to your attention. Alabama Governor George Wallace will speak in Selma, Alabama on February 2, 1965 to the Selma and Dallas County Chamber of Commerce in a meeting scheduled for the Officer's Club at the Craig Air Force Base.

Governor Wallace's last appearance in Selma was before an overflow crowd of the annual Dallas County White Citizens Council meeting held at the Memorial Stadium.

A number of days before Governor Wallace will appear at Craig Air Force Base, he will be joining former Mississippi Governor Ross Barnett as they both deliver addresses to the annual meeting of the Alabama State-wide White Citizens Council.

Joining Wallace in Selma at the Officer's Club will be Cecil Jackson, Jr., a former Selma attorney, who has been Wallace's legal adviser for the past two years and who has been a key figure in Wallace's defiance of the Federal Government and the United States Constitution. Mr. Jackson stood behind Governor Wallace while the Governor made his infamous "school-house" door stand.

Given the number of Justice Department suits in the city of Selma and Dallas County, I am sure that you know the extent of discrimination practiced in Selma. A thorough investigation of the Chamber of Commerce reveals that it is an all-white group.

On two other occasions, members of our staff have spoken to Commander Ault or have written to you directly concerning your Directive of June 7, 1963. It appears that the situation there has worsened.

"One Man, One Vote"

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We demand that you investigate Commander Ault, who is providing a forum for an all-white group to present a man who advocates defiance of the Federal Judiciary, the President, and the United States Constitution.

President Kennedy, in a June 21, 1963 directive to you, stated that military base commanders are expected to take leadership in the drive to desegregate off-base facilities. What sort of leadership is Commander Ault showing to Negro and white troops at Craig Air Force Base when he not only refuses to follow such directives but blindly moves ahead to bring segregation back on the base.

Sincerely,

John Lewis

John Lewis, Chairman
Student Nonviolent
Coordinating Committee

cc. President Lyndon Johnson
John Love
Commander Ault
Gov. Leroy Collins
Eugene Zuckert
Sen. Young
Sen. Case