September 21, 1962

President John F. Kennedy
The White House
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Sir:

The people of Ruleville, Mississippi want to vote, but they are afraid of economic reprisal. The Mayor of Ruleville rides around and tells the Negroes that if they go to register they will be fired from their jobs. Several persons have been fired already, and some have been put off plantations.

On September 10, 1962, two young Negro girls were shot, and two other homes shot into, this and other harassments and intimidations have frightened the Negro of this small delta town.

The people of Ruleville is beginning to wonder, why protection can be given to people 6,000 miles away and not be given to American citizens in the South. Why Mr. Kennedy?

Yours for freedom,

Charles R. McLaurin