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April 28, 1964

Mr. Benjamin E. Smith
Whitney Building
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Mr. Smith:

Your name has been mentioned to me by a number of people in New York, including particularly Mel Wulf of the American Civil Liberties Union, as one of the most courageous and most knowledgeable lawyers on the civil rights battle front in the South. I have been talking to Mel and others about participating in the joint program that is being set up to use lawyers in the South, and in particular in Mississippi, this Summer, and I expect to spend two weeks there at the end of July and the first week in August.

I am writing to you at this time because I expect to have to be in Biloxi, Mississippi on a business matter on May 8, 1964, and I would like to use the opportunity to stop over in New Orleans and meet you and learn a little more about the situation at first hand. I do not yet know what my plane schedule will be, but I wonder if you might be able to spare an hour or so of your time on Thursday, May 7, 1964, in the afternoon or evening? If there is anyone else that you think I might profitably spend a little time with in the same connection while I am there, I would also appreciate your letting me know.

I hope your schedule on that day permits us to get together, if only briefly, and I shall look forward to meeting you personally with great pleasure.

Very truly yours,

WEISMAN & WEISMAN

By Peter Marcuse
Peter Marcuse

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