

7-13-64

Dear Nancy and Joe:

This evening Barbara and I are watching the opening of the Republican Convention. We have just ended a week of hosting and programming the Peace Caravan. We are tired and depressed. The tiredness is a consequence of a busy week and the depression is a reaction to Republican politics and the impossible positions of Barry Goldwater in particular.

Now I sit to face this clean white paper. Quietly I watch the straight and neat indentations take their automatic place on this page and I am suddenly caught in an awareness of our almost separate worlds. Even though I am sensitive to the problems of a world in turmoil I am ever removed from it--almost. The bleak hot roads of Mississippi so often in the news these days are for most of us only bleak hot roads someplace else. The beatings and abductions which happen every day where you are---happen where you are----we---we are appalled---and the quiet green Michigan summer softens our awareness. We are collective when the loneliness of an I is uncomfortable. Still something strange moves in the hearts of men. The quiet green of a Michigan summer is tinged here and there with the dust of a Mississippi road. Somehow a part of me, a part of us is there with you.

If there is a part of courage that is transmissible take that part of ours that moves in such a way.

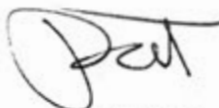
I have written a series of letters to our congressman, our senators, the President and the Attorney General and have passed on your letters to Jan Bhuyan etc.... Tomorrow I will visit the Gazette with the article Joe has written. Perhaps we can help with the pressure.

The situation as you describe it; the constant minor intimidations, the very real threat of harm, the response of the FBI, the nature of the cause itself, have become quite vivid to us. When you have a minute tell us some of the other details---what is the course of your day? What is it that you do? How are you able to relate to those around you? We are deeply concerned about you both and all those who give of themselves in the thing that you do. Help us if you can to feel it through you.

Take care as best you can;

Work hard in your task;

Come back to us safe,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be the name 'Patrick' written in a cursive, stylized script.

Patrick

with deep concern from

Barbara too