

401 Ashford Street
Hattiesburg, Mississippi

August 20, 1964

Mr. William C. Lamb
424 Marshall Street
Jackson, Mississippi

Dear Mr. Lamb.

This is just a brief note to thank you for submitting the letter to the editor which I read in the Clarion-Ledger this morning.

I am a seminary student in New York City serving as an assistant pastor to the Reverend John E. Cameron until the end of August, and, though I would hope for a more thorough appeal for truth and justice in Mississippi, I realize something of the position of a "white liberal" here, and therefore I commend you on your statement.

It is very important, as a first step in the resolution of the tensions present here in Mississippi and the nation as a whole, that violence and threats of violence meet with prompt arrest, prosecution and punishment.

Of course, there are many other steps that we must take before we can ever hope to move away from a position where impulsive and/or premeditated violence are constant possibilities and immediate threats. One such step is an exchange of information. As stated in the letter which followed yours in this morning's paper, there is a real need for communication (honest communication) between Negroes and whites in the communities of the South and throughout the nation. There is also a need for communication between us whites who may think differently about the problems of the state and nation than do those proponents of "orthodoxy" who would have us keep silent and do nothing.

Again, I commend you for writing your letter, and I urge you to write to the other letter-writer, Mrs. Ballin of 2505 1/2 5th Street, Meridian. If I can be of any assistance to you, please write. I will be most happy to do so.