

UOEG

September 24, 1964

Lorne Cress
6111 S. Woodlawn
Chicago, Illinois 60637

Dear Lorne--

Sorry not to reply immediately, but I'm immobilized too, I guess--and on the job that's bad.

I'm glad you want to return to Hattiesburg; I've been going on that assumption until you told me otherwise. I've had a couple of long, heart-to-heart (ugh) talks with Sandy which ended up, surprisingly, that I have a lot more respect for him than I did. The conclusion has been that he is open to your return, and it will depend upon what you say when you get here. I promised him that I wouldn't (and neither would anyone else) send you to Hattiesburg unless he was consulted in advance and agreed to it, but I'm fairly sure that he can be worked around. Is that all right?

You might want to take two things into consideration:

1. Sandy says he's leaving at the end of October--to write a book. He feels that the project will be safe in the hands of local leaders by then, and he can leave. I personally don't believe it, but that's what he says. You'll be discouraged to know that nothing has prevailed upon him to take a rest, and his nerves and general health are as bad as ever.
2. I'm seriously thinking of sending Mr. and Mrs. Sayer to Hattiesburg, for several reasons which I'll discuss with you when you get here. You might have some opinions about that--that's why I'm telling you. I talked with several of the project people in Hattiesburg about them, and the general concensus was that H'burg could use their gifts more constructively and with less wear and tear on personalities than could a smaller project. I haven't seen Sandy to bring it up. As you can see, it's not decided; I'm just exploring the idea.

Well, I hope that this gives you some ideas which you'll want to tell me about. I'll see you the 8th or 9th. Naturally, I prefer the 8th. Will you be driving?

Yours truly,

Lois Chaffee