

July 22, 1965

Dear Mr. Singer:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the nomination of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

Mr. James M. Singer  
Post Office Box 422  
Soquel, California 95073

JBC:hcb

22  
ad 7/20/65

7/6

THE WHITE HOUSE  
JUN 8 2 42 PM '65  
RECEIVED

*Martha S. Singer*  
*James M. Singer*

"CANDLESHINE HILL"  
P. O. BOX 422  
SOQUEL, CALIF. 95073  
June 30, 1965.

Hon. Lyndon B. Johnson,  
The White House,  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. President:

Like many others, I am disturbed and concerned by the nomination of James P. Coleman, former Governor of Mississippi, to the Fifth United States Court of Appeals.

I have been an ardent supporter of your concept of "The Great Society", particularly as it relates to the efforts of your administration to raise the standard of living and open the door of opportunity to minority groups. This is a great and humane concept, and I honor you for it.

But I believe that an ardent and avowed segregationist like Mr. Coleman has nothing to contribute to the struggle of underprivileged Americans to achieve full citizenship and to enjoy the same rights which our Constitution guarantees to all Americans, regardless of race, creed, or color.

In short, Mr. President, I urge you to withdraw Mr. Coleman's name, and submit instead, the name of a dedicated American, instead of a dedicated Mississippian.

I might say that I worked for your election. I worked for you because I believed in you and your program. Don't let me down.

Very truly yours,  
*James M. Singer*  
James M. Singer.

THE WHITE HOUSE

JUL 6 5 45 PM '65

RECEIVED

Martha S. Singer  
James M. Singer

"CANDLERBUSH HILL"  
P. O. BOX 422  
ROSEL, CALIF. 92072  
June 30, 1965

Mr. Lyndon B. Johnson  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. President:

This many others, I am disturbed and concerned by the nomination  
of James P. Coleman, former Governor of Mississippi, to the Fifth United States Court  
of Appeals.

I have been an ardent supporter of your concept of "The Great  
Society", particularly as it relates to the efforts of your administration to raise  
the standard of living and open the door of opportunity to minority groups. This is

But I believe that an ardent and avowed segregationist like  
Mr. Coleman has nothing to contribute to the struggle of underprivileged Americans  
to achieve full citizenship and to enjoy the same rights which our Constitution  
guarantees to all Americans, regardless of race, creed, or color.

In short, Mr. President, I urge you to withdraw Mr. Coleman's  
name, and submit instead, the name of a distinguished, instead of a dedicated  
Mississippian.

I might say that I worked for your election. I worked for you  
because I believed in you and your program. Don't let me down.

Very truly yours,  
James M. Singer

(4)

*File*

The White House  
Washington

1965 JUN 22 AM 5 27

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MINNEAPOLIS MINN 21

THE PRESIDENT

THE WHITE HOUSE

THE AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR THE MISSISSIPPI CHALLENGE DEPLORES YOUR  
PROPOSED APPOINTMENT OF EX-GOVERNOR COLEMAN TO THE FEDERAL BENCH.  
WHAT QUALIFICATIONS HE HAS ARE TAINTED BY YEARS OF RACIST  
POLITICAL MACHINATIONS. WE URGE YOU TO APPOINT MEN OF  
DEMONSTRATED COURAGE AND PROBITY TO ALL JUDICIAL POSITIONS

MRS ROBERT L WYNN JR MRS FRED LYONS MR PETER LINDBERG  
X X X

PRINTED BY THE STANFORD-BENNETT COMPANY, U. S. A.

MR MICHAEL WEINBERG & CO CHAIRMAN.

X

James P. Coleman

J

MADE IN U.S.A. PRINTED BY THE MASSACHUSETTS GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

*File*

*James P. Coleman*

(2)

The White House  
Washington

1965 JUL 1 AM 9 58

WA021 NL PD

NEW YORK NY JUN 30

THE PRESIDENT

THE WHITE HOUSE

BY NO STRETCH OF THE IMAGINATION COULD A GOVERNOR FROM MISSISSIPPI  
BE CONSIDERED MODERATE THEREFORE WE PROTEST THE APPOINTMENT  
OF COLEMAN AS US FIFTH CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS JUDGE RESPECTFULLY  
MR AND MRS ANTHONY GARRO AND MR AND MRS GEORGE MACDUFF.

X

X

FORM 808 PRINTED BY THE STANDARD REGISTER COMPANY, U. S. A.

July 22, 1965

Dear Mr. Maier:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the nomination of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

Mr. Frederick C. Maier  
Secretary  
Division of Continuing Education  
Board of Christian Education  
Witherspoon Building  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107

JBC:hcb

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Can-Appointment

THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

WITHERSPOON BUILDING, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Telephone: PENNYPACKER 5-6722 19107

June 30, 1965

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

I am deeply disappointed that at a time like this you would nominate as a Federal Judge, Mississippi Governor J. P. Coleman, whose record as a standpat segregationist is quite clear, and whose history of opposition to Federal law in the field of civil rights is disgraceful.

I must confess, Mr. President, to a serious disillusionment since I supported you in 1964.

Sincerely yours,

*Frederick C. Maier*

Frederick C. Maier

Secretary

Division of Continuing Education

FCM/ac

THE WHITE HOUSE

JUL 2 1 10 PM '65

RECEIVED



BOARD OF EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

JUL 30 1965

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

I am deeply disappointed that at a time like this  
you would nominate as a Federal Judge, Mississippi Governor  
J. E. Coleman, whose record as a senator represents in  
quite clear and open history of opposition to Federal law  
in the field of civil rights is disconcerting.

I must confess, Mr. President, to a certain disap-  
pointment since I supported you in 1964.

Sincerely yours,

*Frederick C. Miller*

Frederick C. Miller

Director of Continuing Education

FCC/nc

July 22, 1965

Dear Miss Gay:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the nomination of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

Miss Jeanne W. Gay  
1630 Drake Avenue  
Ocala, Florida

JBC:hm

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ack 6/22  
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mm

11630 Dialo Avenue  
Ocala, Florida

June 20, 1965

RECEIVED  
JUN 25 7 00 PM '65  
THE WHITE HOUSE

President Lyndon B. Johnson  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Respectfully, I am very much distressed  
by your nomination of Mr. Coleman for a Federal  
Judge.

We Southerners are law abiding, we have  
just had the wrong leaders. We want to  
change, and rejoin the United States, but  
we can't go to do it with people like  
Mr. Coleman.

You owe him nothing, as Mr. Stennis or

1220 ...  
...  
... 1965

THE WHITE HOUSE

JUN 22 7 00 PM '65

RECEIVED

President Lyndon B. Johnson  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir,  
Respectfully,  
by your minister of Mr. Johnson for a letter  
Duly.

We understand we are working on some  
for the way leaders. We work to  
change and reform the United States, but  
we want you to be in with people like  
Mr. Johnson.  
If you can help, Mr. Johnson is

Mr. Eastland, or even Mr. Halland, but even <sup>2</sup>  
do owe us who are tired of being poor. Back-  
ward, Bigoted Southerners. The KKK and  
its poor, influenced friends will continue  
to run amok.

You simply cannot do this to us!

Sincerely,

Jeanne Withers Gay (only)

This is really shameful, and really inexcusable.

Do you know that we had a Klan meeting the other night? The first in two years? Do you know that it is growing?

Why? Because of people like Mr. Coleman.

We simply cannot, must not have this!

We are absolutely, physically sick of this. Please help us

A Year Ago, N& Solution — 6/20/68 J.T.

# Rights Workers Pay Tribute To Trio Slain in Mississippi

Last June 21 three young civil rights workers went to Philadelphia, Miss., to inspect the charred remains of a rural Negro church. They were waylaid and killed in a brutal crime that shocked the nation. Now a year later the civil rights movement pauses for a moment of tribute.)

By DUDLEY LEHEW  
PHILADELPHIA, Miss. (AP) —

A solemn procession of civil rights workers will trudge over a dusty red clay road to the weed-covered ruins of the Mount Zion Methodist Church 12 miles east of here tomorrow.

The pile of embers they'll see appears much as it did that hot Sunday afternoon a year ago when Michael Schwerner, James Chaney and Andrew Goodman drove up in their station wagon.

Schwerner, Chaney and Goodman never told of their impressions of seeing the remains of a church burned for being a center of civil rights work. They were murdered a few hours later in what the FBI termed the culmination of a Ku Klux Klan plot.

The triple slaying, and the intensive 44-day search for their bodies, jolted the emotions of the nation and unleashed a racial drama in tense Mississippi that is not yet played out.

#### Went for the Ride

Schwerner, a 24-year-old white man from Brooklyn, and Chaney, a 21-year-old Negro from nearby Meridian, had become close friends while working in the civil rights movement. Goodman, 21 and a white New Yorker, had arrived in Mississippi as a summer volunteer just a day before that trip to the Mount Zion church. He'd gone along just for the ride.

While the nation's attention has turned to other matters in the year since the trio's deaths, their parents and fellow civil rights workers haven't forgotten.

"Things can never be the same for me and my other children now," says James Chaney's mother. "I don't know what the future holds for us, but I do know one thing — we can't stop now."

"We can't give up the struggle for which my boy died."

Mrs. Chaney has continued her son's work. Besides working at the civil rights office in Meridian, she recently filed suit seeking desegregation of Meridian restaurants.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Goodman plan to visit the Mount Judah cemetery in New York today where a monument-gravestone will be unveiled in memory of their son.

"We have received thousands of letters from all over the country," Goodman says, "and we have answered them. Each letter writer in his own way was expressing hope that something will come from it."

The Goodmans have received on behalf of their son posthumous awards from many organizations.

"I don't want the evils remembered so much," Goodman says. "People should remember the tragedy itself and do something about it."

Young Schwerner's father, Nathan H. Schwerner of Pelham, N.Y., has been "lending efforts to forwarding things the boys died for." He has written an essay he calls "reflections of a father one year later."

Tomorrow the Congress of Racial Equality plans to present post-humous awards to the families of the slain trio. And Mayor Robert Wagner will hand out college scholarships to three New York high school graduates in special city hall ceremonies. The scholarships will be given in the names of Schwerner, Goodman and Chaney.

#### No One Punished

Despite a massive FBI probe, no one to date has been punished in Mississippi's most celebrated criminal case.

State authorities say they can't bring murder charges because the FBI won't make available its files.

A federal grand jury at Jackson last January indicted 17 white men — including Neshoba County Sheriff Lawrence Rainey and Deputy Cecil Price — on two charges of conspiring to violate the trio's civil rights.

U.S. Dist. Judge Harold Cox in February dismissed the major charges, holding his court lacked jurisdiction. The Justice Department appealed and the matter is awaiting argument before the Supreme Court.

The indicted men, meantime, remain free under bond.

**NOW...  
TOTAL  
FINANCING**

July 22, 1965

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Lilienthal:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the nomination of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Lilienthal, Jr.  
40 Baywood Avenue  
Hillsborough, California 94010

*(Thelma Lilienthal)*  
x

JBC:hm

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Can Appointment

ack  
7-22  
hm

MR. + MRS. JESSE LILIENTHAL, JR. • 40 BAYWOOD AVENUE • HILLSBOROUGH, CALIFORNIA

94010

RECEIVED  
JUL 8 5 46 PM '65  
THE WHITE HOUSE

The President  
The White House  
Washington 25, D. C.

My dear Mr. President:

We are strongly opposed to the appointment of Ex-governor Coleman of Mississippi to the Fifth District Circuit Court of Appeals. His appointment to this position would, we fear, prove a severe setback to the implementation of the wise and just laws toward which your Administration has been so admirably leading our nation.

Very respectfully yours,

Jesse Lilienthal  
(Jesse Lilienthal)

Thelma Lilienthal  
(Thelma Lilienthal)

AIR 32  
MAIL

04010

Mrs. Jesse Lillenthal, Jr. • 40 Baywood Avenue • Hillsborough, California

THE WHITE HOUSE

Jul 6 5 44 PM '65  
RECEIVED  
JUL 5 1965

*Handwritten notes:*  
Mrs. Lillenthal  
7/5/65  
A. J. ...

The President  
The White House  
Washington 25, D. C.

My dear Mr. President:

We are strongly opposed to the appointment of Ex-governor Coleman of Mississippi to the Fifth District Circuit Court of Appeals. His appointment to this position would, we fear, prove a severe setback to the implementation of the wise and just laws toward which your Administration has been so admirably leading our nation.

Very respectfully yours,

Jesse Lillenthal  
(Jesse Lillenthal)

Thelma Lillenthal  
(Thelma Lillenthal)

AIR MAIL

July 22, 1965

Dear Mrs. Campbell:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the nomination of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

Mrs. Edwin Campbell  
Box 327 X  
Cascade, Colorado

JBC:hm

ack  
1/27/44  
to the President of the United States  
Mr. Theodore B. Johnson.

I consider this appointment  
of yours so unwise and  
contrary to your  
"spoken words", that I  
must write you of my  
great disappointment  
in you -

A dedicated Democrat  
Helene Campbell  
July 3rd -

THE WHITE HOUSE

JUL 7 12 12 PM '65

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*[Faint, illegible handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page]*

SECURITY

692-7694



sell eight TV tubes to another store 6 p.m. Monday. The tubes were worth about \$17.

Drew Pearson Says:

## Dixie Judge Scrutinized

(Opinions expressed in this Washington Merry-Go-Round column are the writer's own and do not necessarily reflect the editorial policy of this newspaper.)

WASHINGTON—Yesterday, before the Senate Judiciary Committee, former Gov. James P. Coleman of Mississippi, an old friend of President Johnson, came up for confirmation to be a judge of the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals.

This is the circuit which has handled about 75 per cent of the important civil rights cases. Its members have the power to influence the progress of Negro voting rights, school integration, and equality of job opportunities in the South for many years to come.

Gov. Coleman, an able lawyer, brilliant political strategist, and a charming, likeable gentleman, should have made a good impression before the Senate committee. Not only is he able to handle himself well, but he testified under the benevolent jurisdiction of Chairman Jim Eastland, also from Mississippi, who rules the Judiciary Committee with a firm hand and jaunty, cocksure manner.



PEARSON

On the committee, however, were some important new senators who have tipped the balance away from the old Dixiecrat-Republican coalition which once dominated the confirmation of judges. They are Teddy Kennedy, brother of the late President; Birch Bayh of Indiana; Quentin Burdick of North Dakota; and Joe Tydings of Maryland, all fairly new, all with vigorous ideas of their own.

**White House Ego-Massaging**—In addition there are Phil Hart of Michigan, Tom Dodd of Connecticut, and Ed Long of Missouri, all for civil rights, though easily swayed by the White House when the President wants an old friend confirmed.

But three other Republicans, Jacob Javits, N.Y., Hiram Fong, Hawaii, and Hugh Scott, Pa., are likely to vote No. And if the four young Democrats—Kennedy, Bayh, Burdick and Tydings—team up with them, the confirmation of Coleman will depend on how smoothly the White House massages the ego of Ed Long, Tom Dodd and Phil Hart.

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Ego-messaging and whip-cracking probably will decide Coleman's confirmation in the end. But, with some senators, testimony will count too. And Senate testimony is almost certain to show that Jim Coleman was one of the shrewdest opponents of the Supreme Court ever to be nominated to a judicial post to carry out decrees of the Supreme Court.

As governor of Mississippi in 1956, he helped pass the "interposition law" which directed the governor and every executive branch of Mississippi government "to prohibit by any lawful, peaceful and constitutional means the implementation of or the compliance with the integration decisions of the United States Supreme Court."

**"No Moderate I"**—Gov. Coleman is no rabble-rouser. He believes in getting things done, not shouting about them. Because he accomplished a great deal but talked little, his political adversaries eventually began calling him a moderate.

This got under the governor's skin so much that he replied, June 30, 1959:

"I am well aware that a little handful of my political adversaries have tried to destroy my place in the affections of my fellow Mississippians by claiming that I am a 'moderate.' Apparently, these people cannot tell a moderate from a successful segregationist. They have made a great sham of this, and every time they can get a chance they try to stir it up.

"I ask you to ignore what they say and look at what the record says . . . I stand on a record of performance and I have delivered the goods. I am not entitled to be called a moderate."

Coleman's statements on the race issue have been consistent and continuous, dating back from shortly after the Supreme Court's school integration decision. On Aug. 7, 1955, the Jackson Clarion-Ledger quoted Jim as saying:

"Based on the studies I have made and the experience I have had fighting integration attempts, I can say without hesitation that if I am elected governor the schools of Mississippi will never be integrated nor will they be closed."

Coleman was elected on that platform, and on Jan. 3, 1965, began carrying it out. In his inaugural speech that day, he came out for "the continued separation of the white and Negro races in accordance with the customs which the experience of 90 years has taught us all."

As late as July 10, 1963, Jim Coleman had not changed. On that date the Jackson Clarion-Ledger reported:

**"Former Gov. J. P. Coleman said his opponents have taken a defeatist attitude on the race issue. Speaking at Monticello, Morgantown and McComb, Coleman said he is the only candidate with hope of stemming widespread integration and the ability and experience to do it.**

"My opponents say that I cannot stop it," he declared, "because they have apparently lost hope and have offered no plan or suggestion for maintaining separation of the races."

This is part of the background senators will be examining in regard to the charming friend of LBJ, nominated to uphold civil rights and Negro voting rights in the South.

July 22, 1965

Dear Mr. Levi:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the nomination of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

Mr. Mario Levi  
3355 Debbie Lane  
Riverside, California 92501

JBC:hm

15  
E

ack  
7-22

3/3

MARIO LEVI  
3355 DEBBIE LANE  
RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA 92501

hm July 2 65

Dear Mr. President,

We were shocked to read that you  
are sponsoring the nomination of ex-Mississippi  
Governor J. P. Coleman - as a federal  
appeals court judge.

The appointment of this  
"successful segregationist" (as he called  
himself) is an outrage to the concept  
of American Justice. Mississippi justice  
in racial matters is well known  
throughout the world as a force

We urge you to withdraw this nomination

Sincerely

Mr. + Mrs. Maria Levi

THE WHITE HOUSE

JUL 7 12 12 PM '65

RECEIVED

July 22, 1965

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Canal:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the nomination of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

Mr. and Mrs. Harry M. Canal  
733 Jean Street  
Oakland, California 94610

(Paula Canal)

JBC:hm

H  
or

Wk 1.2  
- - - - -  
Wk 2.1

June 15, 1965

Dear Mr. President:-

Friday, about 2,000 students graduated from San Jose State College. At 6:00 a.m. Saturday, six students set off to volunteer help in Mississippi.

What they hope you are trying to accomplish - and what they are dedicated to do - they feel, will be greatly hampered if the appointment of Ex Governor Coleman of Mississippi to the position of Federal District Judge is finalized.

Sincerely,  
Paula Canal  
Harry M Canal

733 Jean St.  
Oakland, Calif.  
94618

July 22, 1965

Dear Miss Canal:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the nomination of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

Miss Esther C. Canal  
325 Park View Terrace  
Oakland, California 94610

JBC:hm

26

En

ack 1/17/68  
President Lyndon B. Johnson  
White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President;

I wish to protest  
strongly against the appointment  
of ex-governor Coleman to the  
Circuit Court of Appeals.

Things are bad enough  
in Mississippi without having  
a man with his voting record  
sitting on a circuit court of  
appeals. This will undo all  
the good you have been  
trying to do in the South.

Very truly yours,

Reuther C. Canal  
325 Park View Terrace  
Oakland, Calif. 94610

THE WHITE HOUSE

JUN 22 7 00 PM '65

RECEIVED

*President Lyndon B. Johnson  
 The White House  
 Washington, D.C.  
 Dear Mr. President*

*I wish to protest  
 strongly against the appointment  
 of Mr. Johnson to the  
 Circuit Court of Appeals.  
 Things are not being  
 in Mississippi without being  
 done with his voting record  
 sitting on a circuit court of  
 appeals. This will make all  
 the good you have been  
 trying to do in the South.*

*Very truly yours,  
 Justice E. Carroll  
 323 Ford View Tower  
 Columbia, S.C. 29210*

July 22, 1965

Dear Dr. Wagner:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the nomination of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

Dr. Leo A. Wagner  
646 Tamalpais  
Novato, California

JBC:hm

25

ack  
9.27/30  
hmm

Novato Cal.

June 25, 1965

To the President of the United States  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

I must protest the power politics  
that must have been behind the  
appointment of a known bigot such as  
J. B. Coleman to the 5th Circuit  
Court. We Democrats expected some-  
thing more in the way of idealism  
than this from you.

Also I must protest our aggressive  
course in both Vietnam and  
the Dominican Republic. Goldwater  
would have done little more, and possibly  
less.

Yours truly,

Leo A. Wagner, M.D.

THE WHITE HOUSE

JUN 30 6 08 PM '65

RECEIVED

*[Faint, mirrored handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page. The text is largely illegible due to fading and bleed-through.]*

July 22, 1965

Dear Mrs. Block:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the nomination of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

Mrs. Herbert J. Block  
2045 East 73rd Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60649

JBC:hm

6-20-65  
ack  
11  
New Appointment  
Mrs. Herbert J. Block

2045 East 73rd Street, Chicago, Illinois 60649

June 20, 1965

Dear President Johnson,

Please withdraw your nomination of James P. Callahan to the 5th District Court of Appeals.

Would Himmler or Goering have been able to mete out justice for the Jewish people in Germany?

This appointment is equally incongruous.

Sincerely,  
Mr. + Mrs. Herbert J. Block

July 23, 1965

Dear Mrs. Bachman:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the nomination of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

Mrs. Vera Bachman  
1174 North Heliotrope Drive  
Los Angeles, California 90029

JBC:ltd

ms. Vera B. ...  
1174 No. Keliotroya  
Los Angeles, Calif.  
90029



Mr. President  
L. B. Johnson  
White House  
Washington  
D. C.

15<sup>00</sup> Mrs. Ballman June 30  
1174 N. Heliotrope St  
Los Angeles Cal. 90029  
Mr. President  
J. B. Johnson:

The  
appointment of  
former Gov. James P. Cogh-  
man as Federal appeals  
court judge is an  
affront to the Negro people  
of the South & to all  
Americans of good  
will.

I urge you to withdraw  
the nomination.  
Respectfully yours  
Mrs. Vera Ballman

GENERAL

PH/ST 22

(2)

PC12-2/3 \*

Coleman, James P.

July 23, 1965

Dear Mr. Bill:

Thank you very much for your letter and the clippings.

Immediately after your telephone call, I passed the information along to the persons primarily working on this nomination.

I must say that the matter of the functioning of the Johnson for President Club is not one within my particular assignment. I, therefore, cannot give you an answer to the question you ask in your letter. I am, however, attempting to secure information from the proper person and am sure that someone will be in touch with you.

Kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,

Jake Jacobsen  
Legislative Counsel  
to the President

\*  
Mr. Peter Bill, Sr.  
Executive Director  
Lyndon B. Johnson for President Club, Inc.  
1216 Beaubien  
Detroit, Michigan

JJ:fs

RECEIVED  
JUL 24 1965  
GENERAL FILES

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N.Y., N.Y.

RECEIVED  
JUL 28 4 52 PM '62  
THE WHITE HOUSE

President Lyndon B. Johnson  
White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

I am vigorously opposed to your recent appointment of James P. Coleman to the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals. I was shocked and dismayed that you should appoint a former governor of Mississippi, an avowed segregationist, to any important position, let alone to a Federal judgeship in the district where the main struggle for democracy is being fought. This is a direct slap in the face of the Negro people who are courageously fighting for their civil rights.

I request that in your subsequent appointments of individuals to positions of grave responsibility, a greater measure of consideration be exercised by you and that, as your appointees, individuals be selected who are more truly representative of the spirit of American democracy.

Respectfully yours,

James L. Warren

THE WHITE HOUSE  
Jul 28 4 27 PM '65  
RECEIVED

4-1-65

President Lyndon B. Johnson  
White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

I am vigorously opposed to your recent appointment of James F. Coleman to the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals. I was shocked and dismayed that you should appoint a former governor of Mississippi, an avowed segregationist, to any important position let alone to a Federal judgeship. This is a direct affront to the Negro people who are courageously fighting for their civil rights.

I request that in your subsequent appointments of individuals to positions of grave responsibility, a greater measure of consideration be exercised by you and that, as your appointments, individuals be selected who are more truly representative of the spirit of American democracy.

Respectfully yours,

*James T. Womack*

July 29, 1965

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Williams:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the appointment of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Williams<sup>X</sup>  
Box 1931  
Ross, California

JBC:ltd

*ack  
7/29  
c9*

The White House  
Washington

1965 JUN 10 PM 8 48

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ROSS CALIF 10

THE PRESIDENT

THE WHITE HOUSE

MOST IMPORTANT CIVIL PROGRESS THAT COLEMAN NOT BE

APPOINTED FEDERAL JUDGE

MR AND MRS JACK WILLIAMS BOX 1931 ROSS CALIF.

July 29, 1965

Dear Mr. Lovitt:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the appointment of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

X  
Mr. Gene Lovitt  
134-29 166th Place  
Jamaica, New York 11434

JBC:ltd

15  
c9  
GENE LOVITT

Jamaica's 'Swingin' Square Dance Caller



134-29 166th PLACE  
Jamaica, N. Y. 11434

Phones:

(212) 276-9286

(212) ST 8-9835

June 11, 1965

President Johnson  
White House  
Washington, DC

RECEIVED  
JUN 14 3 07 PM '65  
THE WHITE HOUSE

Dear President Johnson,

Your recent speech at Howard University promised fulfillment of the needs of American Negroes in our lifetime. The appointment of James P. Coleman to the Fifth Circuit of the Court of Appeals would be a cynical and hypocritical renunciation of the fine words spoken at Howard University. Lofly idealistic speeches mean nothing when your actions contradict your words. Please don't appoint a man like Coleman to the Court of Appeals which must

...suspense justice in civil rights cases. We  
wouldn't stand a chance, and you know  
it.

Phone:  
(212) 376-9386  
(212) 37 3-9833

THE WHITE HOUSE

JUN 14 7 01 PM '65

RECEIVED

Sincerely,

J. Edgar Hoover

July 29, 1965

Dear Mrs. Jemmott:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the appointment of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

*Jemmott*  
Mrs. J. Jemmott  
1103 Franklin Avenue  
Bronx, New York 10456

JBC:ltd

1103 Franklin Ave  
Brooklyn, N.Y. 10456  
July 7<sup>th</sup> 1965

President Lyndon B. Johnson  
White House  
Washington D.C.

RECEIVED  
JUL 9 2 35 PM '65  
THE WHITE HOUSE

Dear Sir -

I wish to commend you on your work to improve race relations. However the appointment and confirmation of J.P. Coleman to the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals makes me fearful of the influence he will exercise against the cause of equality for all citizens, in Mississippi or the Black Belt.

I strongly urge you to re-evaluate this personality.

Respectfully yours,

Mrs. Jennie Jenness

P.S.  
no response to previous letters  
regarding Voting Bill

1/03/65  
George W. Bush  
July 9, 1965

THE WHITE HOUSE  
Jul 9 5 35 PM '65  
RECEIVED

President Lyndon B. Johnson  
White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir -  
I wish to commend you for your  
work to improve race relations. However the  
appointment and confirmation of J.P. Coleman to the  
Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals makes me fearful of  
the influence he will exercise against the cause of  
equality for all citizens in Mississippi with Black Belt  
I strongly urge you to re-evaluate this nomination.  
Respectfully yours,  
Wm. J. Bennett

2  
Memorandum to President  
Re: Wm. J. Bennett

July 29, 1965

Dear Mr. Sletson:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the appointment of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

Mr. Mike <sup>X</sup>Sletson  
7110 Whitaker Avenue  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19111

JBC:ltd

6  
Can. Appointment  
9/7/65

GREATER NORTHEAST BRANCH

AMERICANS FOR  
DEMOCRATIC  
ACTION

7110 Whitaker Avenue, Phila. Penna. 19111

SOUTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER

July 7, 1965

THE WHITE HOUSE  
JUL 9 2 32 PM '65  
RECEIVED

President Lyndon B. Johnson  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear President Johnson:

Your nomination of former Mississippi Governor James P. Coleman is a complete contradiction of the many public statements you have made on the question of equal rights.

Governor Coleman's background is a history of working for the perpetuation of segregation and racism. His appointment as a Judge to the Circuit Court which hears a heavy load of civil rights cases can only lead the American people to doubt the sincerity of your commitment to equal rights.

We strongly urge you to withdraw this nomination in the interest of democracy.

Respectfully,

Mike Sletson, Chairman  
NE Branch ADA

MS/vv

HENRY W. SAWYER, III  
Chairman  
LEE F. DRISCOLL, JR.  
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Vice-Chairman  
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Vice-Chairman  
EMILY W. SUNSTEIN  
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 JOSEPH L. RAUH, JR. 1955-57  
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 MARVIN ROSENBERG  
 MORRIS RUBIN  
 ARTHUR M. SCHLESINGER, JR.  
 PAUL SEABURY

2/44

Handwritten signature and notes, including the name "J. J. Buchenholz" and some illegible text.

Faint, mostly illegible text, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.

SOUTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER  
 AMERICANS FOR DEMOCRATIC ACTION

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WILLIAM L. BATT, JR. 1947-48  
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 ROGER H. WILSON  
 BERTRAM WOLFSON  
 ELIZABETH ZEIDMAN

RECEIVED

JUL 9 5 35 PM '65  
 THE WHITE HOUSE

July 29, 1965

Dear Mr. Carver:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the appointment of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

<sup>x</sup>  
Mr. Bernard Carver  
x B. C. Morton Financial Corporation  
The B. C. Morton Building  
141 Milk Street  
Boston 9, Massachusetts

JBC:ltd

4R  
 ✓  
 Can appointment  
 9/29  
 7/12

# B. C. MORTON FINANCIAL CORPORATION

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CERTIFIED MAIL  
 RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

July 9, 1965

The Honorable Lyndon B. Johnson  
 President of the United States  
 Washington, D. C.

I am writing to you, Mr. President,

with an urgent appeal that you reconsider your appointment of  
Ex-Governor James P. Coleman as a Judge in the Fifth Circuit  
Court of Appeals.

I am writing to you as the parent of a boy who has given up a year  
 of his life to fight for Civil Rights in the State of Mississippi and  
 has been jailed three times on false charges and has been seriously  
 beaten up in jail because of his activities. I do not see how he or  
 any citizen of the United States working on Civil Rights could get  
 fair treatment if they appeal their case before a judge such as  
 Ex-Governor Coleman would make. They would get no more  
 satisfaction than the Justice Department is able to get with Judge  
 Cox in the murders that have taken place in the South.

I am enclosing factual documentation that has been made available  
 to me with reference to Governor Coleman and I cannot see how your  
 appointment of Governor Coleman is consistent with your public  
 statements that you believe in Civil Rights for all United States citizens.

If the documentation that I am enclosing is false or inaccurate, I would  
 appreciate your pointing this out to me. However, I do not believe  
 a quotation from Coleman's Inaugural Address on January 3, 1956 is  
 inaccurate. I believe this would disqualify Coleman from being an  
 impartial judge in the southern part of the United States.

B. C. MORTON FINANCIAL CORPORATION

THE WHITE HOUSE  
Jul 12 6 09 PM '65

RECEIVED

Executive Office of the President  
141 Milk Street • Boston 9, Mass.

Office of the President

July 9, 1965

CERTIFIED MAIL  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

The Honorable Lyndon B. Johnson  
President of the United States  
Washington, D. C.

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with an urgent appeal that you reconsider your appointment of  
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Cox in the murders that have taken place in the South.

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a quotation from Coleman's inaugural address on January 3, 1965 is  
inaccurate. I believe this would disqualify Coleman from being an  
impartial judge in the southern part of the United States.

The Honorable President  
Lyndon B. Johnson

-2-

July 9, 1965

I again urge that you show the American public that you are a man of principle and withdraw the appointment of Ex-Governor Coleman.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bernard Carver".

Bernard Carver

FIN/bsd  
Encs.



# Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee

360 Nelson Street, S.W.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30313

688-0331

July 2, 1965

Dear Friend,

On June 18, President Johnson made an announcement that shocked supporters of civil rights and human dignity all over this nation. He announced that he would appoint an old and stanch racist and former Governor of Mississippi to the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals. At a time when Negroes in Mississippi still must endure oppressive and restrictive laws this Governor signed into effect, the President of the United States appointed J. P. Coleman to fill a vacancy which has been open for the past 18 months. Under the new voting bill, if the state of Mississippi wishes to prevent Negroes from voting, the state will appeal directly to the Fifth Circuit Court.

The Fifth Circuit encompasses the two worst states in the nation with regard to denial of civil and human rights--Mississippi and Alabama. Yet, a man who said on October 26, 1956: "I do not now favor the Negro voting in Mississippi. He is wholly unprepared to assume this responsibility," will be making decisions for the federal government about who votes in Mississippi.

In his Inaugural Address as Governor of Mississippi on January 3, 1956, Coleman stated:

"In my gubernatorial campaign of 1955 I said in my official platform: 'There will be no mixing of the races in any of the state operated educational institutions. I already have a record on this subject. This is no task for the amateur or hothead.'

I further told the people that if elected Governor, with the cooperation of a good legislature, we would maintain the separation of the races without at the same time keeping our state, its economy, its customs, and its practices, in a daily uproar of confusion and uncertainty. I say to this audience...that I have not the slightest fear that four years hence when my successor stands on this same spot to assume his official oath, the separation of the races will be left intact and will still be in full force and effect in exactly the same manner and form as we know it today."

As Governor, J. P. Coleman lived up to his word and signed into effect many unconstitutional laws and statutes designed to preserve the second class status of Mississippi's Negro citizens. The State Sovereignty Commission, specifically designed to isolate the state from "federal encroachment" and to maintain the white supremacist power structure was

*"One Man, One Vote"*

created. The State Sovereignty Commission is an intelligence agency which has given at least \$193,000 (in tax money) to the White Citizens Council, according to testimony by Sovereignty Commission officials in evidence taken by the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party as part of the Congressional Challenge.

When Senators get back from their Fourth of July vacation, a subcommittee of the Senate Judiciary Committee will commence hearings on this appointment. When these hearings are over, the subcommittee will report either favorably or unfavorably to the full Senate Judiciary Committee and from there to the full Senate.

We of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee are appealing directly to you because you are a constituent of a Senator who has gone on record for human rights and who sits on the Judiciary Committee. We urge you to wire your Senator and demand that he stop this appointment in committee. Ask him to make his vote cast in favor of the Voting Bill meaningful by refusing to confirm J. P. Coleman's appointment to the Fifth Circuit Court.

Yours in the struggle,

*John Lewis*

John Lewis  
Chairman

## BILLS SIGNED INTO LAW BY GOVERNOR COLEMAN.

A review of a few of the legislative enactments signed by James P. Coleman during his term of office as Governor of Mississippi seems conclusively to demonstrate that he would be actively opposed to protecting and securing the civil rights of Negro American citizens if confirmed by the United States Senate as a Judge on the United States Court of Appeals of the Fifth Circuit. This review follows:

1. In 1956 Governor Coleman signed into law Chapters 273 and 288 (Gen. Laws Miss. 1956), acts confirming a steadfast policy of racial segregation in the state's public schools and repealing the state's compulsory education laws (so as to be able to close individual schools within the state if required to desegregate by federal court orders). He also signed acts requiring railroad and bus companies to maintain separate waiting rooms and toilet facilities for the races traveling in intra-state commerce and requiring all intra-state passengers to use such separate facilities. (Chapters 258-60, General Laws of Mississippi, 1956). Criminal penalties of \$1,000 and/or one year in jail for each violation of these acts were provided, and it was explicitly stated that an intra-state passenger, arrested for violating the state-imposed segregation laws, could have no action of false imprisonment against the arresting officer, nor could he recover damages from common carriers complying with these statutes.

2. In 1956, when Governor Coleman signed these acts, it was perfectly clear from the broad language in Brown v Board of Education, 347 U.S. 483 (1954), that the Fourteenth Amendment forbade all racial segregation in the public schools, and all other state enforcement of racial separation such as prescribed by the acts requiring that segregated waiting rooms and toilet facilities be maintained by common carriers.

In signing these acts into law, Governor Coleman was intentionally seeking to frustrate what he knew to be a requirement of the Federal Constitution. The acts repealing the state's compulsory education laws and confirming its policy of racial segregation were deliberately designed to circumvent anticipated efforts by the federal courts, on which James P. Coleman seeks to sit, to enforce the Constitution of the United States.

3. Even more frightening is the support given to the patently absurd doctrine of interposition by Governor Coleman when he signed into law Chapter 254, General Laws of Mississippi, 1956. The law sought "to give effect to the Resolution of Interposition, Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 125, and to the principle of segregation of the races" by directing the Governor and the entire executive branch of the State of Mississippi "to prohibit by any lawful, peaceful and constitutional means, the implementation of or the compliance with the integration decisions of the United States Supreme Court...and to prohibit by any lawful, peaceful, and constitutional means the causing of a mixing or integration of the white and Negro races in public schools, public parks and public waiting rooms." That Governor Coleman should have sought to frustrate a federal constitutional policy is bad enough; that he signed his name in support of a constitutional doctrine long and rightly regarded as ridiculous, and which, if adopted, would reduce our federal republic to a meed confederation of states serves to point out his compelling disqualifications for appointment to a judgeship in a circuit which elaborates constitutional policy.

Governor Coleman's sincere support of interposition and deliberate opposition to the United States Constitution is further evidenced by his approval of Chapter 365, an Act creating the State Sovereignty Commission of which the Governor was chairman. The duty of this body was to perform "all acts and things deemed necessary and proper to protect the sovereignty of the state of Mississippi, and her sister states from encroachment thereon by the Federal Government." (Ch. 365, Sec. 5).

4. Additional impediments to the fulfillment of constitutional rights are found in Chapter 253, an Act to prohibit the fomenting of litigation by making it unlawful to donate or receive funds for the purpose of filing or prosecuting lawsuits. This legislation was aimed at the Legal Defense Fund of the NAACP and other organizations seeking to confirm by lawsuit the constitutional rights of Negro citizens.

5. Governor Coleman also signed an enactment (Chapter 257, General Laws, Mississippi, 1956) conferring upon all public businesses an absolute right to select their customers and subjecting any person refusing to vacate a public place at the owner's request to a fine of up to \$500 and/or imprisonment of up to six months. The custom of segregation by private individuals was further buttressed by the Governor's approval of Chapter 256, a broad breach of the peace statute, covering "any person who shall enter any public place of business (and)... create a disturbance or a breach of the peace in any way whatsoever including, but not restricted to..the making of threats or attempting to intimidate."

6. In 1958, Governor Coleman signed into law Chapter 311, a measure designed to cope with any attempts to desegregate Mississippi schools by authorizing the Governor to close any one or more of all schools of any or all school districts. The Governor also signified his approval of Chapters 257 and 261 of the General Laws of 1958, acts providing that the Attorney General should offer legal assistance to any school district or executive officer, agency or commission of the State of Mississippi proceeded against in state or federal courts or investigated by the federal civil rights commission.

7. In addition to supporting these plainly unconstitutional objectives, Governor Coleman gave his approval to Chapter 484, an act requiring investigation by the state Attorney General or legislative committee of any organization deemed subversive. Subversiveness consisted of having a national or state officer who either in the past or at present is or has been an officer of any organization designated as subversive by the United States Attorney General or a Congressional Committee on Un-American Activities. The purpose of the investigation was to secure a membership list from such organizations, and thereby to intimidate their members and keep them from participating in activities designed to achieve equality for all citizens of Mississippi.

8. In 1956 Gov. Coleman also signed into the State's law books legislation which almost made it impossible for local citizens to get lawyers from other states to defend them in Mississippi Courts. This legislation, Chapter 255 of the 1956 General Laws of Mississippi, repealed the old section 8666 of the 1942 Code which had permitted any attorney from any other state to appear in local courts. The only requirement was that the attorney be in good standing in his home state.

But the new Mississippi law sets up elaborate procedures which an out-of-state attorney now must follow before he can represent anyone. Under Chapter 255 a private group, the State Bar Association, is given the power of making the determination. Its only guideline for deciding is the vague phrase of "the usages and customs of the State of Mississippi."

The real impact of this law can only be seen by considering the background in which it operates. It is virtually impossible to get white Mississippi lawyers to take civil rights cases. Even if the individual attorney would want to, his ordinary legal practice would be seriously hurt and socially he would become a pariah. Of course Negro attorneys in Mississippi will handle such cases, but there are only four of them for the entire state. Thus Chapter 255 as approved by Governor Coleman makes it exceedingly difficult for Mississippi citizens to secure adequate legal protection of their civil rights against discriminatory practices.

9. Finally, in 1958, Governor Coleman approved the enactment of Chapter 257 which authorized the State Attorney General to defend "upon request and at his discretion" circuit Clerks and registrars of various counties who are either sued or called as witnesses in state or federal court by any other federal agency. A similar discretion is also given the Attorney General with regard to suits brought against officers or employees of school districts and other state and municipal officials. (See Chapter 261 of General Laws of Mississippi of 1958.)

Time and again in recent years suits have been brought against the above public officials because of their violations of the civil rights of American citizens. This legislation clearly has no other object than to permit Mississippi officials to continue their tactics of evading the law and to place through taxation the financial burden of legally defending these officials upon the very people whose rights have been violated.

STUDENT NONVIOLENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE  
360 Nelson Street, SW  
Atlanta, Georgia

TESTIMONY OF JOHN LEWIS, CHAIRMAN OF THE STUDENT NONVIOLENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE BEFORE THE SENATE JUDICIARY SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE APPOINTMENT OF JAMES P. COLEMAN TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT.

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee,

I am John Lewis, Chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee. After just having been released a few days ago after ten days in the Jackson, Mississippi, jail, it is with a troubled mind that I come before this committee to testify against the appointment of J. P. Coleman to the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals. I cannot stress too strongly the opposition of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee to this appointment, and I feel that most Americans would join us if they could foresee the results which would ensue from this appointment. Moreover, this appointment is an affront and an insult to the Negro people of the South and to all Americans of good will.

Since 1954, our Federal judicial system has been the primary force in preventing a level of violence and bloodshed which the South has not witnessed since the Civil War. We know all too well Mr. Coleman's attitude regarding the 1954 Supreme Court decision, for it was he who said as late as 1963 that if he were elected governor there would be no further integration of the public schools of Mississippi.

Since 1957, the Senate has passed a lengthy series of acts which purport to eliminate centuries of racial discrimination aimed at American Negroes. Now this same body is considering naming James Plemon Coleman to the branch of the United States Courts which carries the heaviest load of civil rights litigation and holds a position of judicial power over the lives of millions of American Negroes second only to the United States Supreme Court. The results of this action may be predicted with certainty—a complete nullification of all the civil rights legislation which our Congress worked so hard to create.

Moreover this appointment can only result in the retarding of the growth of full citizenship for American Negroes, a policy which I feel neither this committee nor the United States Senate wishes to embrace. Furthermore, if the United States Senate chooses to consent to this appointment, then it goes on record as favoring the perpetuation of segregation, and all American Negroes will know once and for all just where this body stands on the racial issue.

If this body wishes to eliminate or make ineffective past legislation, let it do so by outright repeal so that the American Negro knows where he stands. If this body wishes to ignore the years of suffering, of death, and of dingy prison cells that the Negro has had to face, then let it confirm the appointment of J. P. Coleman. But on the other hand, if this body wishes to insure the enforcement of civil rights legislation, then it has only one course of action to follow—refuse to consent to the appointment of J. P. Coleman, a vicious and clever segregationist.

If anyone in this room questions the truth of these charges, I direct his attention to the laws of the state of Mississippi which were passed during the period in which J. P. Coleman was Governor of Mississippi and over his signature.

We of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee feel that the record of James P. Coleman speaks for itself as a record of race hatred, prejudice and defiance of the United States Constitution, the Supreme Court and Congress. I would like to point out that as a United States judge, Mr. Coleman would be called upon to interpret the Constitution, laws of Congress and Supreme Court decisions. In the light of his past actions can anyone question the result or the course that he would take?

I would like to make it crystal clear to this committee that we reject the argument that Mr. Coleman is the best that Mississippi has to offer. When is it that justice is based on the lesser of two evils? We also feel that it is morally wrong for the President to appoint Mr. Coleman as a political pay-off for Mr. Coleman's work during the 1960 Kennedy-Johnson campaign. Furthermore we reject the argument that Mr. Coleman has changed his views. For during the 1963 gubernatorial campaign, Mr. Coleman's position was basically the same as his 1957 stand when he ran for Governor. Therefore we would rather see the seat remain vacant, for fair-minded judges from throughout America are now filling that vacancy.

Gentlemen, the issues are very clear--Negro citizens of this nation cannot and will not stand idly by while one of their major forums for seeking redress is eliminated. I feel obligated to put this committee and our nation on notice that the appointment of this outspoken segregationist is such a denial of justice that it may cause Negro citizens of the deep South, many of whom we work with every day, to lose faith in the judicial process. They may be forced, in the name of freedom, to carry on mass social dislocation and civil disobedience throughout the South.

Gentlemen, the decision is yours.

Thank you very much.

June 29, 1965

July 29, 1965

Dear Mr. Clay:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the appointment of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

Mr. Nathaniel Clay, Sr.  
President, Local 334  
X International Hod Carriers' Building and  
Common Laborers' Union of America  
2967 East Grand Boulevard  
Detroit, Michigan 48202

JBC:ltd

NATHANIEL CLAY, Sr.  
President  
TR. 3-9122

ANDREW McFARLANE  
Business Representative  
TR. 3-9123

LOUIE HOLMES, Jr. -  
Secretary-Treasurer  
TR. 3-9124

International Hod Carriers' Building and Common Laborers'  
Union of America, Local 334

Affiliated with

American Federation of Labor and Detroit Building Trades Council  
2967 EAST GRAND BLVD.-DETROIT, MICHIGAN, 48202



July 8, 1965

Honorable Lyndon B. Johnson  
President of the United States  
White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear President Johnson:

We strongly oppose the appointment of former Governor James P. Coleman to the fifth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Such appointment of one who has consistently tried to circumvent the constitutional rights of negroes is a direct deterrent to the realization of these rights. Such appointment can only be considered as traitorous to the negro's cause.

"The total sum of a man's accomplishments can be destroyed by a rash move." The officers of this Local and this membership of more than three thousand, strongly and hopefully urge you to reconsider this unacceptable appointment.

Sincerely yours,

*Nathaniel Clay Sr.*

Nathaniel Clay, Sr.  
President

*Am appointments  
7/29/65*

HOUSE NUMBER 1  
JANUARY-TWO  
75-2-1112

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR AND DETROIT BUILDING TRADES COUNCIL  
1305 EAST GRAND BLVD.-DETROIT, MICHIGAN, 48203

MATTHEW CLAY, Sr.  
President  
75-2-1112

THE WHITE HOUSE  
International Hod Carriers' Building and Common Laborers' Union of America, Local 53  
Jun 10 1 10 PM '65

RECEIVED  
American Federation of Labor and Detroit Building Trades Council  
1305 EAST GRAND BLVD.-DETROIT, MICHIGAN, 48203

*Matthew Clay, Sr.*  
*7/8/65*

July 8, 1965

Honorable Lyndon B. Johnson  
President of the United States  
White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear President Johnson:

We strongly oppose the appointment of former Governor James P. Coleman to the fifth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Such appointment of one who has consistently tried to circumvent the constitutional rights of negroes is a direct deterrent to the realization of these rights. Such appointment can only be considered as treasonous to the negro's cause.

"The total aim of a man's accomplishments can be destroyed by a rash move." The officers of this local and his membership of more than three thousand, strongly and hopefully urge you to reconsider this woeceasing appointment.

Sincerely yours,

*Matthew Clay, Sr.*

Matthew Clay, Sr.  
President

July 29, 1965

Dear Miss Riggins:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the appointment of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

Miss Elizabeth <sup>X</sup>Riggins  
456 Third Street  
Woodland, California

JBC:ltd

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June 7, 1965

President Lyndon B. Johnson  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear President Johnson:

I am one of your devoted boosters and worked very hard and long for your election last November, and hope to do the same again in 1968.

I want to plead with you to demonstrate your good faith and sincerity by not appointing ex-Governor Jim Coleman of Mississippi to the U. S. Court of Appeals. It seems reasonable to me to assume that if a man such as Mr. Coleman were to occupy this high judgeship that we will not do much progressing in the area of civil rights in that part of our country.

I remember very clearly how Mr. Coleman boasted of the means he used to hinder integration at the University of Mississippi.

If we are to believe that you are sincerely dedicated to the concept of equal rights and justice for all, and that your Civil Rights Bill is not just the outcome of what you knew were the strong sentiments of the people at the time, I beg of you to demonstrate this by appointing only men who are dedicated to these concepts, and not those who have openly demonstrated their misuse of power to thwart justice for the Negroes of the South.

With all good wishes, and in deepest sincerity,

Very truly yours,

*Elizabeth Riggins*

Elizabeth Riggins  
456 Third St.  
Woodland, California

THE WHITE HOUSE  
JUN 10 7 05 PM '65  
RECEIVED

THE WHITE HOUSE  
JUN 10 7 05 PM '65

RECEIVED

June 7, 1965

President Lyndon B. Johnson  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear President Johnson:

I am one of your devoted boosters and worked very hard and long for your election last November, and hope to do the same again in 1968.

I want to plead with you to demonstrate your good faith and sincerity by not appointing ex-Governor Jim Coleman of Mississippi to the U. S. Court of Appeals. It seems reasonable to me to assume that if a man such as Mr. Coleman were to occupy this high judgeship that we will not do much progressing in the area of civil rights in that part of our country.

I remember very clearly how Mr. Coleman boasted of the means he used to hinder integration at the University of Mississippi.

If we are to believe that you are sincerely dedicated to the concept of equal rights and justice for all, and that your Civil Rights Bill is not just the outcome of what you knew were the strong sentiments of the people at the time, I beg of you to demonstrate this by appointing only men who are dedicated to these concepts, and not those who have openly demonstrated their misuse of power to thwart justice for the Negroes of the South.

With all good wishes, and in deepest sincerity,

Very truly yours,



Elizabeth Riggs  
458 Third St.  
Woodland, California

July 29, 1965

Dear Mr. Thorne:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the appointment of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

Mr. John E. <sup>X</sup>Thorne  
510 North Third Street  
San Jose, California 95112

JBC:ltd

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Cove Appointments  
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THORNE  
STANTON  
CLOPTON  
HERZ  
STANEK

LAW OFFICES | 510 NORTH THIRD STREET | SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA 95112 | TELEPHONE 286-1212

JOHN E. THORNE  
WILLIAM F. STANTON  
ASSEMBLYMAN 25TH DIST.  
WILLIAM H. CLOPTON  
RICHARD W. HERZ  
HERBERT S. STANEK

June 2, 1965

President Lyndon B. Johnson  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Reference: APPOINTMENT TO U. S. FIFTH CIRCUIT COURT

Dear Mr. President:

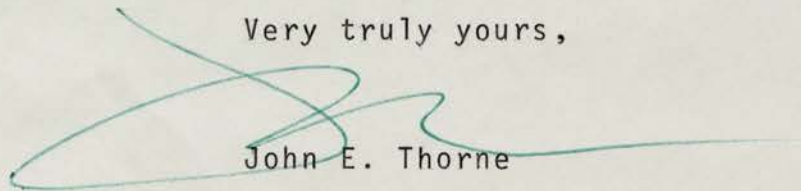
It has come to my attention that you are considering the appointment of ex-Governor James P. Coleman of Mississippi to the U. S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. As a practicing attorney, and as one who has had personal contact with Mr. Coleman, I should like to urge that no such appointment be made.

During the Challenge of the Mississippi congressmen, I had the pleasure of taking some depositions in Natchez, Mississippi. Prior to the taking of these depositions, we attempted to obtain the use of several governmental facilities as a place for the depositions, but these were denied. Because these were not available, we then noticed the hearings for the COFO house, and when Mr. Coleman received this notice, he called and strenuously objected, stating, "No self-respecting white man would be caught dead in a COFO house."

Mr. President, we do not need another segregationist appointed to a Federal Court, nor even a "moderate," who thinks that change in another three or four generations would be alright. We need a Judge who believes that the United States Constitution is meaningful today, not tomorrow.

Again, may I render my strenuous objection to the appointment of Mr. Coleman to the United States bench.

Very truly yours,



John E. Thorne

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON  
D. C. 20503

JUN 4 6 33 PM '65

RECEIVED

June 3, 1965

President Lyndon B. Johnson  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Reference: APPOINTMENT TO U. S. FIRST CIRCUIT COURT

Dear Mr. President:

It has come to my attention that you are considering the appointment of ex-Governor James F. Coleman of Mississippi to the U. S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. As a practicing attorney, and as one who has had personal contact with Mr. Coleman, I should like to urge that no such appointment be made.

During the challenge of the Mississippi constitution, I had the pleasure of taking many depositions in Jackson, Mississippi. After the taking of these depositions, we attempted to obtain the use of several governmental facilities as a place for the depositions, but these were denied. Because these were not available, we then noticed the hearing for the COFO house, and when Mr. Coleman received this notice, he called and strenuously objected, stating, "No self-respecting white man would be caught dead in a COFO house."

Mr. President, as do not need another segregationist appointed to a Federal Court, not even a "moderate," who thinks that change is either three or four generations would be alright. We need a judge who believes that the United States Constitution is meaningful today, not tomorrow.

Again, may I register my strenuous objection to the appointment of Mr. Coleman to the United States bench.

Very truly yours,

John L. Tamm

65-10000

July 29, 1965

Dear Mr. Booth:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the appointment of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

Mr. Henry Scripps Booth<sup>X</sup>  
Thornlea  
700 Cranbrook Road  
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48013

JBC:ltd

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7/69  
ed*

HENRY SCRIPPS BOOTH  
THORNLEA, 700 CRANBROOK ROAD  
BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MICHIGAN 48013

THE WHITE HOUSE  
JUL 10 1 10 PM '65  
RECEIVED

July 8, 1965

The President  
The White House  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

I was astounded at your nominating J. P. Coleman to the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals. Having been so outspoken against desegregation in any form it is improbable that he, no matter how good a lawyer, can administer unbiased justice in voting and other civil rights cases.

You are urged, therefore to rescind your appointment of ex-Governor Coleman and to appoint someone who is more promising of an impartial determination of all appeals to the Fifth Circuit Court.

Sincerely,

*Henry S. Booth*  
Henry S. Booth

HSB:cr

THE WHITE HOUSE  
HENRY SCRIpps  
JUL 10 1 10 PM '65  
RECEIVED

July 8, 1965

The President  
The White House  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

I was surprised to find that the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals, having been so outspoken against desegregation in any form it is impossible that no matter how good a lawyer, can administer unbiased justice in voting and other civil rights cases.

You are urged, therefore to rescind your appointment of ex-governor Coleman and to appoint someone who is more pro-claiming of an impartial determination of all appeals to the Fifth Circuit Court.

Sincerely,



Henry S. Booth

100-100000

July 29, 1965

Dear Miss Grischy:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the appointment of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

X  
Miss Barbara Grischy  
20011 Bella Vista  
Saratoga, California

JBC:ltd

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July 8, 1965

Dear President Johnson,

This letter is to protest your support of James T. Coleman in his effort to be confirmed by the Senate Judiciary Committee to the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals.

It is my feeling that in these troubled times of trying to get justice in our court for minority groups, an ardent segregationist is a poor choice for this position.

Sincerely,

Barbara Grischy  
Saratoga, Calif.

THE WHITE HOUSE

JUL 9 5 35 PM '65

RECEIVED

July 29, 1965

Dear Mr. Tiebel:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the appointment of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

Mr. George R. Tiebel<sup>X</sup>  
Town House Two  
Great Neck, New York

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Town House Two  
Great Neck, New York

July 13, 1965

The Honorable Lyndon Johnson  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

Your nomination of James Coleman to the U. S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit has dismayed me.

Having voted for you to be our President, and having applauded your vigorous support of civil rights, I have been disheartened by your nomination of Mr. Coleman.

That judgeship is a most critical one - indeed, of pivotal importance.

I earnestly hope that you will withdraw this nomination.

May I add that I hope the day will not be far off when you will nominate a qualified Negro to this very circuit.

Yours very truly,

*George R. Tiebel*

George R. Tiebel.

RECEIVED  
JUL 14 4 58 PM '65  
THE WHITE HOUSE

711  
Town House Two  
Great Neck, New York

July 13, 1965

The Honorable Lyndon Johnson  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

Your nomination of James Coleman to the U. S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit has displeased me.

Having voted for you to be our President, and having applauded your vigorous support of civil rights, I have been displeased by your nomination of Mr. Coleman.

That judgeship is a most critical one - indeed, of pivotal importance.

I earnestly hope that you will withdraw this nomination.

My I add that I hope the day will not be far off when you will nominate a qualified Negro to this very circuit.

Yours very truly,

George R. Tibbels

THE WHITE HOUSE  
JUL 14 4 29 PM '65  
RECEIVED

Town House Two  
Great Neck, New York

July 13, 1965

The Honorable N. Katzenbach  
Attorney General's Office  
Washington, D. C.

COPY

Honorable and dear Sir:

I find your support of the nomination of James Coleman to the U. S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit distressing.

It is impossible to be accurate in judging another man's motives, and I dislike to impute unworthy motives to you: and, in fact, I specifically refrain from doing so.

However - to people who are concerned with progress in the field of civil rights (and such a critical area as the one in question) - your endorsement appears to have only expediency to recommend it.

It certainly does not reflect what I would consider an appreciation of the aspirations of Negro people, but rather a willingness to perpetuate a judiciary which decides for civil rights only when pushed, prodded and threatened by upheaval among minorities.

When will you endorse a Negro for such a position?

Yours very truly,

George R. Tiebel.

July 29, 1965

Dear Mr. Norberg:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the appointment of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

The Reverend Richard C. Norberg  
Conference Minister  
Northern California Conference of  
United Church of Christ  
677 Flood Building, 870 Market Street  
San Francisco, California 94102

JBC:ltd

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NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE  
OF UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

677 FLOOD BUILDING, 870 MARKET STREET  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94102  
EX 7-0484

RICHARD C. NORBERG  
CONFERENCE MINISTER

July 12, 1965

President Lyndon B. Johnson  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

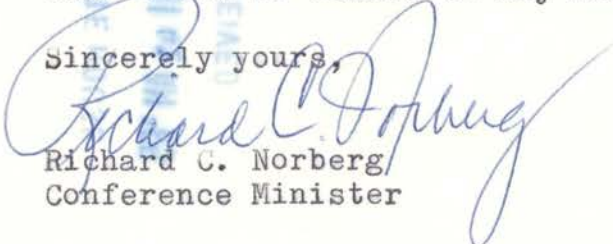
Mr. President:

It is with considerable regret and dismay that the host of persons of good will across the nation have learned of the appointment of an ex-Governor of Mississippi, James P. Coleman, to the bench of the strategic Fifth Circuit Court. That one whose segregationist position is so much a matter of record should preside in a court in Mississippi where cases involving civil rights will be heard is both gross incongruity and sheer hypocrisy!

I fail completely to understand what political advantage is to be gained by this untimely and unfortunate appointment. In spite of your forthright leadership in the achievement of a climate conducive to justice and fair treatment for all people throughout the land, this action is a direct rebuff to those struggling sacrificially and valiantly in its behalf. Frankly, your sincerity must be questioned if a person of Mr. Coleman's reputation can command your endorsement. You have given us no choice.

It is not too late to suspend this appointment. Surely there are those whose qualifications are eminently suitable for this high judicial position. With the host of others who are objecting to this incredible appointment, I respectfully urge and implore you to reconsider. You would again give encouragement and hope to those who wait and those who work for those guarantees of our Constitution which cannot now be denied to any man.

Sincerely yours,

  
Richard C. Norberg  
Conference Minister

WORTHEN CALIFORNIA COMMERCIAL  
OF UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
1000 CALIFORNIA STREET  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94109  
415-774-1100

July 12, 1965

RICHARD T. MORSE  
CONGRESS

President Lyndon B. Johnson  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Mr. President:

It is with considerable regret and dismay that the host  
of persons of good will across the nation have learned  
of the appointment of an ex-Governor of Mississippi,  
James P. Coleman, to the bench of the District Fifth Cir-  
cuit Court. That one whose segregationist position is as  
much a matter of record should preside in a court in Mis-  
sissippi where cases involving civil rights will be heard  
is both grossly incongruous and sheer hypocrisy.

I feel completely to understand what political advantage  
is to be gained by this untimely and unfortunate appoint-  
ment. In spite of your brilliant leadership in the achieve-  
ment of a civil rights bill, your appointment to the bench  
for all people throughout the land, this action is a direct  
result to those struggling sacrificially and valiantly in  
its behalf. Frankly, your sincerity must be questioned if  
a person of Mr. Coleman's reputation can command your en-  
dorsement. You have given us no choice.

It is not too late to rescind this appointment. Surely  
there are those whose qualifications are eminently suitable  
for this high judicial position. With the best of others  
who are objecting to this incredible appointment, I respect-  
fully urge and implore you to reconsider. You would again  
give encouragement and hope to those who wait and those  
who are those guaranteees of our constitution which  
can not be denied to any man.

*Richard T. Morse*  
Richard T. Morse  
Congressional Minister

THE WHITE HOUSE  
JUL 14 11 41 AM '65  
RECEIVED

July 29, 1965

Dear Mrs. Baum:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the appointment of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

Mrs. Sidney J. Baum<sup>X</sup>  
17001 Mooncrest Drive  
Encino, California 91316

(Nettie Baum)  
X

JBC:sar

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

July 12, 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR

Mr. John Clinton

For appropriate handling.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Paul", written in a cursive style.

Paul M. Popple

21  
From Meyer

ack  
7/29/65  
SAC

7/8

SIDNEY J. BAUM  
17001 MOONCREST DRIVE  
ENCINO, CALIFORNIA 91316

June 30th

Sir: Pres. Johnson

It's bad enough that we have to stand by and see boys killed in an area of the world where we don't belong and where the majority of the people of Viet Nam don't want us. And now to appoint a segregationist as a Judge!!!! And when I think of the time and effort my friends and I went to in November to assure your election. Next time I'll vote Republican. At least I know where they stand.

Very truly yours,

*Sidney J. Baum*  
(Mrs. Sidney J. Baum)

July 29, 1965

Dear Dr. Lovett:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the appointment of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

X  
Dr. Beatrice R. Lovett  
5352 Mayview Road  
Minnetonka, Minnesota

JBC:sar

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7/12

*Con-Appointment*

*ack  
7/29/65  
SAR*

DR. BEATRICE R. LOVETT  
5352 MAYVIEW ROAD  
MINNETONKA, MINNESOTA

RECEIVED  
JUL 15 6 10 PM '65  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

July 10, 1965.

The President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

My Dear Mr. President,

Many of us citizens feel strongly that the appointment of James P. Coleman as Judge of the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals is unwise and unfair. As former governor of Mississippi and architect of most of the segregationist laws of that state, we think that he will be strongly biased in favor of segregationists and not an impartial judge of cases originating under the Civil Rights Acts. We therefore urge you in all fairness to withdraw the nomination of Mr. Coleman. Also we appeal to the Senate Judiciary Committee ~~x~~ not to approve the appointment.

Very truly Yours,

*Beatrice R. Lovett*

THE WHITE HOUSE

JUL 12 6 10 PM '65

RECEIVED

The President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

By Don M. Stewart,

Many of us citizens feel strongly that the  
appointment of James F. Coleman as Judge of the Fifth  
Circuit Court of Appeals is a wise and timely one. As  
a result of the appointment of Coleman, the  
most of the conservative laws of that state, we  
think that he will be strongly biased in favor of  
segregationists and not an impartial judge of cases  
originating under the Civil Rights Act. We therefore  
urge you in all fairness to withdraw the nomi-  
nation of Mr. Coleman. Also we appeal to the Senate  
to disapprove the appointment.

Very truly yours,

Arthur A. Bennett

July 29, 1965

Dear Mrs. Moxley:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the appointment of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

Mrs. Bob Moxley  
21949 Lindy Lane  
Cupertino, California

JBC:sar

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July 5, 1965

President Lyndon Johnson  
White House  
Washington, D.C.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
JUL 15 8 03 PM '65  
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Dear President Johnson,

Re: the confirmation of James P. Coleman  
to be a judge of the 5<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of  
Appeals.

I sincerely hope for the sake of the civil rights of all minority groups, Mr. Coleman's possible appointment will not be recommended by you.

The cause of justice and the implementation of the Supreme Court's decisions have not in the past been served by the appointment of a man of his segregationist point of view and voting record, so his future decisions will undoubtedly reflect the same bias he has shown in the past.

Surely there must be available men of greater objectivity and sense of fairness than that displayed by James P. Coleman.

Thank you for your consideration

Mr. Bob Moxley  
21949 Rindly Lane  
Cupertino, Calif.

July 2, 1865

THE WHITE HOUSE

JUL 12 6 09 PM '65

RECEIVED

President Lyndon B. Johnson  
White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear President Johnson,  
Re: the confirmation of James P. Coburn  
to be a Justice of the 5th Circuit Court of  
Appeals

I sincerely hope for the sake of the civil  
rights of all minority groups, Mr. Coburn's  
possible appointment will not be recommended  
by you.  
The cause of justice and the implementation  
of the Supreme Court decision has led to the  
part has been caused by the appointment of a  
man of his exceptional point of view and  
of sound, so his further decision will  
undoubtedly reflect the same bias taken  
shown in the past.  
I trust that your will be overruled even if  
greater objection and some of persons than  
that displayed by James P. Coburn.  
Thank you for your consideration.  
Mr. Earl Warren  
2199 Rinaldi Lane  
Cupertino, Calif.

July 29, 1965

Dear Mr. Gunderson:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the appointment of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

Mr. Robert Gray Gunderson  
2420 Barbara Street  
Bloomington, Indiana

JBC:sar

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ROBERT GRAY GUNDERSON

2420 BARBARA STREET  
BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA

RECEIVED  
JUL 15 8 20 PM '65

July 9, 1965

President Lyndon B. Johnson  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Johnson:

Your appointment of segregationist James  
Coleman as a federal judge makes a mockery of all  
your high flown talk in your voting rights speech  
of last spring. What you say in these flights  
of oratorical fancy apparently has little relation-  
ship to what you do when critical Southern appoint-  
ments come up. As Governor, Coleman allocated state  
funds to the White Citizens Councils and had a pro-  
spective Negro applicant at the University of Mississi-  
ppi confined to the Whitfield Insane Asylum. Just  
the kind of judicial type wanted by Bull Connor,  
Sheriff Clark, and the Philadelphia, Mississippi,  
murderers. It all is enough to make a Northern  
Democrat vote Republican.

Sincerely,



Robert G. Gunderson

ROBERT GRAY GUNDERSON

THE WHITE HOUSE

1300 ANNAPOLIS CIRCLE  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

JUL 12 6 10 PM '65

RECEIVED

President Lyndon B. Johnson  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Johnson:

Your appointment of segregationist James  
Colman as a federal judge makes a mockery of all  
your high flown talk in your voting rights speech  
of last spring. That you say in these terms  
of racialized policy apparently has little relation  
ship to what you do when critical Southern appoint-  
ments come up. As Governor, Colman allocated state  
funds to the White Citizens Councils and had a pro-  
segregative Negro applicant at the University of Missis-

ippi confirmed to the White House. Just  
the kind of judicial type wanted by Bill Connor,  
Sheriff Clark, and the Philadelphia, Mississippi,  
murders. If all is enough to make a Northern  
Democrat vote Republican.

Sincerely,  
  
Robert G. Gunderson

July 29, 1965

Dear Mr. Hawkins:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the appointment of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

X  
Mr. Ira J. Hawkins  
1435 South Meadowbrook Avenue  
Los Angeles 19, California

JBC:sar

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ea

ack'd 7/29/65 SAR  
July 9, 1965 7-12

THE WHITE HOUSE  
RECEIVED  
JUL 19 1965

1435 S. Meadowbrook Ave  
Los Angeles 19, Calif

Dear Mr. President:

I have read in the papers where you  
intend to name segregationist former Governor  
of Mississippi James P. Coleman to the 5th  
Circuit Court of Appeal. I am totally opposed  
to the appointment of this segregationist to any  
federal job at any time and for any reason  
political, patronage. How can you be for  
Civil and Voting rights and put a SEGREGATION-  
IONIST in a job to hurt these just causes.  
Please none of my tax money to go to  
James P. Coleman's pay envelope. Appoint no  
SEGREGATIONIST to any jobs!!

Sincerely yours,  
Mr. Ira J. Hawkins

THE WHITE HOUSE

JUL 12 6 10 PM '65

RECEIVED

*Handwritten notes:*  
The White House  
July 11, 1965

*Handwritten note:*  
July 11, 1965

Dear Mr. President:

I have read in the paper where you  
refer to new segregationist forces  
of Mississippi Governor James P. Oliver to the  
President and to myself. I am totally opposed  
to the appointment of the segregationist to any  
federal job of any type and for any reason  
political, religious, or otherwise. You can find out for  
yourself and other rights and for the SEPARAT-  
IONIST in a lot of books and other sources.  
Please use of my tax money to go to  
James P. Oliver's pay check. Oppoint me  
SEPARATIONIST to any jobs!!

*Handwritten signature:*  
Mr. J. P. Oliver

July 29, 1965

Dear Mrs. Koch:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the appointment of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

<sup>X</sup>  
Mrs. Irene M. Koch  
5470 Woodlawn Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois 60615

JBC:sar

ackd 7/29/65 (SAR)

THE WHITE HOUSE

JUL 15 8 10 PM '65

5470 Woodlawn Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois 60615  
July 7, 1965

The President  
The White House  
Washington 25, D.C.

Mr. President:

I am shocked almost beyond belief that you would appoint to the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals a man whose entire history has been rabidly anti-Negro, Mr. J. P. Coleman.

If Mr. Coleman should go into this post, Negro voting rights could be stopped dead in its tracks, even under the new voting bill. I cannot understand how you can profess to support Negro voting rights and then turn around and appoint such a man as Coleman.

The least I can do, and unfortunately the most I can do, is write to our senators to turn down your appointment.

But I can appeal to you, too, Mr. President, in the name of all that is sensible in this time of social revolution, to withdraw this unspeakable appointment and name instead a man who understands the nature of what is going on and the import of it on the well-being of our nation.

Respectfully,

*Irene M. Koch*

(mrs.)

Irene M. Koch

*Handwritten scribbles*

THE WHITE HOUSE

JUL 12 6 10 PM '65

RECEIVED  
Chicago, Illinois 60612  
July 7, 1965

The President  
The White House  
Washington 25, D.C.

Mr. President:

I am shocked almost beyond belief that you would appoint to the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals a man whose entire history has been rapidly anti-Negro, Mr. J. P. Coleman.

If Mr. Coleman should go into this post, Negro voting rights could be stopped dead in its tracks, even under the new voting bill. I cannot understand how you can profess to support Negro voting rights and then turn around and appoint such a man as Coleman.

The least I can do, and unfortunately the most I can do, is write to our senators to turn down your appointment.

But I can appeal to you, too, Mr. President, in the name of all that is sensible in this time of social revolution, to withdraw this unspeakable appointment and name instead a man who understands the nature of what is going on and the import of it on the well-being of our nation.

Respectfully,

*Irene M. Koch*

Irene M. Koch

(Mrs.)

July 29, 1965

Dear Miss Pinn:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the appointment of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

X  
Miss Peggy Pinn  
Chairman  
The Women's Committee  
X Calvary Baptist Church  
Jamaica, New York

JBC:sar

ack 7/29/65  
SAR

The White House  
Washington

1965 JUL 13 PM 1 21

WA060 PD 5 EXTRA

JAMAICA NY 13 1055A EDT

THE PRESIDENT

THE WHITE HOUSE

WE, THE WOMEN OF CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH STRONGLY OPPOSE YOUR  
RECENT APPOINTMENT OF JAMES COLEMAN TO FEDERAL JUDGESHIP POSITION  
WE EXPECT TO RAISE OUR PROTEST THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE QUEENS  
AREA UNLESS YOU RECONSIDER THIS DIABOLICAL TRAVESTY ON JUSTICE.  
WE CONSIDER THIS A SLAP IN THE FACE AND WE DO NOT INTEND TO  
TURN THE OTHER CHEEK

FORM 409 PRINTED BY THE STARGARD REGISTER COMPANY, N. S. A.

THE WOMENS COMMITTEE CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH JAMAICA NY  
PEGGY PINN CHAIRMAN.

FORM 800 PRINTED BY THE STANDARD REGISTER COMPANY, S. S. A.

49170

July 29, 1965

Dear Mr. Suski:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the appointment of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

X  
Honorable Edward Suski  
Member of the House of Representatives  
Chairman, Civil Rights Committee of  
the State of Michigan  
Detroit, Michigan

JBC:sar

ack 7/29/65  
SAR

The White House  
Washington

1965 JUL 13 PM 3 15

WA091 PD

LANSING MICH 13 1205P EST

THE PRESIDENT

THE WHITE HOUSE

MY DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:

I RESPECTFULLY REQUEST THAT YOU WITHDRAW THE NOMINATION OF J. P. COLEMAN TO THE FIFTH CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS. IT IS MY OPINION, AND THAT OF MANY OTHERS, THAT JUSTICE CANNOT BE SERVED BY THE APPOINTMENT OF A MAN WHO IS PHILOSOPHICALLY AND DIAMETRICALLY OPPOSED TO THE AMERICAN PRINCIPLE OF FREEDOM

AND EQUALITY FOR ALL. I FIND IT EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND HOW YOU, SIR, CAN PROMOTE LEGISLATION LIKE THE CIVIL RIGHTS BILL IN 1964 AND THE COMING VOTING RIGHTS BILL OF 1965, AND THEN ADVOCATE THE APPOINTMENT OF A MAN WHO WILL OBVIOUSLY NEGATE LEGISLATION OF THIS KIND BY ALLOWING HIM TO DECIDE CIVIL RIGHTS ISSUES IN THIS MOST CRITICAL AND SENSITIVE AREA COMPOSING THE FIFTH CIRCUIT. IT IS A WELL-KNOWN AND AUTHENTICATED FACT. MR. COLEMAN IS AN AVOWED AND DEDICATED SEGREGATIONIST AND HAS IN MANY INSTANCES, IN HIS PRIOR OFFICES, SERVED TO DISCRIMINATE AGAINST NEGROES OF HIS STATE. BY HIS OWN ADMISSION HE HAS LAID

CLAIM TO AND IS A SUCCESSFUL SEGREGATIONIST. I SINCERELY BELIEVE THAT IF MR. COLEMAN IS APPOINTED TO THE FIFTH CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS IT WOULD BE A TRAVESTY OF OUR FEDERAL CONSTITUTION, OF WHICH HE HAS SO ABLY AND APTLY SUBVERTED AND CIRCUMVENTED IN THE PAST. I IMPLORE YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, THAT YOU DO NOT BREAK FAITH WITH THE MILLIONS OF AMERICAN CITIZENS WHO GAVE YOU THE GREATEST PLURALITY ANY PRESIDENT TO DATE HAS EVER ENJOYED. IN CONCLUSION, MR PRESIDENT, I MUST AGREE WITH REVEREND RICHARD T. MCSORLEY OF WASHINGTON, D.C., THAT IN FACT, YOU WILL BE MORALLY WRONG TO APPOINT MR. COLEMAN

FORM 508 PRINTED BY THE STANDARD REGISTER COMPANY, N. Y. N. Y.

BECAUSE BY SUCH ACTION YOU WILL BE PROMOTING AND  
REWARDING INJUSTICE

DEMOCRATICALLY YOURS,

REPRESENTATIVE EDWARD SUSKI

CHAIRMAN, CIVIL RIGHTS COMMITTEE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STATE OF MICHIGAN.

July 29, 1965

Dear Mr. Van Tassel:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the appointment of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

Mr. Dennie L. Van Tassel<sup>X</sup>  
2112 Plant Avenue  
Redondo Beach, California

JBC:sar

29  
20

7/12

ackd 7/29/65  
SHE

2112 Plant Ave  
Redondo Beach, Calif.  
July 5, 1965

Dear President Johnson

Please withdraw the nomination  
of James D. Coleman as Federal  
appeals court judge. We do not  
need a segregationist or a  
"Mississippi moderate."

Remove the Jim-Crow practices  
in Federal Courts.

Yours Truly,  
Dennie Z. Van Tassel

THE WHITE HOUSE

JUL 12 6 09 PM '65

RECEIVED

*[Faint, illegible handwritten text, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side of the page]*

*[Faint, illegible handwritten text, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side of the page]*

July 29, 1965

Dear Mr. Karp:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the appointment of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

Mr. Maxwell H. Karp<sup>x</sup>  
4445 Moraga Avenue  
Oakland, California 94611

JBC:sar

4  
Con  
Appointments

ack 7/29/65  
SAR

Maxwell H. Karp  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT  
4445 MORAGA AVENUE  
OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA 94611  
TELEPHONE 658-1456

THE WHITE HOUSE  
JUL 10 1965

July 6, 1965

The Honorable Lyndon Baines Johnson  
President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, 25,  
D. C.

Your Excellency;

Those of us who supported your candidacy in the elections of 1960 and 1964 because we believed your professions of an America with justice for all, view with alarm your recent nominations of former Mississippi Governor James P. Coleman and Federal District Judge Homer Thornberry of Texas to the two vacancies on the nine-judge Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals.

The Fifth Circuit is a key court in the adjudication of civil rights cases arising in the states of Georgia, Texas, Florida, Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi. During the past decade, the supporters of civil rights have held a 5 to 4 edge in this court, and were thus able to bring a degree of justice in this region. If your nominations to the Fifth Circuit are approved by the United States Senate the pro-segregationists will hold a 5 to 4 majority in this court.

The rabid segregationist position heretofore taken by former Governor James P. Coleman and the lukewarm support on questions of civil rights shown by Federal District Court Justice Homer Thornberry convince us that, in spite of the new civil rights legislation so ardently proposed by you, all civil rights legislation will be nullified in this area if these nominations are affirmed.

We urge you to withdraw both these nominations.

Very truly yours,

*Maxwell H. Karp*  
Maxwell H. Karp.

mhk:BG

THE WHITE HOUSE

Jul 10 1 10 PM '55

RECEIVED July 8, 1955

Maxwell H. Kemp  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT  
4348 MORAGA AVENUE  
DALHART, CALIFORNIA 94521  
TELEPHONE 834-1100

*Handwritten notes and scribbles in the top right corner.*

The Honorable Lyndon Baines Johnson  
President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, DC  
D. C.

Your Excellency;

Those of us who supported your candidacy in the elections of 1950 and 1954 because we believed your profession of an American with justice for all, view with alarm your recent nomination of former Mississippi Governor James P. Coleman and Federal District Judge Homer Thornberry of Texas to the two vacancies on the nine-judge Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals.

The Fifth Circuit is a key court in the adjudication of civil rights cases arising in the states of Georgia, Texas, Florida, Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi. During the past decade, the supporters of civil rights have had a 5 to 4 edge in this court, and were thus able to bring a degree of justice in this region. If your nomination to the Fifth Circuit are approved by the United States Senate the pro-segregationists will hold a 5 to 4 majority in this court.

The rapid segregationist position heretofore taken by former Governor James P. Coleman and the lukewarm support on questions of civil rights shown by Federal District Court Justice Homer Thornberry convince us that, in spite of the new civil rights legislation so ardently proposed by you, all civil rights legislation will be nullified in this area if these nominations are affirmed.

We urge you to withdraw both these nominations.

Very truly yours,

*Handwritten signature of Maxwell H. Kemp*  
Maxwell H. Kemp

mk:133

July 29, 1965

Dear Mr. Marshall:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the appointment of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

Mr. Robert J. <sup>X</sup>Marshall  
327 South La Salle Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60604

JBC:sar

6  
con-appointment

ILLINOIS  
SYNOD

OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA



ack  
7/29/65  
SAR

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
327 SOUTH LA SALLE STREET  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60604  
AREA CODE 312-427-6060

July 8, 1965

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C. 20025

Sir:

While it is not my custom to question the judgment of men in high position since their information is much more complete than mine, I must register a disappointment at your nominating the Honorable J. B. Coleman, former governor of the state of Mississippi, for the judgeship of the Fifth Circuit Court. In view of Governor Coleman's record, I cannot be very optimistic about the judgments he will render in this important circuit. I wish it were possible for you to reconsider the appointment since it is likely to leave a blot on the noble record you have made in the matter of civil rights. Your leadership of the nation has been so commendable that this action seems completely out of harmony.

My prayers are with you as you bear the stupendous demands of your high office.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Marshall

RJM/1g

THE WHITE HOUSE

JUL 10 1 10 PM '65

RECEIVED

ILLINOIS  
SYND

OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

July 8, 1965

The President  
The White House

Washington, D.C. 20503

Sir:

While it is not my custom to question the judgment of men in high position since their information is much more complete than mine, I must register a disappointment at your nominating the Honorable J. B. Coleman, former Governor of the state of Mississippi, for the judgeship of the Fifth Circuit Court. In view of Governor Coleman's record, I cannot be very optimistic about the judgments he will render in this important circuit. I wish it were possible for you to reconsider the appointment since it is likely to leave a blot on the noble record you have made in the matter of civil rights. Your leadership of the nation has been so commendable that this action seems completely out of harmony.

My prayers are with you as you bear the stupendous demands of your high office.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Marshall

RJM/ig

July 29, 1965

Dear Mrs. Jordan:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the appointment of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

Mrs. Camille <sup>X</sup>Jordan  
2235 California  
Mountain View, California

JBC:sar

ack 7/29/65  
SAR

The White House  
Washington

1965 JUL 12 PM 2 24

WA039 PD 5 EXTRA

MOUNTAIN VIEW CALIF 12 914A PDT

THE PRESIDENT

THE WHITE HOUSE

THE APPOINTMENT OF GOVERNOR COLEMAN A SEGREGATIONIST TO A FEDERAL  
JUDGESHIP IS SHOCKING AND HORRIFYING

MRS CAMILLE JORDAN 2235 CALIFORNIA MOUNTAIN VIEW CALIF.

July 29, 1965

Dear Mr. Green:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the appointment of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

X  
Mr. Percy Green  
5149 Lexington  
St. Louis, Missouri

JBC:sar

ack 7/29/65  
SAR)

The White House  
Washington

1965 JUL 15 AM 5 24

WA063 POM

ST LOUIS MO 14

THE PRESIDENT

THE WHITE HOUSE

PLEASE RECONSIDER COLEMAN. THERE MUST BE NO QUESTION OF LOYALTY

TO CONSTITUTIONAL GUARANTEES

PERCY GREEN 5149 LEXINGTON.

The White House  
Washington

1965 JUL 15 AM 12 40

WA023 NL PD

TZ LAWRENCE KANS 14

THE PRESIDENT

THE WHITE HOUSE

GIVEN THE SEGREGATIONIST AN ANTI-NEGRO STAND TAKEN BY EX-GOVERNOR  
COLEMAN WE OPPOSE HIS NOMINATION AS CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE. WE  
FEEL THAT POSITIONS OF THIS IMPORTANCE SHOULD BE FILLED BY  
SOMEONE WHOSE RECORD IS CLEAR INCLUDING THE POSSIBILITY OF ONE OF  
THE SEVERAL QUALIFIED NEGRO JURISTS IN MISSISSIPPI  
RICHARD BURKE CHAIRMAN OF LAWRENCE CORE.

July 29, 1965

Dear Mr. Lewis:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the appointment of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

Mr. Everett <sup>X</sup>Lewis  
601 West 120th Street  
Los Angeles, California

JBC:sar

C-9

ack 7/29/65 (SAR)

The White House  
Washington

1965 JUL 12 AM 5 39

WA012 NL PD 7 EXTRA

LOS ANGELES CALIF 11

THE PRESIDENT

THE WHITE HOUSE

MR PRESIDENT YOUR VOTING RIGHTS SPEECH GAVE ME A FEELING OF PRIDE  
AND I HAD NEVER FELT BEFORE AS AN AMERICAN NEGRO THEN  
YOU APPOINT COLEMAN TO THIS IMPORTANT COURT SHALL WE REALLY OVERCOME  
NOT THIS WAY MR. PRESIDENT

EVERETT LEWIS 601 WEST 120 ST LOS ANGELES.

FORM 808 PRINTED BY THE STANBARD REGISTER COMPANY, U. S. A.

July 29, 1965

Dear Miss Borough:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the appointment of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

Miss Madeleine <sup>X</sup>Borough  
5141 Dahlia Drive  
Los Angeles 41, California

JBC:sar

1965

ack'd 7/29/65 SAK 7/13

5141 Dahlia Dr  
Los Angeles, Calif. 90041  
July 8, 1965

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Mr. President:

I was shocked when I read <sup>yesterday</sup> the quotes, on school integration & other aspects of the Negro's struggle in the South, attributed to former Governor James P. Coleman. His appointment to the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals would be a slap in the face to every American concerned with establishing Civil Rights throughout our nation and I beg of you to withdraw the nomination of this notorious segregationist.

RECEIVED  
JUL 13 4 02 PM '65  
MEMPHIS HOUSE

Respectfully,  
Madeleine Barough



July 29, 1965

Dear Dr. Levy:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the appointment of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

X  
Dr. Albert Levy  
2054 Waycross Road  
Fremont, California

JBC:sar

15

*Con-Appointment*  
*ackd 7/29/65*  
*SAR*

2054 Waycross Road  
Fremont, California  
7/8/65

President Lyndon B. Johnson  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

*u*  
I respectfully submit that your appointment of James T. Coleman to the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals is not simply an affront to the Negro American (and if approved will greatly retard the achievement of his basic rights), but makes a mockery of those concepts of Freedom and Brotherhood that we would like to feel are foundation stones of our Democracy.

I urge you to rescind this nomination.

Respectfully submitted,

*Albert Levy*

Albert Levy, M. D.

RECEIVED  
JUL 13 4 04 PM '65  
THE WHITE HOUSE

2024 Waycross Road  
Fremont, California  
94525

President Lyndon B. Johnson  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

I respectfully submit that your appointment of James T. Colman to the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals is not simply an attempt to the Negro American (and if approved will greatly retard the achievement of his basic rights), but rather a work-  
any of these concepts of freedom and Brotherhood that we would like to feel are foundation stones of our democracy.

I urge you to rescind this nomination.

Respectfully submitted,

*Albert J. King*  
Albert J. King, N. Y.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
JUL 13 4 46 PM '65  
RECEIVED

July 29, 1965

Dear Mrs. Van Allen:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the appointment of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

X  
Mrs. Otilie Van Allen  
Box 45  
Eagleville, Pennsylvania 19433

JBC:sar

H  
E

ack  
7/29/65  
SAR

7/3  
Box 45, Eagleville  
Mont. Co., Pa. 19433

July 9, 1965

The President of the United States  
The White House, Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

This letter is to protest your nomination  
of James P. Coleman for judge of the  
Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals. As one  
of the architects of most of the segre-  
gationist laws of Mississippi, his  
appointment would cancel out all the  
effectiveness of the Civil Rights Act  
in that state.

(over)

I am writing as the chairman on legislation  
Norristown Chapter, Women's International  
League for Peace + Freedom.

Personally, and as spokesman for our  
chapter, I urge you to withdraw this  
nomination.

Very truly yours,

(Mrs.) Otilie Van Allen

THE WHITE HOUSE  
JUL 13 4 46 PM '65  
RECEIVED

July 29, 1965

Dear Mrs. Bridgeforth:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the appointment of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

Mrs. Neodros <sup>X</sup> Bridgeforth  
601 West 120th Street  
Los Angeles, California

JBC:sar

ack  
7/29/65  
SAR

The White House  
Washington

1965 JUL 12 AM 5 48

WA016 NL PD

LOS ANGELES CALIF 11

THE PRESIDENT

THE WHITE HOUSE

IT IS A BAD COMMENTARY ON THE SUCCESS OF AMERICAN DEMOCRACY  
IF WE MUST ACCEPT THE FACT THAT IN THE WHOLE STATE OF  
MISSISSIPPI NO PERSON FULLY QUALIFIED FOR THE POST OF  
FEDERAL JUDGE CAN BE FOUND WITH MORE MORAL CHARACTER AND SENSE OF  
DECENCY AND JUSTICE THAN MR COLEMAN IF ONE CANNOT BE FOUND  
189 YEARS AFTER ADOPTING THE BILL OF RIGHTS MAY GOD

FOUR FOR PRINTED BY THE STANDARD REGISTER COMPANY, U. S. A.

**HAVE MERCY ON US ALL**

**MRS NEODROS BRIDGEFORTH 601 WEST 120TH ST LA.**

July 29, 1965

Dear Mrs. Ferguson:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the appointment of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

X  
Mrs. Charlotte Ferguson  
5131 Woodlawn Boulevard  
Los Angeles, California

JBC:sar

ack  
7/29/65  
SAR

The White House  
Washington

1965 JUL 13 AM 12 45

WA017 NL PD 7 EXTRA

LOS ANGELES CALIF 12

THE PRESIDENT

THE WHITE HOUSE

IF DEMOCRACY IS TO SUCCEED AS A WAY OF LIFE, WE MUST MAKE IT  
A TRUE FACT. THE APPOINTMENT TO THE FIFTH CIRCUIT COURT OF MR.  
COLEMAN WHOSE PAST RECORD PROVES DISBELIEF IN THE PLEDGE OF  
FREEDOM AND JUSTICE FOR ALL, DOES NOT PROMOTE A  
REALIZATION OF OUR PLEDGE

MRS CHARLOTTE FERGUSON 5131 WOODLAWN BLVD LOSA.

FORM 405 PRINTED BY THE STANBARD PAPER CO.

July 29, 1965

Dear Miss Lavare:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the appointment of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

X  
Miss Ruth Lavare  
372 North 10th Street  
San Jose, California

JBC:sar

ack 7/21/65 SAIC

The White House  
Washington

1965 JUL 14 AM 5 13

WA007 POM

SAN JOSE CALIF 13

THE PRESIDENT

THE WHITE HOUSE

PLEASE HEAL TERRIBLE BLOW TO CIVIL RIGHTS BY WITHDRAWING COLEMANS

NOMINATION

RUTH LAVARE 372 NORTH 10TH ST SAN JOSE CALIF.

FORM 808 PRINTED BY THE STANDARD REGISTER COMPANY, N. Y. N. Y.

40200

July 29, 1965

Dear Mrs. Petersen:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the appointment of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

Mrs. Kathryn <sup>X</sup>Petersen  
531 Moraga Highway  
Orinda, California

JBC:ltd

FF  
ack  
7/3/69  
C 9  
Jed

4/16

RECEIVED  
JUN 16 1 13 PM '65  
THE WHITE HOUSE

531 Moraga Highway  
Orinda, Calif.  
June 6, 1965

President Johnson  
The White House  
Washington D. C.

Dear President Johnson:

I have been informed that you are considering the appointment of former Govenor Coleman as 5th Circuit Court Judge. I earnestly implore you not to make this appointment of one who would surely not be impartial especially as to matters concerning race. The Negro in the south has been denied even simple justice for so long, let us know slap him in the face with such an appointment.

Thank you.



(Mrs) Kathryn Petersen

THE WHITE HOUSE  
JUN 16 1 13 PM '65  
RECEIVED

331 Nevada Highway  
Orinda, Calif.  
June 8, 1965

President Johnson  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear President Johnson:

I have been informed that you are considering the  
appointment of former Governor Coleman as  
Circuit Court Judge. I earnestly implore you not  
to make this appointment of one who would surely not  
be impartial especially as to matters concerning race.  
The Negro in the south has been denied even simple  
justice for so long, let us know also him in the  
face with such an appointment.

Thank you.

*Walter Rosten*  
(Mrs) Walter Rosten

July 29, 1965

Dear Mr. Seyfert:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the appointment of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

X  
The Reverend Warren Seyfert  
Post Office Box 242  
Lincoln, Illinois 62656

JBC:ltd



# St. John United Church of Christ

Seventh and Maple Streets, Lincoln, Illinois 62656

Warren Seyfert, Pastor, P.O. Box 242

Telephone (217) 732-4431

July 10, 1965

*Appointm*

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Mr. President:

Along with many other Americans, I deeply appreciate the strong leadership you have given in the area of civil rights. Your forthright position has been a real inspiration especially to those of us in the Church.

If my information is correct, I understand that you have submitted to the Senate Judiciary Committee the name of J. B. Coleman, former governor of Mississippi, for approval as Judge of the Fifth Circuit Court.

It is my impression that as Judge of that Court he would be the one who would hear many of the actions brought for enforcement of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Somehow I find this particular selection difficult to understand. While many of us do not know Mr. Coleman personally, he has been a symbol of opposition to racial justice and the struggle for civil rights. In view of the positions he took while governor of Mississippi, I find it difficult to see how he could render fair judgments in this crucial area.

One of the disturbing factors about many Southern leaders is not that one questions their personal ability or integrity, but rather that their environmental conditioning appears to predetermine their judgments on racial questions. Happily, this is not true of all leaders in the South. I seriously doubt if many of us would question this appointment to some other judgeship or position of responsibility.

In the light of his past attitudes, efforts, and actions, it would seem that as citizens concerned for the civil rights of all Americans, we might justifiably question the selection of this particular person for this particular position. Certainly it would seem that the Courts must be the one place where all Americans can be confident of receiving justice.

I have communicated my concern to Senators Douglas and Dirksen and respectfully request, Mr. President, your reconsideration of this appointment.

Respectfully,

*Warren Seyfert*

St John United Church of Christ

THE WHITE HOUSE

Jul 12 6 10 PM '65

RECEIVED

Warren Siefert, Pastor, P.O. Box 342  
Telephone (317) 732-4431



The President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.  
Mr. President:

Along with many other Americans, I deeply appreciate the strong leadership you have shown in your efforts to bring about a position that has been a real indication especially to those of us in the Church.

If my information is correct, I understand that you have submitted to the Senate Judiciary Committee the name of J. B. Coleman, former Governor of Mississippi, for approval as Judge of the Fifth Circuit Court.

It is my impression that as Judge of that Court he would be the one who would bear many of the actions brought for enforcement of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

When I find this particular selection difficult to understand, this may be because Mr. Coleman personally, he has been a symbol of opposition to racial justice and the struggle for civil rights. In view of the position he took while Governor of Mississippi, I find it difficult to see how he could render fair judgments in this crucial area.

One of the disturbing factors about any Southern leader is not that one questions their personal ability or integrity, but rather that their environmental conditioning appears to preclude their judgments on racial questions. Surely, this is not true of all leaders in the South. I certainly hope it may be an exception in this case.

In the light of his past attitudes, efforts, and actions, it would seem that as citizens concerned for the civil rights of all Americans, we might justifiably question the selection of this particular person for this particular position. Certainly it would seem that the Court must be the one place where all Americans can be assured of receiving justice.

I have contacted my contacts in leaders, judges and citizens and respectfully request, Mr. President, your reconsideration of this appointment.

Respectfully,  
Warren Siefert

July 29, 1965

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Luthy:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the appointment of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

Mr. and Mrs. Robert P. Luthy  
2 Del Valle  
Orinda, California

JBC:ltd

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JUNE 3, 1965

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PRESIDENT LYNDON B. JOHNSON  
THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:

WE URGE THAT YOU DO NOT  
APPOINT FORMER GOVERNOR COLEMAN  
OF MISSISSIPPI TO THE 5<sup>TH</sup> CIRCUIT  
COURT OF APPEALS,

IT IS SELF-EVIDENT THAT  
SUCH AN APPOINTMENT WOULD NOT  
BE IN THE INTEREST OF ACHIEVING  
BALANCE IN SEEKING SOLUTIONS TO  
OUR COUNTRY'S RACIAL STRIFE.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CAREFUL  
CONSIDERATION OF THIS MATTER.

VERY TRULY YOURS,

Mr. + Mrs Robert P. Lutley  
2 Del Valle  
Orinda, Calif.

July 29, 1965

Dear Mr. Grodin:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the appointment of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

Mr. Joseph R. <sup>X</sup>Grodin  
1035 Russ Building  
San Francisco, California

JBC:ltd

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
JUN 15 1 40 PM '65  
RECEIVED

June 2, 1965

The President  
United States of America  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Re: Appointment to Fifth Circuit  
Court of Appeals

Mr. President:

As a practicing attorney and a participant in the current statutory challenge to seating of the Mississippi Congressional delegation, I take grave exception to your proposed appointment of ex-Mississippi Governor Coleman to the bench of the Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit of the United States.

The federal courts of the United States are now faced with the serious responsibility of interpreting and enforcing laws affecting the civil rights of millions of Negro Americans. A special responsibility is borne in this regard by the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals, for to its Justices come the major portion of those civil rights cases emanating out of the Southern United States.

Your recent pronouncements on the subject of civil rights have evidenced a concern for human dignity and justice which must not be diverted by any misguided spirit

THE WHITE HOUSE  
JUN 12 1 40 PM '65

RECEIVED

The President  
United States of America  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Re: Appointment to Fifth Circuit  
Court of Appeals

Mr. Tolson:

As a presiding attorney and a participant in the  
current statutory challenge to seating of the Mississippi  
Congressional delegation, I take grave exception to your  
proposed appointment of ex-Mississippi Governor Coleman to  
the bench of the Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit of  
the United States.

The federal courts of the United States are now  
faced with the serious responsibility of interpreting and  
enforcing laws affecting the civil rights of millions of  
New Americans. A special responsibility is borne in this  
regard by the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals, not to men  
Justice come the major portion of these civil rights cases  
emanating out of the Southern United States.

Your recent pronouncements on the subject of  
civil rights have evidenced a concern for human dignity and  
justice which must not be diverted by any misguided spirit

The President  
June 2, 1965  
Page Two

of compromise. It is my conviction, from personal experience in the very challenge which ex-Governor Coleman has chosen to defend on behalf of the Mississippi delegation, that he does not possess that quality of judicial impartiality concerning race relations which is necessary in any court, but which is indispensable in the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals. I strongly urge that you reconsider his appointment, choosing instead a man for whom fulfillment of the oath of office would prove less inconsistent with his previous public life.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph R. Grodin  
Signature

JOSEPH R. GRODIN  
Name

1035 Russ Bldg  
Address  
San Francisco

July 29, 1965

Dear Miss Stevens:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the appointment of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

Miss Mary L. <sup>X</sup>Stevens  
2057 Berkeley Way  
Berkeley, California

JBC:ltd

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20  
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6/10

ack  
7/3/65  
ack

THE WHITE HOUSE  
2057 Berkeley Way  
Berkeley, Calif.

Dear Mr. President:

Surely you realize it is  
madness to appoint Mr. J.P.  
Coleman to the United States  
Court of Appeals for the fifth circuit  
in New Orleans. Did he, as governor  
support the Constitution of the United  
States in Mississippi? Is this  
the way you fulfill your word of  
honour that "we shall overcome"?

With all due respect, I remain

Mary h. Stevens

5. June 1965

THE WHITE HOUSE

JUN 10 7 05 PM '65

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6/10

Handwritten notes in the top right margin, including the number '10' and some illegible scribbles.

Dear Mr. President:

I am pleased to hear that you are

interested in the

proposal to appoint Mr. G.P.

Colman to the United States

Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit

in New Orleans. It is a pleasure

to support the Constitution of the United

States in this manner. I am

pleased that you will find your way of

with all due respect, remains

Very truly yours,

John F. Kennedy

July 29, 1965

Dear Miss Vittor:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the appointment of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

Miss Marilyn <sup>X</sup>Vittor  
Apartment 315  
1456 University Terrace  
Ann Arbor, Michigan

JBC:sar

1456 University Terrace, Apt. 315  
Ann Arbor, Mich.  
July 7, 1965

The President  
The White House  
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. Johnson,

When I learned of the appointment of a leading segregationist, James Coleman, to the important Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals, I was both surprised and dismayed.

In my mind, judges should be biased only in favor of fair play, decency, and justice. Mr. Coleman does not qualify.

An article I read on Mr. Coleman stated this, "In 1956, when a Negro school teacher, Glennon King, attempted to register at the University of Mississippi, Coleman, then governor, had him committed to a state mental institution. In 1955, he said that as long as he was governor, "no Negro will ever enter the white schools of this state."

Also, the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party, a group which appears to have validity, has stated that Coleman made legal the Mississippi State Sovereignty Commission, a group which, they charge, puts state funds into segregationist groups.

How could such a man have been appointed to this position?

In light of some pretty damaging reports concerning the segregationist activities of Mr. Coleman, I urge you to do what you can to see that a hater of civil rights is not put in a position, such as the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals, where he can generate harm.

Sincerely,

*Marilyn Vittor*  
Marilyn Vittor

P.S. I have sent a copy of this letter to my state senator.

The President  
The White House  
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. Johnson,

When I learned of the appointment of a leading  
James Coleman, to the important Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals, I was both  
surprised and dismayed.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
Jul 9 5 35 PM '65

RECEIVED  
In my mind, judges should be biased only in favor of decency,  
and justice. Mr. Coleman does not qualify.

An article I read on Mr. Coleman stated that, "In 1956, when a Negro  
acted as a teacher, Coleman stated he registered at the University of Maryland,  
Coleman, then governor, had him committed to a state mental institution. In 1957,  
he said that as long as he was governor, "no Negro will ever enter the white schools  
of this state."

Also, the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party, a group which appears  
to have validity, has stated that Coleman made legal the Mississippi State  
Sovereignty Commission, a group which, they charge, puts state funds into  
segregationist groups.

How could such a man have been appointed to this position?

In light of some pretty damning reports concerning the  
segregationist activities of Mr. Coleman, I urge you to do what you can to see that  
a letter of civil rights is not put in a position, such as the Fifth  
Circuit Court of Appeals, where he can generate harm.

Sincerely,  
*W. Randolph Hearnes*  
W. Randolph Hearnes

P.S. I have sent a copy of this letter to my state senator.

July 29, 1965

Dear Mr. Rosen:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the appointment of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

X  
Mr. William M. Rosen  
7415 Byron Avenue  
Miami Beach, Florida 33141

JBC:sar

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ea.  
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President Johnson,  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
JUL 29 5 32 PM '65  
RECEIVED

Re: Governor Coleman Grave mistake nominating him.  
Should be withdrawn.

Dear President Johnson:

Sometimes, somehow, somewhere...we all make mistakes. I honestly believe that you made one when you nominated Gov. Coleman to be a Judge of the Appeals Court. The past record of Gov. Coleman clearly shows that he is anti-jewish, anti-Negro Negro.

It doesn't take much to find out how brutal this man handled his fellow-men (the Negroes) in Mississippi. For this reason alone you should not have nominated him.

The people Coleman will have to deal with most surely won't have any confidence in him. Mr. President, please do the right thing: Withdraw the name of Gov. Coleman to be a Judge of the Appeals Court.

Most Sincerely,



William M. Rosen

Voter in the 59th Dist.

7415 Byron Ave.

Miami Beach, Florida 33141

7-7-65

President Johnson,  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

THE WHITE HOUSE

JUL 9 5 35 PM '65

RECEIVED

Dear President Johnson:

Sometimes, somehow, we all make mistakes. I honestly believe that you made one when you nominated Gov. Coleman to be a Judge of the Appeals Court. The past record of Gov. Coleman clearly shows that he is anti-Jewish, anti-KKK, and Negro.


It doesn't take much to find out how biased and prejudiced the former Governor (the New York Times) is.

alone you should not have nominated him.

The people of Coleman will have to deal with what surely won't have any confidence in him. Mr. President, please do the right thing: Withdraw the name of Gov. Coleman to be a Judge of the

Appeals Court.

Most Sincerely,



William K. Rosen

Voter in the 5th Dist.

7415 Byron Ave.

Miami Beach, Florida 33141

7-7-65

July 29, 1965

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Laison:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the appointment of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

Mr. and Mrs. Gary B. Laison  
Route 1  
Nazareth, Pennsylvania

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R.D.1

Nazareth, Pa.

President Lyndon B. Johnson  
White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear President Johnson:

We find it very strange indeed, that you should say you are in favor of the Voting Rights Bill and then appoint former governor Coleman to the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals where he will be in a position to completely nullify the Bill. And after appointing Coleman, you suggest that there is no longer a need for demonstrations! If, by appointing Coleman, you change the present 5 to 4 structure of the Court to 5 to 4 in favor of segregation, the Voting Rights Bill will be useless. I am sure you already know this. With Coleman making a majority for segregation and with an end to demonstrations, perhaps you hope everybody will forget there is any problem whatsoever? To call for an end to demonstrations for voting rights, after appointing Coleman to that important Court, is merely an act of hypocrisy. The actual appointment is a good deal worse.

RECEIVED  
JUL 31 1965  
U.S. SENATE

Sincerely,

*Mr & Mrs. Gary B. Laison*

Mr. and Mrs. Gary B. Laison

*Handwritten notes and scribbles at the top of the page.*

S.D. I.  
Washington, D.C.

President Lyndon B. Johnson  
White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear President Johnson:

It is very strange indeed, that you should  
have been in favor of the Voting Rights Act and then  
appoint former Governor Coleman to the Fifth Circuit  
Court of Appeals where he will be in a position to  
completely nullify the Bill. And after appointing Coleman,  
you suggest that there is no longer a need for demonstrational  
acts, by appointing Coleman. You change the present 5 to 4  
structure of the Court to 2 to 4 in favor of segregation,  
the Voting Rights Bill will be useless. I am sure you  
already know this. With Coleman making a majority for  
segregation and with an act to demonstrational, perhaps you  
hope everybody will agree there is no problem whatsoever.  
To call for an administration for voting rights,  
after appointing a man to that important Court, is merely  
an act of hypocrisy. A similar appointment is a good deal  
worse.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
JUL 14 11 41 AM '65  
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*Handwritten signature:*  
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry P. Johnson  
Mr. and Mrs. Gary B. Johnson

July 29, 1965

Dear Mrs. Goldman:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the appointment of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

Mrs. May Goldman  
1750 Silverwood Terrace  
Los Angeles 26, California

JBC:sar

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7/29/65  
SAR

Mrs. May Goldman  
1750 Silverwood Terrace  
Los Angeles 26, Calif.

July 2, 1965.

Pres. Lyndon B. Johnson,  
The White House,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

I was shocked by your appointment of Mr. James Coleman to the all-important Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals. It is hardly consistent with your fight for civil rights, and in the face of an effort now being made to unseat the five segregationist congressmen from Mississippi as not being truly representative of all the citizens of that state.

Even Rep. Don Edwards has said of this appointment: "It is ironic that at the very point that the American government and the people have taken steps to eradicate segregation from this country, the American President should appoint to the court a man committed to frustrating the will of the people and the human rights to guaranteed to every man, regardless of race".

In 1956, I understand that Mr. Coleman, then governor of Mississippi, had a negro teacher, Clennen King, committed to a state mental institution because he attempted to register at the University of Mississippi. In 1955 he said that as long as he was governor, "no negro will ever enter the white schools of this state."

This is the man you appointed to such a position in six racist states! Can you blame the conscientious citizen for questioning your sincerity?

(Mrs.) May Goldman

THE WHITE HOUSE

THE WHITE HOUSE

JUL 14 4 28 PM '65

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carefully

consideration of them for questioning your citizenship in six brief weeks. Can you blame the

This is the man you appointed to such a

to enter the White House of John F. Kennedy?

It is long as he was Governor, the Negro will

diversity of Americans. In 1952 he said

of color because he attempted to register in

of color, committed to a state which in-

the Governor of Mississippi, had a Negro father,

in 1950, I understand that Mr. Coleman,

franked to every man, regardless of race.

will of the people and the human rights to

point to the court was committed to insuring

this country, the American President should ap-

have taken steps to eradicate segregation from

that the American Government and the people

believe: It is ironic that at the very point

Even Mr. Don Edwards has said of this ap-

of all the citizens of that state.

Mississippi as not being truly representative

and the five segregationist congressmen from

the face of an effort now being made to im-

and with your rights for civil rights, and in

could Court of Appeals. It is hardly conside-

James Coleman to the all-important 114th con-

I was shocked by your appointment of Mr.

Dear Mr. President:

Washington, D.C.

The White House,

Pres. Lyndon B. Johnson,

July 5, 1965.

La Grange 50 Calif.

1350 Silverwood Terrace

After Miss Robinson

7-14

Handwritten notes and signatures at the top of the page, including "Mr. [unclear]" and "Mrs. [unclear]".

July 29, 1965

Dear Mr. Galloway:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the nomination of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after vdry careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

X  
Mr. Paul Galloway  
Editor  
Alumni Publications  
X University of Oklahoma  
Norman, Oklahoma

JBC:nh

6 Con-Appointment 7/6



**UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA ASSOCIATION**  
Independent Organization of Graduates & Former Students  
ALUMNI DEVELOPMENT FUND • SOONER MAGAZINE

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RECEIVED

Norman, Oklahoma  
July 2, 1965

President Lyndon B. Johnson  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear President Johnson:

Your decision to appoint James P. Coleman to the Court of Criminal Appeals is astonishing, and, I must add, disgusting.

I hope you will reconsider this appointment and take a step forward instead of backward.

Sincerely,

*Paul Galloway*

Paul Galloway  
Editor, Alumni Publications  
University of Oklahoma

THE WHITE HOUSE

UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA ASSOCIATION

JUL 6 5 44 PM '65

RECEIVED

Forward Oklahoma  
July 2, 1965



President Lyndon B. Johnson  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear President Johnson:

I am pleased to report that the  
Court of Criminal Appeals is reviewing the  
case and, hopefully,

I hope you will reconsider this appointment and  
take a step toward instead of

Very truly yours,  
Tommy G. Coffey  
Director, Alumni Relations  
University of Oklahoma

~~Matt Coffey -~~

MLW

~~Do you want to readdress~~

A.D.A. Readdress  
1223 Conn. Ave. N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20036

July 29, 1965

Dear Mr. Shull:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the appointment of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

X  
Mr. Leon Shull  
National Director  
Americans for Democratic Action (on env. - 1223 Conn. Ave. N.W.)  
Washington, D.C. 20036 re-mailed - 8/20/65

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The White House  
Washington

1965 MAY 15 PM 3 53

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WASHINGTON DC 15 259P EDT

THE PRESIDENT

THE WHITE HOUSE

AMERICANS FOR DEMOCRATIC ACTION NATIONAL BOARD TODAY UNANIMOUSLY  
INSTRUCTED ME TO URGE YOU NOT TO APPOINT GOVERNOR COLEMAN TO THE FEDERAL  
JUDICIARY. COLEMANS STATEMENTS IN 1963 GUBERNATORIAL CAMPAIGN  
WERE AS BAD OR WORSE THAN THOSE OF PAUL JOHNSTON. COLEMAN  
PUT MORE ANTI-NEGRO LEGISLATION ON STATUTE BOOKS OF MISSISSIPPI THAN  
ANY OTHER GOVERNOR. HIS APPOINTMENT WOULD DISCREDIT FINE CIVIL

FORM 805 PRINTED BY THE STANDARD SERVICE COMPANY, U.S.A.

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RIGHTS RECORD OF THIS ADMINISTRATION  
LEON SHULL NATIONAL DIRECTOR ADA.

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July 30, 1965

N.Y., N.Y.

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JUL 31 5 14 PM '65  
THE WHITE HOUSE

President Lyndon B. Johnson  
White House  
Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

I am vigorously opposed to your recent appointment of James P. Coleman to the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals. I was shocked and dismayed that you should appoint a former governor of Mississippi, an avowed segregationist, to any important position, let alone to a Federal judgeship in the district where the main struggle for democracy is being fought. This is a direct slap in the face of the Negro people who are courageously fighting for their civil rights.

I request that in your subsequent appointments of individuals to positions of grave responsibility, a greater measure of consideration be exercised by you and that, as your appointees, individuals be selected who are more truly representative of the spirit of American democracy.

Respectfully yours,

*Jo Ann Strom*

July 30, 1965

THE WHITE HOUSE  
AUG 2 6 16 PM '65  
RECEIVED

President Lyndon B. Johnson  
White House  
Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

I am vigorously opposed to your recent appointment of James P. Coleman to the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals. I was shocked and dismayed that you should appoint a former Governor of Mississippi, an avowed segregationist, to any important position, let alone to a Federal judgeship in the district where the main struggle for democracy is being fought. This is a direct slap in the face of the Negro people who are courageously fighting for their civil rights.

I request that in your subsequent appointments of individuals to positions of grave responsibility, a greater measure of consideration be exercised by you and that, as your appointees, individuals be selected who are more truly representative of the spirit of American democracy.

Respectfully yours,

*J. Edgar Hoover*

George E. Reedy /msg-Reid/C\*

August 2, 1965

Dear J. P.:

You put your finger right on the basic problem. The doctors tell me that if I had gone barefoot all my life, I would have no problems.

I do want you to know that your good wishes meant much to me, especially as they came from a man for whom I have a great deal of admiration.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

GEORGE

George E. Reedy  
Press Secretary  
to the President

Hon. James P. Coleman  
Ackerman, Mississippi

GER:mcc

August 2, 1965

Dear Governor:

The faith that I have in you has now been reinforced by the Senate of the United States. I have no doubt but what you will fulfill your duties with dignity and honor and skill.

Sincerely,



LYNDON B. JOHNSON

Honorable James P. Coleman  
Ackerman  
Mississippi

LBJ:JV:ny



THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE

ROUTE SLIP

(To remain with correspondence)

Date: August 5, 1965

TO: Mr. Calvin Kittle, Acting Director, Community Relations Service

Prompt handling is essential. Correspondence should be answered or other necessary action taken within 48 hours after arrival at the department or agency. If any delay is encountered, please telephone office of the undersigned.

Please handle the attached correspondence as indicated below:

- A. Reply on behalf of the President .....
- B. Draft for presidential signature .....
- C. Draft for undersigned's signature .....
- D. Other:
  - (1) For background briefing on which to base reply from this office .....
  - (2) For suitable acknowledgement or other appropriate handling ..... XX
  - (3) For your information .....
  - (4) For comment .....

Furnish this office with a copy of your reply. Yes XX No

Return the original correspondence to this office. Yes No

REMARKS:

Post card to Mr. George Reedy from Rosemary Redd, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C., 7-2-65, regarding the appointment of J.P. Coleman, and alleging discrimination in an Alexandria, Virginia restaurant.

By direction of the President:

4

Hobart Taylor, Jr. Associate Counsel to the President

RECEIVED AUG 5 1965 CENTRAL FILES

August 6, 1965

Dear Mr. Stern:

For the President, I want to acknowledge your comments concerning the nomination of Governor James P. Coleman.

Please be assured that it was only after very careful consideration that the President made this selection, and he is confident that in the months ahead Governor Coleman will demonstrate his suitability for this post.

Sincerely,

151

John B. Clinton  
Staff Assistant  
to the President

Mr. Edward Stern  
47 Kearney  
San Francisco, California

JBC:nh

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501

The White House  
Washington

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SAN FRANCISCO CALIF 8 1037A PDT

THE PRESIDENT

THE WHITE HOUSE

IT IS REPORTED THAT FORMER GOVERNOR J P COLEMAN OF  
MISSISSIPPI IS TO BE NOMINATED TO FILL A VACANCY ON THE U S  
COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE 5TH CIRCUIT. WE STRONGLY PROTEST  
THE POSSIBLE CHOICE OF GOVERNOR COLEMAN. ON HIS PUBLIC RECORD HE  
IS NOTHING IF NOT A STOUT SEGREGATIONIST. THE 5TH CIRCUIT  
IS THE MOST IMPORTANT COURT IN THE LAND WITH RESPECT TO CIVIL

RIGHTS LITIGATION, THE COUNTRY CANNOT AFFORD  
AN AVOWED SEGREGATIONIST SITTING ON THIS COURT  
EDWARD STERN PRESIDENT AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS  
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA DIVISION.