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## Correspondence, John C. Stennis, February 4-6, 1948

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JACKSON 108, MISSISSIPPI

Feb. 4, 1948

Senator John C. Stennis,  
Senate office Bldg.  
Washington, D.C.

Answered

Dear Friend,

I have just read what you had to say before the Sub-Committee now considering the proposed Anti-Lynching Bill. Your reasoning is sound, logical and to the point. The citations to which you refer are not familiar to me, but I am sure they apply forcefully to the matter in question just as you stated they do.

As you have so forcefully said, there is no occasion for such a law in the first place, and second it can in reality have no legal standing. It has always been my thought that if such a law were passed it would be unconstitutional, as would its fellow travelers in the group proposed for political reasons.

You have given a statesman-like account of yourself in this matter and I am sure you will do on all matters coming up for your consideration.

Sincerely your friend,  
[Signature]

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## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON  
RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

February 6, 1948

*Civil Rights*

Hon. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Jackson 108, Mississippi

My dear Friend:

There are no friends like old friends, and I most sincerely appreciate your fine and encouraging letter of February 4th. Just twenty years ago I started out in the Mississippi Legislature and you were one of the ones who started me off. The going is hard, rough and sometimes tough here, but I am getting started and expect to get established on a sound foundation. That takes time, though, and that is something that some of our friends in Mississippi sometimes overlook.

I am pleased that my statement was in line with your ideas and I am going to continue my evidence on this subject and my brief at the next Committee meeting which is now scheduled for February 16th, having been postponed from last Friday.

We from the South are in terribly hot water up here but we are going to keep on fighting and I believe we will finally emerge with some kind of a victory over the months. I deeply appreciate your letter and your encouragement and want you to give me the benefit of your counsel from time to time.

Also, I deeply appreciate your personal friendship and am interested in your continued welfare down the years, which I hope will bring you much sunshine.

With good wishes, I am

Cordially your friend,

U. S. S.

JCS:eh