

2-24-1948

Correspondence, John C. Stennis, February 24-28, 1948

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OFFICE OF
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
SUNFLOWER COUNTY

HON. S. F. DAVIS, JUDGE
HON. HOWARD DYER, JR.
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
R. D. EVERITT, COUNTY ATTORNEY

C. C. CAMPBELL, CLERK

COURT TERMS:
MARCH TERM: FOUR WEEKS
BEGINNING 1ST MONDAY IN MARCH
SEPTEMBER TERM: FOUR WEEKS
BEGINNING 1ST MONDAY IN SEPTEMBER

INDIANOLA, MISS.

February 24, 1948

file

a/

Senator John C. Stennis,
Washington, D. C.

Dear John:

With conditions such as we are passing through I imagine some times you wish you were Circuit Judge instead of Senator, but stand your ground and keep up the fight just as you have been.

The bunch that I went to Jackson with on Thursday were fighting mad, and from the conversation I could tell they thought you should be in a more fighting mood, but I think different for the reason as you already know some of the same crowd including Wright, Sillers, Wolf and many others had the same agreement four years ago, and when the New Deal put the heat on Tom Bailey got them in line for the "Pink Ticket" which was all wrong. Just fight them with all you have and use the legal route.

It is very popular now to hit them and hit them hard, so you might increase the tempo from time to time, but do so in your own way as I know you know how to do it. From little squibs in the papers it looks as if some of Wrights friends are trying to get him built up for your running mate five years hence, but that will all blow over and there are lots of things that can happen in the mean time, and he can not make the grade I don't think. Just as a reminder until they are tried and true I would weigh all advice and information that I am sure you will receive from various parts of the State, as lots of it will be for what ever they may think they can get out of it. You of course have been the route long enough to know this.

Your loyal friends are well satisfied and they thought your speech in Jackson was O. K., so just keep it up. There is one thing that people are about to agree on, and that is it is about time the Government quit putting out money for every thing that comes up, and so long as they call on the Government then of course they are going to want to dictate the running of things. That is one reason we are in the mess we are now.

Senator John C. Stennis,
Washington, D. C.

The Roosevelt Administration is becoming more and more unpopular on the account of the Civil-Rights Bill and other Truman doctrines. There are a number of people who will not support Truman now regardless of what happens in the future, as they have lost all faith and respect for him which I think is well founded. He is just too small for the place he occupies.

Weather conditions still unfavorable and business is at a stand still, and will be until spring weather opens up. I do not think I ever saw as much mud in my life over in Kemper as the day I went for the car. As I told you in Jackson I surely appreciate what you did for me on that job and of course I stand ready at any time to reciprocate in any way that I can.

Any time I can furnish you with a mailing list or any other information you might want or need do not hesitate to call on me.

With kind personal regards and best wishes, I am,

Sincerely your friend,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Cecil". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "Cecil".

C. WAYLAND BROOKS, ILL., CHAIRMAN
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JOHN C. STENNIS, MISS.

ALBERT L. SEIDEL, CLERK

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

February 28, 1948

Civil Rights

Indianola, Mississippi

Dear [REDACTED]

Your letter reached me this morning and you can hardly know how much it is appreciated, as a good firm word of counsel from one that you absolutely know is one hundred per cent your friend can and does certainly mean a great deal. You have been a great help to me and I want you to know that I appreciate it very much.

I was glad to see you in Jackson and appreciated your counsel and advice there. It might have helped me more to have spoken more about myself there, but I thought that I should use my time in talking about the problem and the situation. You know that I have been on the Bench for eleven years where restraint is the watchword and it has taken me some time to adjust myself to using fighting language. I am getting myself into the work here though and hope to get in the swing of things more and more as time passes. However I want you and my friends to know that I am not trying to follow the spectacular route and "raise hell" all the time. Whatever may be the proper course for others to take, I know that that is not the course for me to take. I have some mighty good advisors here in the Senate as to the method in which to proceed and shall follow them. Generally speaking, an approach here that will help you in Mississippi will hurt you here and will greatly lessen your chances to build into a position of effective leadership here.

I deeply appreciate your counsel and want you to write me freely from time to time. Please give my special regards to Mrs. Campbell and your charming daughter, who I hope is having a good year at school.

With very best wishes to you and yours, I am

Your friend,

U. S. S.

JCS/11