

2-16-1949

Correspondence, John C. Stennis, February 16-18, 1949

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarsjunction.msstate.edu/jcs-civil-rights-correspondence>

Preferred Citation

[Title], John C. Stennis Collection. Mississippi Political Collections, Mississippi State University Libraries.

This Letter is brought to you for free and open access by the John C. Stennis Digital Collections at Scholars Junction. It has been accepted for inclusion in Civil Rights Correspondence by an authorized administrator of Scholars Junction. For more information, please contact scholcomm@msstate.libanswers.com.

FEB 18 1949

Room 244
[REDACTED]

Chicago 37, Illinois

February 16, 1949

Hon. John C. Stennis
Senate Office Building

Dear Senator Stennis:

A speech which you delivered last year, "Dismantling the Constitution", came to my attention recently when the University of Chicago Roundtable's pamphlet listed it as a suggested reading in connection with their broadcast on the civil-rights program. If you have any available copies of this speech I should greatly appreciate having one.

I should also appreciate some information concerning the proposed anti-lynching legislation. If this anti-lynching law were enacted would mob violence resulting from labor disputes or mob violence resulting from a race riot in a northern big city be under federal jurisdiction? With so few lynchings and such a comparatively larger number of the other types of mob violence the legislation appears totally worthless if the other crimes are not included. Of course, even their inclusion would not alter the question of constitutionality which is involved in the entire program.

Your information on the subject would be most welcome.

Sincerely,
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

(32) Anti-lynch

C. WAYLAND BROOKS, ILL., CHAIRMAN
KENNETH S. WHERRY, NEBR. CARL HAYDEN, ARIZ.
BOURKE B. HICKENLOOPER, IOWA THEODORE FRANCIS GREEN, R. I.
WILLIAM F. KNOWLAND, CALIF. BRIEN MC MAHON, CONN.
HENRY CABOT LODGE, JR., MASS. FRANCIS J. MYERS, PA.
WILLIAM E. JENNER, IND. JOHN C. STENNIS, MISS.
JOHN W. BRICKER, OHIO
IRVING M. IVES, N. Y.

ALBERT L. SEIDEL, CLERK

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

February 18, 1949

Mr. [REDACTED]
Room 244
[REDACTED]
Chicago 37, Illinois

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]:

This will acknowledge with thanks your letter of February 16th in regard to the Civil Rights legislative program. I am enclosing a copy of my speech, "Dismantling the Constitution", which you requested.

The proposed anti-lynching legislation that has previously been introduced does not cover the subject of violence in labor disputes or race riots, unless some action in connection with these matters were to fit the definition of a lynching. I understand that amendments to any new anti-lynching bill which will be brought up for consideration will be offered to cover such situations, and I am in accord with such proposals.

My belief is that the crime of lynching can best be combatted by an approach from the local scene. It is the local officials who have to take the action that will result in the prevention of any threatened lynching, and it is the people on the scene who must be convinced that lynching is a crime of horror to all good standards of citizenship.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

U. S. Senator

Enclosure

FES:eh