

5-26-1958

## Senator Stennis Civil Rights Correspondence B04F41L01

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C O P Y

## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

May 26, 1958

EVERARD H. SMITH, CLERK  
THOMAS J. SCOTT, ASST. CLERK

Honorable Joseph Campbell  
Comptroller General of the United States  
General Accounting Office  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Campbell:

Many legal issues were presented by the action taken in the use of soldiers and the Arkansas National Guard at Little Rock. The federalization of the Guard undertaken pursuant to Executive Order 10730, in my opinion, did not comply with the procedural requirements of law for such use of the Army National Guard under 10 U.S.C. 3500.

I realize that the courts now have under consideration the broader question of whether the substantive conditions under which these Guardsmen were called into Federal service met the requirements of law. With regard to the actual payment of Federal funds to the Guardsmen, however, if you are not already doing so, I request that you look into the procedural steps taken in federalizing the Arkansas National Guard and determine whether, in this instance, a legal disbursement was made of funds appropriated for national defense.

Sincerely yours,

John Stennis  
United States Senator

JS/add