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## Senator Stennis Civil Rights Correspondence B04F46L01

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32 - Mississippi  
Boycott

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United States Senate  
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

HARRY L. WINGATE, JR., CHIEF CLERK

January 15, 1965

[Redacted]

Publisher  
Daily Times Leader  
West Point, Mississippi

Dear [Redacted]:

Your letter of January 7th to Congressman Resnick is just splendid -- in fact, nothing short of excellent. I commend you highly for the approach and tone of your letter, and for the conclusive facts and arguments you make. If more of us in Mississippi would answer the arguments made against us, not in kind but with the logic and tact which you have used in this instance, we would get along better.

I want to especially thank you for sending me the copy of your letter, and I commend you again for the splendid manner in which you handled this. Too, I am glad to learn the actual facts and I can use your letter here with some of my colleague in the Senate.

We need not fool ourselves, [Redacted]. These accusations against us have been making some headway in the public mind and in many places in the nation, and this puts us on the spot of course. We must avoid incidents as best we can, and we must do what we can in seeing that the real truth gets through. You are certainly doing your part.

I am deeply concerned about the matter pending here as to the final seating of our delegation in the House. I think their seating will be made final all right, but after considerable delay and after the taking of a lot of testimony. And if this continues in its present trend, the real test could come on the seating of those elected in 1966. Certainly, this is something all of us must keep on our mind.

It is always good to hear from you and I will appreciate any suggestions you have to make from time to time. Frankly, I am spending the most of my time here trying to get the understanding of my fellow Senators with regard to our special problem in Mississippi, including the idea of trying to make them see and realize that this boycott threat, which I consider mighty serious indeed, can very quickly backfire or arise against their States for other reasons.

With appreciation and with warmest good wishes, I am

Your friend,

John Stennis  
United States Senator