

BOWERS, DIXON & DUNN

ATTORNEYS

COMER BUILDING

BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

(3)

LLOYD G. BOWERS
FRANK M. DIXON
EVANS DUNN

August 31, 1944

The Honorable Chauncey Sparks
Governor of Alabama
State Capitol
Montgomery, Alabama

My dear Chauncey:

I noted with very great interest your immediate reaction to the order of the War Department abolishing segregation at Maxwell Field and at other Army Posts.

It is a heartbreaking thing for those of us in the South who realize what the destruction of segregation would mean, and yet are determined to give the negro a better break, to have all our plans wrecked by the type of very dangerous thinking which produced this order. Of course, the President and Mrs. Roosevelt are directly responsible for it and regard it as a very great victory. They see eye to eye with the Political Action Committee and regard this fool order as a great step forward. The net result of it is, and will be, a tremendous increase in tension, because it opens a festering sore at exactly the point which is most sensitive to the Southern people.

Our situation as Southern Democrats is rapidly becoming absolutely intolerable.

This letter does not call for an answer. I simply want you to know how greatly I approve of your courageous stand and how deeply I sympathize with you in your efforts to do the job to which the people of Alabama elected you, in a sane and intelligent way, and with justice to all of the elements among our people.

Good luck and best wishes. I am looking forward to the fishing trip.

Regards,

Frank

Frank M. Dixon

FMD/cp