

ATLANTA UNIVERSITY

ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30314

July 10, 1967

EOA

SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Mr. Eugene Patterson, Editor
Atlanta Constitution
10 Forsyth Street Building
Atlanta, Georgia

Dear Mr. Patterson:

Mr. Coffin's article in Monday, July 10, 1967, Constitution contains unfounded speculation concerning my desires in connection with the selection of a new EOA Director.

There is no objection to the mentioning of my name as a possible candidate, but Mr. Coffin goes beyond the bounds of reasonable judgment and speculation when he indicates that I "apparently want the job." The record will show that my former appointment to the program was made prior to any formal application and was accepted by me only after pressure from the Negro community was exerted.

Many people, including some whites, have inquired about my availability for the position with EOA and all have received a negative reply. It would have been an easy matter for Mr. Coffin to check with me before writing the news release. Indeed, the article gives the impression of exceeding comment and analysis; it is dangerously close to attempting to influence what happens.

I would appreciate having my feelings expressed accurately or having this letter published in your newspaper.

Sincerely yours,

Tilman C. Cothran
Tilman C. Cothran, Chairman
Department of Sociology

TCC:BK

cc: Mr. Alex Coffin, Reporter
Atlanta Constitution



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