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REGISTERED PATENT
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September 13, 1966

Hon. Ivan Allen, Mayor
City Hall
Atlanta, Georgia

Dear Mayor Allen,

As a Democratic candidate for Mayor of Baltimore City in next year's primary election, please allow me to congratulate you, and express my broad admiration, for the great social progress which has been made under your leadership by Atlanta whites and Negroes; and for your excellent handling of the explosive situation brought upon you from outside by those like Stokely Carmichael who are too full of hostility and too empty of patience, and who, unlike any truly forward-looking citizen, have no stake in the future of your progressive community. In short, those who, in the memorable phrase of the elder Rev. Martin Luther King, were referred to by him when he said "Seems like nobody here wants to understand anybody".

I hope that before many months have passed, the Negro community of Atlanta, as well as Negro community of Baltimore and of America will realize that racial progress for Negroes and the protection of the liberties of both whites and Negroes requires a studious increase in the measure of civic responsibility which is exercised not only by whites, but by Negroes.

As it was said in Luke Chapter 12, "Unto whomsoever much has been given, of him will much be required".

If you'll pardon a presently unpopular pronouncement, much has been given to whites and much has been given to Negroes.

Very sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Leonard J. Kerpelman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'L' and a long, sweeping underline.

Leonard J. Kerpelman

LJK:ah

Enclosure

cc: Local (Baltimore) press