

Memo to the Mayor:

No one doubts your courage -- but there are reasons to question your wisdom.

I never have voted for Lester Maddox, and after the first primary I decided that if Windbag Ellis and Axe-Handle Lester were the best the democrats could offer I would vote for Callaway. I still expect to do so.

However, your fiery blast, following fast on the dolorous pronouncement of Martin Luther King, gave Maddox an immediate advantage and a fast start.

Now all Lester needs is for Ralph Magill and the Atlanta newspapers to take out after him. You Atlanta boys will persecute him into another landslide victory!

You seem to forget that Atlanta is not all Georgia. If enough Atlantans publicly become "ashamed of Georgia," and line up against Maddox, the rest of the state will gleefully elect Lester and feel no remorse about your shame and sorrow.

Remember Georgia voted for Goldwater (rather, against LBJ and the national democratic party) -- and can go for Maddox. Every attack like yours, coming out of Atlanta or Washington, will make thousands of votes for Maddox!

Maddox carried some 130 or 140 counties. If you make the voters mad enough, they will vote for him again.



Mayor Ivan Allen Jr.

City Hall

Atlanta, Ga.