

October 2, 1966

Dear Ms Allen,

Several times in the last few weeks many Georgians have had the opportunity to be very proud of the mayor of Atlanta. I am one of those Georgians.

Your conduct throughout the "Snick" inspired upheaval was most admirable. It was a prime example of sanity, wisdom, and sheer courage being applied to a dangerous situation.

Another dangerous situation arose on September 28th portending far more violence and grief than a few nights of riots. Of all our leaders, only one seemed to have the courage to call a spade a spade. Your statement to Georgia and the nation expressed what I hope is the feeling of the majority of the people of this state.

The insipient statement, "I will support the nominee", is as dangerous as it is laughable. I can see no justifiable reason to support Lester Maddox. Nor will I be stampeded to the camp of another immoderate.

There's a lot of talk over here of "going fishing with Mayor Allen on Nov. 8." I'd prefer a write-in effort on behalf of someone. Then we could really go fishing, or play golf, or enjoy the stadium with a clear conscience for the next four years.

Thank you again,

Sincerely,

Philip C. Smith
Athens, Georgia