

William Voigt, Jr.
R. D. 3
MECHANICSBURG, PA.

July 26, 1963

Mayor Ivan Allen
City of Atlanta
Atlanta, Ga.

Dear Mr. Mayor:

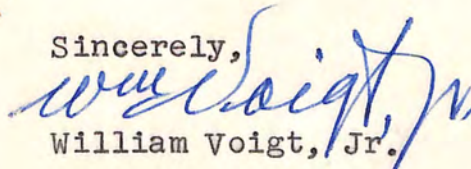
The television news reports and the newspaper accounts of your appearance before the Senate committee on the civil rights issue left me proud of the city of my birth tonight.

Don't let the "junior" on my name fool you; I was a reporter for the old Georgian-American when Bill Hartsfield was a young alderman in 1926. I followed his actions in preventing racial discord when he was mayor, and liked the way he handled matters.

Now you have proved more than a worthy successor, in my view; you've gone a step further, a long step.

Economic integration cannot be withheld any longer. It is inevitable; it must come. Social integration is another matter. We have no choice on the former; we do have a choice on the latter.

This is one of the key areas of reasoning, in my view. If it has been used in treating with the die hards, it has not been so reported in the press of the North, where I have lived most of my adult years. It may be worth considering as we painfully creep toward giving the Negro his long overdue due. It may possibly be an argument to use in hastening the day of equal economic rights and treatment.

Sincerely,

William Voigt, Jr.