

7930 ROSELAND DRIVE
LA JOLLA, CALIFORNIA

September 8, 1966

The Honorable Ivan Allen
Mayor of Atlanta
City Hall
Atlanta, Georgia

Dear Mr. Allen:

Last night I sent you the telegram in the paragraph following.

Seeing your courage, calmness, and common sense on television made me proud that I had known your father. Stop. When last in Atlanta I learned from colored people themselves of the esteem they still had for my friend and classmate, William B. Hartsfield. You both add glory to the city of Grady, Harris, Mitchell, Woodruff, and hundreds of thousands more great and good people. Resurgens

Edward Dessau Clarkson

My thought was that perhaps my dear friend Bill Hartsfield could give valuable help towards maintaining the reputation and name of the city of which I still consider myself a citizen in sentiment. In the spring of 1944 while I was recuperating from W.W. II injuries in an army hospital the persuasion came to me that unless something were done to prevent it there would be great racial troubles following the close of the war.

I found that Washington, Jefferson, and Lincoln had had ideas along the lines which I thought were original with me. That is, of patriating our colored population in the land of their origin. I found that the late Senator Bilbo had presented ideas along this line in the U.S. Senate. I did a great deal of work on the matter and when sufficiently recovered visited Senator Bilbo at his home in Poplarville, Mississippi.

Senator Bilbo was very anxious for me to allow parts of my work to be published in the congressional record, but for various reasons I did not think it advisable at that time. However, now I feel a compulsion that my work be available to help this situation which confronts our nation. I know how very occupied you are at this time, hence will await your reply before going into the matter further. Again with congratulations on your splendid stand and efforts now I am

Very sincerely yours,

Edward Clarkson

Edward D. Clarkson

*I was formerly a member of AAC-CCC & PDC in
Atlanta*