

September 9, 1966

Honorable Ivan Allen Jr.
Mayor of Atlanta
City Hall
68 Mitchell Street, S. W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Dear Mr. Allen:

As Chairman of the Atlanta Federal Executive Board, which represents the Federal Community, I want to commend you for the leadership displayed during recent events in this city. Your ability to cope with difficult problems has long been recognized. The action you took this week again proves this point. Your foresight, understanding, and sincerity was the major contributing factor which turned a potential disaster into a controlled situation. The active participation by you indicated the courage and personal conviction a true leader must possess. In a time like this, few people have exhibited greater interest in assuring that the rights of all are considered. Results of this attitude are reflected in the acceptance to change throughout the city of Atlanta.

The Atlanta Police Department also merits the highest recognition for its excellent control of the outbreak. It proves that they are well trained, capable and responsible law enforcement officials. Please pass to them our compliments for a job well done.

We in the Federal Executive Board stand ready to provide assistance now or in the future. I know that both of us want Atlanta to be a true symbol of freedom for all, where each man is a citizen with equal rights and where he is given the opportunity to fulfill his community responsibilities.

Again, I commend you and pledge our support in moving Atlanta forward.

Sincerely yours,

W. J. Bookholt