

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 11, 1964

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Goodman:

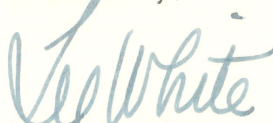
I appreciated receiving the copy of the statement you made last week and agree that your son's death was more than just a personal and family tragedy.

Even though I recognize how little consolation one can find in the death of three young men, it seems to me that at least, in this case, there were some visible positive results and perhaps some yet to appear. First of all, the suddenness and the nature of their disappearance seemed to sober not only the participants in the program but the people of Mississippi as well, including law enforcement authorities. In addition, the disappearance afforded an opportunity for the Federal and State governments to cooperate sincerely and genuinely, first in an effort to find the boys, and secondly in an effort to find those responsible for the crime.

The trying and traumatic experience you have undergone was to some extent shared by the Nation, and although I know there is no doubt in your mind, I can assure you the President's interest has been both deep and personal.

If there is any way we can be of assistance, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Lee C. White".

Lee C. White
Associate Special Counsel
to the President

Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Goodman
161 West 86 Street
New York City, New York