August 17, 1964

The President of the United States
The White House

Dear Mr. President:

Your letter has given us a great measure of comfort and reassured us that Andrew's life and death will be one of lasting meaning. That you and Mrs. Johnson share with us our loss, notwithstanding the overburdened urgency of the Presidency, is for us a testimony of your compassion.

We believe, as you do by your expression, that the unique value of the individual is built strongly into the fabric of our society. This gives us the strength to face our son's death without despair. With you we believe the cause for which Andrew died is truly among the most significant in the affairs of mankind and deep in the remembering blood of our history.

People from every part of our land have written us to express their profound identification. Nothing you can do will bring more honor to your office, to our nation and its people, than the fruition of the noble work you have begun in this struggle for decency and equality. Your pledge that everything possible will be done to apprehend those responsible is as essential to this cause as it is imperative that justice be done.

Mrs. Goodman and I shall always treasure your words of understanding and sympathy.

Sincerely,

Robert W. Goodman