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## Will D. Campbell to Jim, 26 November 1957

Will D. Campbell

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National Council of the Churches of Christ  
in the United States of America

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November 26, 1957

Dr. James Silver  
Department of History  
University of Mississippi  
University, Mississippi

Dear Jim:

I understand that your name is being mentioned to attend an off-the-record, unofficial, and off-the-cuff, etc., etc., meeting to be in the eastern part of this land sometime this winter. Oh yes, the meeting is primarily one of newspaper bigwigs from about the country who are being called together to discuss the journalistic handling of news having to do with race. This is not to be an effort at brain-washing or anything of the sort, but just a sort of a round table discussion by such individuals as Harry Ashmore, Ralph Magill, Buford Boone, Frances Pickens Miller, Rufus Clement, Wilson Wyatt, Jonathan Daniels, and somewhere along the line the name of some character called James Silver sneaked in. These distinguished gentlemen from the south will set down with people like Elmore Rober, Henry Luce (How did he get in there?), David Sarnoff, Turner Catledge, and the like, for an ad hoc bull session.

Plans for this are by no means complete but were discussed at a meeting in New York a few weeks ago which I had the misery of attending. The purpose of this letter is to ask you not to turn the invitation down should it be extended if your only reason for doing so is funds. I don't work for a rich organization even if we do throw our money away on such things as Confederate Morale and Church Propaganda. However, I believe that if this is a factor we would be able to scare up enough funds to at least get you up north. If you really wanted to come back we might be able to swing that also. I read the cute little editorial in the Daily News concerning David Cohn "Strange Goings on at Ole Miss" or some such. They are getting pretty hard up for subversives, but then they have been for some time.

Please consider the above confidential since I have not been authorized to approach you and it is not with me to extend the invitation. I simply want you to know of our interest in your attendance at such a meeting if it is held.

Personal regards to Dutch and the family.

Cordially yours,

*Will D. Campbell / ddcw*  
Will D. Campbell  
Associate Executive

Dictated but not signed by Mr. Campbell.