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## Pete to Jim, 4 October 1962

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THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

NORMAN · OKLAHOMA

October 4, 1962

Dear Jim:

It was most thoughtful of you to send us a carbon of your letter to Betty. In no other way, of course, could we have had such a circumstantial account of Sunday night's events, and we find every word soaked in interest. How the faculty and the Chancellor have kept themselves out of the press and TV reports is a little mysterious; from this distance we had the impression there was nobody there but politicians, soldiers, and civilian officers of one sort or another, with the students gone home and the faculty under the bed. From this distance also the whole business had a curious aspect of a grim Albert & Sullivan piece — that is, until Sunday night, when it became just grim.

the Barnett, Johnson, and Meredith entrances and exits with a shirt-sleeve chorus in the background

The OK City press, which is pretty Republican and down-the-line anti-Kennedys, has been sharply critical of Barnett. ~~Monday morning's~~ <sup>Tuesday morning's</sup> paper had an editorial cartoon showing an outstretched hand full of blood. The sleeve was labeled BARNETT, the blood was labeled THE RESPONSIBILITY, and the ~~sketch~~ sketch of the lynchman was in the background, and the headline was "Out, Damned Spot — 'Barnett was an editorial of considerable length headed 'Mississippi's Shame.'" Everybody here expects me to have a lot of very informed opinions on what as to explanations, etc. They don't realize that I left there before the Brown decision and have had to concentrate on quite other problems since. Your letter puts me in position, though, to pontificate a bit.

Quick news from here:

1. Martha expects to present us with a grandchild in April. (I have requested that the child be trained to call me Uncle.)
2. Kyle is a Nat. Merit Semi-Finalist - one of 8 from Abrecon and of 3 in his class. The day after his notification, he came in with the mail, saying, "Well, it's started" - and showed us a cons. or letter from Draughon's Business College.

This institution was integrated 14 years ago. This year we have as a - you won't believe this - as a visiting Professor of Latin a Nigerian! We met them at Faculty Club reception for new faculty Sunday. They were in their native dress - all they saw, I guess. He was quite dazzling in a ~~loose~~ loosely hung <sup>lavender and black striped</sup> get-up of what looked like a high grade of <sup>beadwork</sup> beading; but ~~his~~ headrag and all, looked as if she were in Mississippi on a day when she didn't plan to go to town. Now you know what Old Miss can look forward to - Bondurant to Willie to Nipria in one generation. Thanks ever so much. If you write away more of the sort - I pray you have no occasion - just a carbon paper we again for us.

Jones  
Pete