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## William P. Fidler to Professor Silver, 22 August 1963

William P. Fidler

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Professor James W. Silver  
Department of History  
University of Mississippi  
Oxford, Mississippi

August 22, 1963

Dear Professor Silver:

I am particularly grateful for the information in your letter of August 21 since you are so hard pressed by other commitments at this time. Upon your return to Oxford and after you have completed work on your presidential address, I shall be grateful for a full account of incidents and conditions relating to academic freedom in Mississippi. These initial requests by the Washington Office for information are being made some weeks prior to the visit of the special committee, and are for the purpose of briefing the committee and identifying the persons who should be interviewed. The visit of the committee will probably not take place until October.

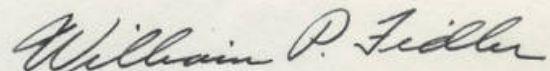
We have already written some of the people whom you mention, and several have responded with very helpful information; letters will be sent to the ones not yet approached. Your promise to send the list of 59 people not returning to the University is deeply appreciated; this is exactly what we need. Possibly some of them can be interviewed, but all can be requested to write the special committee or the Washington Office.

I believe we do have a very full account of the situation involving Professor Murphy.

It would be a pleasure to read the "academic freedom" section of your address--or better, all of it if a copy is available.

You may be sure that the Association will be deeply concerned if you are "fired in November." Do keep us informed concerning any injurious reactions to your speech.

Sincerely yours,



William P. Fidler

WPF/em

