

First, we would like to make it clear that we are law-abiding citizens. We have no intentions to participate in any violence at all. Ours is definitely a movement of no hate or bitterness for those who oppose us. We only wish to gain our rights as guaranteed us by the Federal Constitution and the Bill of Rights. All we did was request some food service in a public building which was built by taxpayers' money.

Second, in regards to our most honorable governor, his Excellency, John Patterson, we would like to say that Dr. H. C. Trenholm, president of Alabama State College, and none of his staff members had any knowledge nor awareness of this movement by our students.

Our movement is purely led on by the students. It was started by the students and only students will be able to stop it. And we are willing to stop upon the granting of our rights.

It is disappointing to students of an institution of higher learning who have been and are still being taught democracy, that there are still those who will threaten us and look upon us as criminals because we are trying to put into practice the ideals we are being taught, and the principals on which our nation was founded.

However, we feel that we are not alone in our struggle. Contrary to the implications made by the mayor of this city and the police commissioner, we do not feel that the white citizens of Montgomery will resort to violence in order to deter the students of Alabama State College in their effort to make real the democratic principals of our country.

We do hope that the governor and school administrators will not seek to close the doors of that institution to us. For in no other instance of the Southwide sit-downs, do we know of any student who has been dismissed from school. However, if this is the case then we will be forced to make applications to admittance to other colleges and universities. In the name of love and peace we are asking for our rights.