

*Segregation -
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September 1, 1965

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mr. Gill
FROM: Governor Moore

I think in the newsconference tomorrow we should have a strong statement deploreding the activities of both the Klan, which offers nothing constructive for the good of North Carolina, and the extremists in the civil rights movement, who seem to be seeking publicity over a completely superfluous issue--that of voter registration.

It should state that every citizen will be given an opportunity to register under the State law and the Federal Registration Act beginning October 9 and that both these groups, by seeming to seek the collision between the groups, are simply encouraging lawlessness and violence and are damaging the good reputation of North Carolina and that this can only hurt the State in its efforts to provide better jobs and better job opportunities for our citizens which are so badly needed to raise the per capita income of all our people.

We should congratulate the great majority of our citizens of both races who are meeting the challenge of changing times and conditions with a spirit of understanding and tolerance and who believe in upholding the law of our State. The statement should add that we are confident that the good judgment of the citizens of North Carolina will prevail and that only violence will be the result of the misguided efforts of a few extremists on both sides and that the State will continue to offer aid to all local law enforcement officers where needed to prevent such acts on the part of these individuals. It should add that we call upon all the citizens of our State to assist in the effort to maintain North Carolina tradition of good government and respect for law and order.

Mr. Gill

- 2 -

September 1, 1965

We might also add something to the effect that the integration of our schools is proceeding in an orderly manner and that no incidents of violence have been reported. It should state that the actions of the two groups in Plymouth are particularly unfortunate at this time when we are striving to maintain an orderly process in the field of education.

I would appreciate it if you would formulate such a statement so that we may have it available tomorrow.

DM:adl

cc: Mr. Charles Dunn