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## George C. Coffey to Meredith (29 September)

George C. Coffey

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GEORGE C. COFFEY, M. D.  
MEDICAL ARTS BUILDING  
HOT SPRINGS NATIONAL PARK  
ARKANSAS

September 29, 1962

James H. Meredith  
c/o Army Post  
Memphis, Tennessee

Dear Meredith:

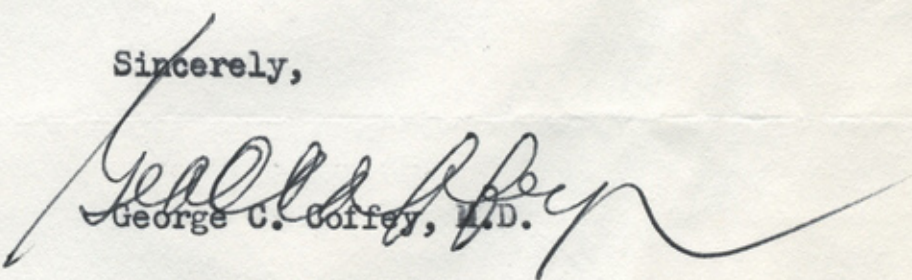
Due to the crisis that has developed, and the possibility of bloodshed, may I suggest to you that you give serious consideration to postponing your application to enter the University of Mississippi at this time. Your decision at this time would endear you to the people of the United States, and advance the cause of racial intergration.

I feel sure that you are qualified to enter the university, but it is my opinion that you have a great opportunity to do a great service to your country, and would receive many personal rewards in the days to come. There is an old saying, "There will always be another day."

I was born on the H. Coffey Farms near the banks of the Tallahatche River, in Lafayette County. As a farmers boy, many of my associates were colored, and I cannot remember one single instance of racial trouble during this period; and it is my earnest belief that from this association, I learned the lesson of service, and as a physician of many years of experience, I have been rewarded by my service to my fellow man, regardless of race, creed or color.

This is what makes America great. This is your opportunity to help keep it great.

Sincerely,

  
George C. Coffey, M.D.

GCC/jm