

PARDON DOCKET NO. 06-0005

Before The

HONORABLE HALEY BARBOUR, GOVERNOR

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

---

*In the Matter of*

**CLYDE KENNARD**

---

**EXHIBITS**

**TO MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF APPLICATION FOR**

**CLEMENCY OF CLYDE KENNARD**

Steven A. Drizin  
*Counsel of Record*  
Bobby Owens, Law Student  
Center on Wrongful Convictions  
Bluhm Legal Clinic  
Northwestern University School of Law  
357 East Chicago Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60611  
(312) 503-8576  
*Counsel for Petitioner*

Barry Bradford (teacher)  
Agnieszka Mazur  
Mona Ghadiri  
Callie McCune  
Adlai E. Stevenson High School  
1 Adlai E. Stevenson Dr.  
Lincolnshire, IL. 60069

## ATTACHED EXHIBITS

- Exhibit A:** Affidavit of Johnny Lee Roberts dated January 27, 2006
- Exhibit B:** Clarion Ledger Newspaper Articles by Jerry Mitchell on the Kennard Case
- Exhibit C:** Legislative Resolution Concerning Clyde Kennard Dated January 27, 2006 and Proclamation of Governor Haley Barbour Dated March 30, 2006
- Exhibit D:** Ronald A. Hollander's Article
- Exhibit E:** Letter from Clyde Kennard to Aubrey K. Lucas Dated September 2, 1959
- Exhibit F:** Sovereignty Commission's Investigation Memorandum into Clyde Kennard
- Exhibit G:** Clyde Kennard's Letter to the Editor
- Exhibit H:** Johnny Lee Roberts Testimony at Clyde Kennard's Trial
- Exhibit I:** Letters of Support
- Exhibit J:** University of Southern Mississippi Petition
- Exhibit K:** Editorials Calling a Pardon for Clyde Kennard

# EXHIBIT A

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI ) SS  
 )  
COUNTY OF FORREST )

**AFFIDAVIT OF JOHNNY LEE ROBERTS**

I, Johnny Lee Roberts, being duly sworn under oath, deposes and states as follows:

1. I was born on April 28, 1941 in Hattiesburg, Mississippi.

JR  
three or

2. In September 1960, I was working at the Forrest County Co-Op in Hattiesburg where I loaded trucks and hauled feed. I had been working there for about four years.

3. On September 25, 1960, in the morning, I was arrested and charged with burglarizing the Co-op. At approximately 4:45a.m., I drove my car to the back entrance of the Co-op and entered through the back doors. I had left the back door unlocked at closing time the day before. My plan was to load some of the damaged feed into my car and to sell the feed to Clyde Kennard for about 2\$ a sack. Upon entering the Co-Op, I began to load sacks of the damaged chicken feed, which were stored near the back doors, into the trunk of my car. Each sack weighed one hundred pounds and I could only fit five of them in my trunk.

JR

At the time, it was common practice for the Co-Op to give away or throw away damaged feed to its employees.

4. As I was loading the feed, I saw a night watchman coming towards me. I went back inside the Co-op and hid. As soon as I saw him leave, I jumped in the car and then drove away with the chicken feed. I took the feed to the home of Clyde Kennard who paid me \$10.00 for the feed. The night watchman must have written down the tag number of my car because the police soon followed me and arrested me.

5. At Clyde Kennard's trial, testimony suggested that I planned the burglary in advance with Kennard and that he instructed me on how to leave the back door of the Co-op. There was also testimony that Kennard asked me to get him some feed "on the side." None of these statements are true. Kennard did not ask me to get him feed 'on the side.' Kennard did not ask me to steal. Kennard did not ask me to break into the co-op. Kennard did not ask me to do anything illegal. Kennard is not guilty of burglary or any other crime.

6.. The true story is that from time to time when I worked at the Co-op, I entered into agreements with farmers for the sale of damaged feed. When I worked at the Co-op, the Co-op usually gave away the damaged feed to me. On rare occasions, the Co-op would sell the feed to me at a reduced rate. I would then offer to sell the damaged feed to the farmers for approximately \$2 a sack.

*JR* 7. ~~Shortly before~~ *After* my arrest, the owners of the Co-op found out that I was selling damaged feed to Clyde Kennard. ~~They instructed me to stop selling to him.~~ *JR* I believe ~~that they told me to cut Kennard off~~ *fixed because I supplied feed to Mr. Kennard and JR* because he was a black man trying to enroll at University of Southern Mississippi.

8. I wanted to help Mr. Kennard because he was always good to me and my family. At one time, my father and I lived on a house at the Kennard place. I did not think that it was fair that the Co-op was cutting off Clyde just because he wanted to go to Southern, and I did not want to see Clyde go out of business or lose his farm. *JR* I decided *was one of the occasions that JR* to help Clyde obtain some feed ~~and~~ *JR* on September 25, 1960, I carried out my plan to get some feed for Mr. Kennard.

*by selling him damaged feed from time to time.*  
*JR*

*JR* In addition, Clyde Kennard told me that all of the feed companies in Hattiesburg had refused to sell him feed. I knew that Mr. Kennard needed the feed, or growings mash in order to raise his growings chickens to the next stage of production.

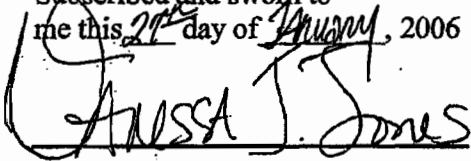
9. I have always felt bad about what happened to Clyde. He was a good man, and I thought the world of him. I would like to see his name cleared and for the full truth of what happened on September 25, 1960 to finally become known. Clyde had nothing to do with stealing the chicken feed. I believe that he was arrested and sent to prison not because of the feed but because he was trying to go to Southern.

10. Because I have some difficulties with reading, this statement was read to me slowly, line by line. After each sentence, I was asked if the information contained in each line was true and was given the opportunity to make any corrections to the statement.

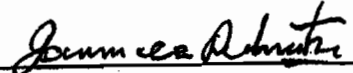
11. I am making this statement of my own free will. No one has threatened me or promised me anything in return for this statement.

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES OCT. 8, 2007

Subscribed and sworn to  
me this 27<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2006

  
Anissa J. Jones

Notary Public

  
Johnny Lee Roberts

# EXHIBIT B

March 19, 2006

## Diverse group calls for pardon

- War veteran Kennard put in prison in 1960 for trying to integrate USM

By Jerry Mitchell  
 jtmitchell@clarionledger.com



Kennard

A growing chorus of young and old, black and white, Republican and Democrat is calling for Gov. Haley Barbour to pardon a decorated Korean War veteran imprisoned in 1960 after repeatedly trying to integrate the University of Southern Mississippi.

A three-month investigation by The Clarion-Ledger revealed in December that Clyde Kennard went to prison for a crime he never committed after refusing to abandon his quest to enroll at the school. In the 1960 trial, Johnny Roberts testified Kennard put him up to stealing \$25 in chicken feed. Roberts now swears under oath that Kennard - now deceased - did nothing illegal.

"This is a clear-cut question to me," said 3rd District U.S. Rep. Chip Pickering, a Republican. "He (Kennard) was an innocent man, wrongly convicted. The Mississippi justice system should clear his name, and if not, the governor should pardon him."

Last month, the Mississippi Senate passed a resolution praising Kennard but stopping short of declaring his innocence. A ceremony is set for March 30 at the Capitol, where the Senate plans to present a copy of that resolution to Kennard's brother-in-law, the Rev. Willie Grant of Hattiesburg.

Although Barbour's office has declared the governor has no plans to issue any pardons, the governor does plan to recognize Kennard's family in some way, Barbour spokesman Pete Smith said.

State Sen. John Horhn, D-Jackson, said Barbour told him Kennard "got a raw deal."

Kennard deserves to have his name cleared, Horhn said. "Mr. Kennard was an American hero who served his country well. ... He helped pave the way for many of us who have now benefitted from equal access and higher education. He represents the very best that America should stand for."

The state Supreme Court has passed on overturning Kennard's conviction, saying justices lack the authority.

"For every mistake that can be corrected, it should be corrected, even if it's 100 years from now," said Dorie Ladner, a Hattiesburg native who watched Kennard die of cancer in 1963. At the State Penitentiary in Parchman, Kennard was forced to work from dawn to dark picking cotton on the prison farm despite the physical pain he endured.

### PARDON 'RIGHT THING'

Ladner pointed to a case in Georgia, where a man lynched decades ago had his name cleared. "You want to right every wrong you can," he said.

Republican leader Jack Reed Sr. of Tupelo said some will question why this should be done: "They'll say, 'Let the dead bury the dead.'"

But the truth is Barbour should pardon Kennard because it's the right thing to do, Reed said. "The same thing would be true if this



Special to The Clarion-Ledger

Clyde Kennard was attending the University of Chicago when his stepfather became disabled and Kennard had to cut short his studies in 1955 to return to Hattiesburg to help his mother, Leona Smith, run the family farm.



Special to The Clarion-Ledger

Johnny Roberts worked in 1960 at the Forrest County Co-op, where he was allowed to get damaged feed. When he sold some to Clyde Kennard on Sept. 25, 1960, Kennard was accused and later convicted of stealing the seed. Roberts

ADVERTISEMENT  
 Miss a day. Miss a lot.

**SUNDAY ONLY**  
**52 WEEKS FOR \$52**

Includes: The Clarion-Ledger, Sports, The Clarion-Ledger



were a white person. ... We still have issues of race to deal with that will outlive my lifetime, but we're obligated to make amends for the injustices of the past."

testified against Kennard but now acknowledges he lied out of fear for himself and his family.

More than 1,500 USM students have signed a petition asking state authorities to clear Kennard's name.

That effort is now expanding beyond campus, said LaKeisha Bryant, president of USM's Afro-American Student Organization. "The churches are getting involved, black and white."

On the USM campus, a prayer breakfast commemorating Kennard is set for April 22. Mississippi Supreme Court Justice James Graves is expected to speak at the event.

In an 8-0 decision last month, the state Supreme Court said it doesn't have the authority to throw out Kennard's conviction because the Post-Conviction Collateral Relief Act only provides relief for prisoners currently in custody.

Former Hinds County Chancery Judge Chet Dillard had petitioned the high court on Kennard's behalf.

Both current President Shelby Thames and past President Aubrey Lucas have signed the student petition. "If there's an effort to formally clear (Kennard's name), I want to be part of it," Lucas said.

In 1993, USM named one of its buildings after Kennard. Lucas said there was never any question in his mind that Kennard was innocent when the renaming took place.

"Kennard was held in high regard by those people who knew him," he said. "Most people really suspected these were trumped-up charges."

The nanny who watched Lucas' children knew Kennard well, he said. "While all of this was going on, she and I would talk about him. She just had the greatest respect for him."

#### 'BLEMISH ON MISS.'

Lucas was registrar at the time Kennard was denied admission in 1959 to the all-white college. Then-President William D. McCain had no choice because the governor had the power to shut down any institution that allowed a black student to attend, he said. "The university could not control its destiny."

Carol Johnston Lindley of Hattiesburg, whose father, Erle Johnston Jr., once headed the Mississippi Sovereignty Commission, agrees that Kennard should have his name cleared.

Johnston wrote about Kennard in his book, Mississippi's Defiant Years 1953-1973: "The tragedy of Clyde Kennard is a blemish on Mississippi justice during the defiant years, not because he was denied enrollment at the college - still segregated by state law - but because of what happened to him later, apparently because he had the nerve and courage to make the attempt."

What happened to Kennard was a travesty, Lindley said, and Barbour should pardon the veteran who paved the way for others.

"Why not do what you can to make it right?" she said. "I think that's what my daddy would say, too. Things ought to be made right if you can make them right."

#### Related news from the Web

Latest headlines by topic:

• [History in the News](#)

Powered by [Topix.net](#)

[Send this link to a friend.](#) | [Join our forums.](#) | [Send a letter to the editor.](#)

[Subscribe to The Clarion-Ledger.](#)

Jobs: [CareerBuilder.com](#) - Cars: [Cars.com](#) - Apartments: [Apartments.com](#) - Shopping: [ShopLocal.com](#)

Use of this site signifies your agreement to the [Terms of Service](#) and [Privacy Policy](#), updated June 7, 2005.

©2006 The Clarion-Ledger





Copyright 2002 The Clarion Ledger

Year=2002; Month=11; Month=Nov; Day=10;

Publication=Clarion-Ledger; Date=18.03.1998; Section=Main; Page=1;

---

## State spy agency files see light of day at last

### Opening of long-secret Sovereignty Commission files ends long legal battle

By Pamela Berry and Jerry Mitchell Clarion-Ledger Staff Writers

On Tuesday, 69-year-old Robbie Stewart of Jackson trudged her way through patches of media representatives and into the doors of the Department of Archives and History building.

Stewart, like dozens of others arriving throughout the day, wanted to see if she was listed in the state's Sovereignty Commission files.

Stewart found her name and that of her husband, William L. Stewart, in a large black binder that contained 87,000 names that appear in the records. She planned to return later and read what the files contain. She suspected she's included because as a student at Lanier High School in the mid 1940s, she was an activist in the Civil Rights movement.

"I'm glad they are finally open," Stewart said. "I lived that era and its history and I was involved in the struggle very much. I'm relieved that the files are finally open because it was once buried."

Stewart wasn't the only one curious to see some of the 132,000 documents and spy reports of a tax-supported segregation watchdog organization created to thwart court-ordered integration.

More than two dozen media representatives came to do stories, including NBC News and the British magazine, The Economist. State legislators voted in 1977 to disband the Sovereignty Commission and seal its files for 50 years. Civil rights activists and the American Civil Liberties Union of Mississippi sued to open them.

In 1989, U.S. District Judge William H. Barbour Jr. ordered the files opened, but it took years of battling over privacy issues before his ruling took effect.

State Sen. David Jordan, D- Greenwood, spent the morning poring through his commission file through 1967, which detailed his voting rights work in the Delta.

"It's more disappointing than angering," he said. "It's disgraceful to have been spied on for doing your duty and trying to become first- class citizens."

Veteran journalist Bill Minor walked inside the archives building to find his name listed three different ways in the binder.

"I think it's appropriate that the files are opened on St. Patrick's Day," he said. "The patron saint is the one who drove the snakes out of Ireland. Now we have to drive the snakes out of our past."

Charles W. Nicks of Jackson came out of curiosity.

"I just want to see if my name is in there," Nicks said. "I think it is because my oldest daughter, Bridgete, was one of the first black students to integrate Barr Elementary in 1964."

Nicks believed he and his wife also were likely spy targets because they were active members of the PTA during the 1960s.

"Some of the commission members came by our meetings and were asking questions about where I worked," said Nicks, a former mail carrier. "I was harassed and harassed and they did everything they could to get me to quit because of the integration. I just wonder what they had to say in the files."

Nicks didn't find his name, but saw the names of a brother and a cousin listed.

"I'm somewhat relieved that I didn't see my name, but I'm not sure that they don't have it somewhere else," Nicks said.

Richard Burger of Hattiesburg said he came to find out if his late father is

listed in the files.

"I have already received my mother's files," Burger said. "I wasn't sure if they had my father as well."

Burger said his father was a Hattiesburg high school principal who encouraged black teachers to vote. He said his mother was one of the teachers who joined Vernon Dahmer, a slain Hattiesburg activist, in his lawsuit seeking voting rights.

"I'd just like to see what it is in the files," Burger said. "I guess I feel good about what they are doing and curious about what was said, too."

Ken Lawrence, one of the original plaintiffs in the 1977 lawsuit to open the files, was relieved Tuesday by the opening. He had been under a gag order to keep secret their contents until their opening.

"I feel liberated," he said. "I'm glad I don't have to choke on every third sentence."

Middle school students left a leadership conference at the Old Capitol to listen to Lawrence detail commission activities such as efforts to prevent black Mississippian Clyde Kennard from entering then- Mississippi Southern College.

In 1991, The Clarion-Ledger reported that commission records showed that Kennard had been framed on a liquor possession charge. "One of the plans was to put dynamite to the starter of Kennard's Mercury," the Sept. 21, 1959, report said. "Another plan was to have some liquor planted in Kennard's car and then he would be arrested."

When Lawrence finished, Betty Davis, a teacher at Hardy Middle School, remarked, "We can learn more history here than in the classroom."

Kennard-Washington Day to honor men, progress

Special to The Clarion-Ledger

HATTIESBURG — The Afro-American Student Organization at the University of Southern Mississippi will coordinate the annual Kennard-Washington Day on Tuesday at the USM campus.

The event, with the theme "Lift Every Voice and Sing" will be held on the lawn in front of Kennard-Washington Hall from 12:15-1 p.m.

Clyde Kennard was an African American who was denied admission to USM in the late 1950s. In the late 1960s, Walter Washington became the first African American to received a doctorate from USM. He later served as president of Alcorn State University.

Formerly known as the student services building, the facility was named in their honor in 1993.

"The goal of the program is to reflect the changes and progress of race relations at USM," said Vrita Delaine, assistant to the vice president for student affairs.

For details, call Alford Perryman, chair of the AASO Cultural Awareness Committee, at (601) 266-1657.

Copyright 1998 The Clarion Ledger

Year=1998; Month=3; Month=Mar; Day=18; Day=We; Book=A; Source=Staff;  
Byline=Berry\_Pamela\_&\_Jerry\_Mitchell;

Aspect=Clarion-Ledger; Aspect=Main; Aspect=Mar; Aspect=We; Aspect=A;  
Aspect=Staff; Aspect=Berry\_Pamela\_&\_Jerry\_Mitchell;

Publication=Clarion-Ledger; Date=10.01.1998; Section=Main; Page=1;

---

Family quietly marks death of activist Vernon Dahmer

But Hattiesburg remains forever moved by slaying 32 years ago

By Jerry Mitchell/Clarion-Ledger Staff Writer

HATTIESBURG -- The anniversary of Vernon Dahmer's death will pass today with no parade, no marches, no fanfare.

Yet the day he died here 32 years ago forever changed this community.

"I think what happened woke up Hattiesburg to the real benefits of good race relations," said Ralph Nooncaster, former president of the Chamber of Commerce. "I think it has made a community that respects people more so than if it hadn't happened."

How this small Mississippi town reacted to the Ku Klux Klan's firebombing of Dahmer's house on Jan. 10, 1966, has been cited as a model for other cities.

In the wake of that tragedy, Nooncaster quickly raised \$10,000 in this small town, with some donations for rebuilding coming from segregationists.

Eddie A. Holloway, president of the Hattiesburg City Council and acting dean of students at the University of Southern Mississippi, said local leaders "recognized that Mr. Dahmer and those who worked with him represented a significant people, a mission shared by people of character."

He explained that Dahmer fit none of the categories that critics had for those who pushed for the right to vote:

"Outside agitator." Dahmer was born and reared in the Hattiesburg community, serving on the board for the local all-black school.

"Atheist." He regularly worked with the Shady Grove Baptist Church and served as superintendent of Sunday school there.

"America-hating communist." Six of his seven sons served in the armed forces, combining for a total of 78 years in the military.

Newspapers published a photograph of four of Dahmer's sons in military uniform, staring at the ashes of what was once their home.

That picture moved many Americans and Mississippians, said Neil McMillen, author of *Dark Journey: Black Mississippians in the Age of Jim Crow*. "It was a haunting picture of young patriots coming home."

#### Family faced threats

Before Dahmer died, the community had been far from peaceful.

He knew well what happened to those who challenged the system. One friend, Clyde Kennard, had sought to enroll at what is now the University of Southern Mississippi, only to be framed by authorities on a liquor possession charge, state Sovereignty Commission records show.

Another friend, Mississippi NAACP Field Secretary Medgar Evers, was shot on June 12, 1963, in Jackson just after midnight.

Before night fell again that day, Dahmer brought "his guns to the front of the house," recalled his widow, Ellie.

The early 1960s, she said, were filled with threats to the family.

Dahmer's son, Dennis, was only 9 when he answered the telephone one day and told the caller his father wasn't home.

"You tell that n----- that we're going to kill him," the caller said.

Nightriders shot out the plate-glass window of the family's grocery



store so many times Dahmer put in several glass panes to minimize future repair costs.

Dahmer waited many nights with loaded shotguns, peering out his window for nightriders. He and his wife, Ellie, slept in shifts.

"I slept the first part of the night," she recalled. "I went to bed early and got up at 1 (a.m.)."

With the passage of the Voting Rights Act in 1965, the bleary-eyed shifts ended.

"The threatening calls had stopped, the acts of violence," recalled Dahmer's son, Dennis. "We pretty much figured it was all over with. Blacks had accomplished the right to vote."

In fact, racial cooperation here had improved so much that Dahmer volunteered to let local black Mississippians in the community pay their poll taxes at his grocery store.

The same night the radio announced the plans, two carloads of members of the Ku Klux Klan sped into his gravel driveway about 2 a.m. Jan. 10.

Molotov cocktails crashed into the family store and house. A blaring horn, stuck when a car caught on fire, awakened Vernon Dahmer.

While his wife helped their children escape out a back window, he rushed to the front door and shot back at firing Klansmen. Flames seared his lungs, and he died later that day.

"There was no way my dad stood a chance against two carloads of armed individuals," said Dahmer's son, Dennis. "If he hadn't done what he had done, they probably would have killed us all."

Hours before he breathed his last breath, Dahmer said, "What happened to us last night can happen to anybody, white or black. At one time, I didn't think so, but I have changed my mind."

Dahmer died before he could exercise the right he had fought years to have: the right to vote.

## Landmark conviction

Months after Dahmer was killed, a grand jury in Hattiesburg returned murder indictments against 15 men identified by the FBI as members of the Ku Klux Klan.

The first man prosecuted was Cecil Sessum, who confessed to authorities two months later, describing himself as an exalted cyclops for the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan.

But whether Sessum would be convicted was up to a jury made up entirely of white men.

One of those jurors was Charles Kroen, then a 47-year-old refinery worker.

Kroen figured there was no way he would serve on the jury. Defense lawyers learned he was Catholic, a religion the Klan despised, and, even worse, a Yankee who moved to Mississippi in 1957.

Somehow, he made the panel.

During deliberations, some jurors criticized the fact the state's key witness -- Billy Roy Pitts, who testified he went on the raid to kill Dahmer -- was a convicted felon now that he had pleaded guilty to murder.

Kroen stood and spoke.

"I'll have my say and then I'll sit down. This man was killed because he wanted people to be able to vote. They burned his house.

"Just because I'm Catholic, someone could decide tomorrow to do the same thing and burn my house. Just because you're Baptist, someone could decide tomorrow to do the same thing to you."

One juror scoffed, "Oh, they wouldn't do that."

Another juror interjected: "Remember Hitler."

The room filled with veterans of World War II and the Korean War fell silent for moments.

Kroen said that quiet resolve led jurors to unanimously conclude Sessum had been involved in killing Dahmer.

The conviction also would mark what is believed to be Mississippi's first conviction of a Klansman for killing a black man. Sessum was sentenced to life in prison.

"I sat on a jury with 11 of the finest men I've ever met in my life," Kroen recalled. "I was proud to have served on it."

Other trials resulted in juries convicting three other Klansmen, each sentenced to life in prison.

But Sam Bowers, the imperial wizard identified in testimony as ordering the raid, walked free when juries deadlocked, failing to convict him.

#### Race relations improved

For years, this sprawling city of more than 40,000 was little more than a stopover for tourists traveling somewhere else.

It still bears the nickname the "Hub City," its only seeming glory its close proximity to New Orleans and other cities.

There's still evidence of that. A billboard on one highway encourages tourists traveling to casinos to stop here and "sleep cheap."

The road to empowering black citizens, however, has been rocky.

After black residents challenged the city's at-large system of selecting leaders in 1977, testimony detailed racial polarization in voting.

One city commissioner was asked on the witness stand what he believed black residents thought of the at-large form of government. He replied, "Don't know and don't care."

Relations have improved since but aren't perfect, Holloway said. "There are some things that are still disproportionate . . . in terms of the character of jobs, underemployment, institutional needs. That should not overshadow the progresses that have been made."

For instance, the city has poured money into the all-black community of Palmer's Crossing since annexing it seven years ago, he said. "I think tremendous improvements have been made."

At Hattiesburg High School, students read Martin Luther King Jr.'s "Letter From the Birmingham Jail" in English classes and discuss the concept of diversity.

At the University of Southern Mississippi, which didn't accept its first black student until the mid- 1960s, minorities now make up about a fifth of the student population.

Today, a key campus building bears the name of Dahmer's friend, a black student denied entrance four decades ago: Clyde Kennard.

Town works on its image

In recent years, Hattiesburg has consistently been ranked as one of the nation's top places to live.

In 1992, the U.S. Conference of Mayors named Hattiesburg the "Most Livable Small Community."

The New York Times recently featured Hattiesburg as an attractive place to retire.

Nooncaster said those rankings are no accident.

"I've been here for 45 years, and I've watched what has happened since the incident," he said. "The way this total community responded instead of dividing into two factions -- even the segregationists worked together to heal this issue to make this a community not known for its outbreak of violence between blacks and whites."

The work and sacrifices of Vernon Dahmer and his family on issues such as

voter registration are a constant memory, Holloway said. "I think in a small way, the Dahmer family has been as paramount to Hattiesburg as Dr. (Martin Luther) King has been to the country."

#### Family reflects on legacy

On Friday, Vernon Dahmer's widow, Ellie, and his son, Vernon Jr., stood next to his grave at Shady Grove Baptist Church.

"We still miss him," she said. "We would like for him to see the progress."

That progress includes better opportunities, she said. "Jobs have really opened up for blacks."

But, she said, "I think he'd be saddened by the turnout for the vote. He'd say, 'What did I give my life for?'"

The cemetery transports Vernon Dahmer Jr. to the times he spent with his father. "One day I'll be here," he said.

He held his hands over his face as tears flowed.

"I feel very close to my father. He taught me all the tricks and trades of surviving in the world as a black person, how to be a decent, honest and caring citizen. All of that created a special bond."



This is a printer friendly version of an article from **hattiesburgamerican.com**  
To print this article open the file menu and choose Print.

[Back](#)

Article published Jan 1, 2006

## **Witness: Man innocent in '60 burglary**

**By Jerry Mitchell**

When Clyde Kennard refused to give up his quest to become the first black student to enroll at the University of Southern Mississippi, authorities sent him to state prison in 1960 for seven years.

Now a three-month investigation by The Clarion-Ledger has revealed the decorated Army veteran was locked up for a crime he never committed.

In the 1960 trial, 19-year-old Johnny Lee Roberts testified Kennard, a 33-year-old devout Baptist and farmer, put him up to breaking into Forrest County Co-op to steal \$25 in feed, even describing how he should leave the warehouse door unlocked.

Now, 45 years later, Roberts said none of that is true. Approached by The Clarion-Ledger, he said he's willing to swear under oath Kennard never put him up to burglary, never asked him to steal, never asked him to do anything illegal: "He wasn't guilty of nothing."

Those who have long believed Kennard was innocent say this new evidence shows the late Korean War veteran deserves to have his record wiped clean. "His name should be cleared for those of us who knew him that are still living," said one of Kennard's last surviving relatives, his brother-in-law, the Rev. Willie Grant, pastor of Martin Luther King Avenue Baptist Church of Hattiesburg. "He was innocent."

Aaron Condon, professor emeritus of the University of Mississippi School of Law, said nothing in state law prevents the state Supreme Court from taking up Kennard's case again.

The simplest thing would be for Gov. Haley Barbour to pardon Kennard "and restore his good name," he said.

Georgia used a posthumous pardon earlier this year for Lena Baker, a black maid executed in 1945 for killing a white man she said held her in slavery and threatened her life.

Hattiesburg sisters Joyce and Dorie Ladner have fought to clear Kennard's name for more than four decades. Joyce Ladner would prefer a resolution by Congress or the state Legislature that would stipulate Kennard's innocence in writing. "If you pardon him, the assumption was he was guilty."

A resolution also could make clear Kennard's innocence on two prior convictions, she said.

Minutes after Kennard tried to enroll at Southern in 1959, constables arrested him on reckless driving and illegal liquor possession - charges for which he was convicted.

In 1991, The Clarion-Ledger published secret documents from the state's now-defunct segregationist spy agency, the Mississippi Sovereignty Commission, that showed how authorities framed Kennard on those charges.

After the story appeared, then-District Attorney Glenn White investigated the matter. "There's no doubt in my mind he (Kennard) got set up, and we were able to show that," he told The Clarion-Ledger this week.

A constable who arrested Kennard on those charges also arrested Kennard in the burglary.

White said he wasn't aware of that: "Now that's a red flag."

He said the four-hour gap between the time of Kennard's arrest that morning between 7:30 and 8 and the execution of the search warrant more than four hours later also raises questions since it could have given someone plenty of time to plant evidence against Kennard.

Roberts' recanting means Kennard's burglary conviction can't stand up since Roberts' testimony was the sole

evidence linking Kennard to burglary, legal experts say. "You've got to know the breaking and entering is going to take place to be guilty of burglary," Condon said.

In 1993, USM honored Kennard by renaming its student services building after him and Walter Washington, the first African American to receive a doctorate from the institution.

A biography on Kennard on the university's Web site calls the charges against Kennard "false," but Mississippi never has taken any official action to clear his name.

In the first interview he has ever given, Roberts explained what happened that fall in 1960:

Roberts was working two jobs to support his wife and two children, one of them at the Forrest County Co-op.

Kennard could no longer get feed from places such as the co-op "on account of him being the only black man trying to enroll at Southern," Roberts said.

Employees could buy damaged feed at a reduced price or get it free because such feed ruined quickly, Roberts said. "I bought a whole lot of it, and a whole lot of it they'd give me."

He sold the feed to others, including Kennard, usually at \$2 for a 100-pound sack, he said. "He said, 'Just get me some feed for my chickens, and I'll pay you whatever you charge for some damaged feed,'" Roberts said.

On several occasions, he sold damaged feed to Kennard, he said, only to be told by the co-op he couldn't do that.

Torn between keeping his word to his employer and wanting to help Kennard, Roberts said on Sept. 25, 1960, he sneaked before 5 a.m. into the warehouse, which he had left unlocked.

He said he loaded five sacks of damaged feed into his trunk but was spotted by a night watchman. He said he delivered the sacks to Kennard, who paid him \$10.

Roberts said he told Kennard the watchman had seen him. Kennard advised him to stay at his mother's house just outside Hattiesburg, he said.

Instead, Roberts said he drove home, where police arrested him.

In Kennard's November 1960 trial, James Tatum, then-manager of the co-op, testified for the prosecution.

Although the co-op had once sued Kennard and seized his hens, Tatum told The Clarion-Ledger this week he recalled no problems between the co-op and Kennard but did remember Kennard tried to enter Southern.

Confronted with the charges against Kennard, Tatum recalled "a little problem with the feed," saying an employee had given Kennard an extra bag or two.

But after that was cleared up, he said, "we had no real problems with Clyde."

He said he knew nothing about Kennard going to prison.

On Nov. 14, 1960, a Forrest County grand jury indicted Kennard and Roberts for burglary. The trial began a week later, despite a request from Kennard's attorney, R. Jess Brown of Jackson, for additional time to prepare.

Because all evidence pointed to Roberts committing the burglary, prosecutors tried to show Kennard was an accessory before the fact. An all-white jury convicted him in 10 minutes - less time than some juries take to pick a foreman.

Circuit Judge Stanton Hall, who had headed a legislative investigation into the NAACP, sentenced Kennard to the maximum seven years in prison. Roberts, who pleaded guilty, got a suspended sentence.

The disparity in sentences raised eyebrows.

"Why is it that the man who broke into and entered the store and stole the chicken feed is free while this man who bought it received seven years of hard labor?" editor Oliver Emmerich asked in the Dec. 30, 1960, McComb Enterprise-Journal. "The question becomes more pertinent when they learn that the man who was given the seven-year sentence was convicted on the testimony of the thief ..."



"Was there any relationship between the severity of the sentence of one of the Negroes and his attempt to enter a white college? If ever such an influence should affect our courts, we would be approaching the evils of political imprisonment."

On appeal, Brown said Kennard's conviction should be reversed for the same reason the U.S. Supreme Court had reversed other cases - black Mississippians had been barred from voting and, therefore, from serving on grand juries and trial juries.

On April 3, 1961, the Mississippi Supreme Court upheld Kennard's conviction, concluding, "The jury box is filled without regard to race."

That same year, the U.S. Department of Justice charged Forrest County Circuit Clerk Theron Lynd with discriminating against black voters, but it would take several more years before the courts found him guilty of contempt.

"The only reason the 5th (U.S.) Circuit Court of Appeals didn't send Theron Lynd to prison was his health," said civil rights activist Lawrence Guyot, who was a part of that battle.

Kennard died in 1963. Two years later, Southern welcomed its first two African-American students, Raylawni Branch and Elaine Armstrong.

Branch recalled Roberts telling her in 1962 shortly after she became secretary for the local NAACP, "Clyde had nothing to do with stealing the chicken feed."

When she confronted him about his testimony, she said Roberts replied, "I can't do what you all want me to do."

She said she and other NAACP officials promised him safety in Chicago, but he replied, "They'll hurt my family."

At The Clarion-Ledger's request, Branch met with Roberts last week for the first time since that conversation.

After hearing his story, she told him she had long thought badly of him: "Now I realize you were actually trying to help Clyde and were a victim of the whole system."

By the time the trial ended, Roberts had lost his job and found himself rejected by black and white, he said. "I had people that tried to jump on me."

He turned down a probation officer's offer to let him tote a gun. "I told them the best thing to do when they want to jump on me was what my mother said, 'Give 'em some heel dust.'"

At 64, an age when many might retire, Roberts continues to work with his hands, cleaning and doing other janitorial work.

He acknowledged he's felt guilt for what happened to Kennard. "I hate the way they did, but you know how people feel. With somebody like me, I couldn't control nothing back then," he said.

He'd like to see Kennard's name cleared, he said. "I thought the world of him. He was a good man."

There's no doubt Kennard's efforts to break the color barrier led to his imprisonment, Roberts said. "Why they got him was not the feed. It was because he was trying to go to Southern. If he wasn't a black man trying to go to Southern, you wouldn't have heard nothing."



## Clarion-Ledger

Estimated printed pages: 8

December 31, 2005

Section: Main

Page: 1A

### Story of false arrest called civil rights movement's saddest

*Jerry Mitchell  
Staff*

By Jerry Mitchell  
jmittell@clarionledger.com

HATTIESBURG - All Clyde Kennard wanted was to walk across a stage and clasp a college diploma.

Instead, the state of Mississippi marched him off to prison on a false charge and worked him in the broiling sun as cancer consumed him.

"Every time I talk somewhere, I talk about Clyde Kennard," said John Dittmer, author of *Local People: The Struggle for Civil Rights in Mississippi*. "That is the saddest story of the whole movement."

Born in 1927, Kennard's early life foreshadowed a grim future. When he was 4, his father died. He grew up helping his mother run the family farm.

In 1945, war came calling after Germany's surrender - too late to fight, but not too late to help.

"We went into the Army the same day," recalled Willie Grant, who became Kennard's brother-in-law. "We were both out of high school, and we had never been away from home."

Grant served in the infantry in Europe, and Kennard taught denazification courses to German youths.

In 1950, Kennard began attending college in Fayetteville, N.C., when war came calling again, this time the Korean War. Kennard served as a paratrooper and rose to the rank of sergeant, receiving three medals including the Bronze Star.

After the war, he attended the University of Chicago and sent home what money he could to his mother, now remarried.

His dream of a political science degree, however, came crashing down in 1955 when his stepfather became disabled. Rather than finish school, the bachelor came home to run the family farm.

Back in Mississippi, the 28-year-old devout Baptist joined the NAACP, where he became friends with fellow farmer Vernon F. Dahmer Sr., who died in 1966 defending his family from an attack by the Klan.

Kennard served as president of the local NAACP youth chapter, mentoring 15-year-old sisters Dorie and Joyce Ladner. "He took his time with us," Dorie Ladner said. "He was very patient."

He served on the school board and was outraged the area's 125 black students had to travel 11 miles past the all-white Eatonville School to attend classes. He circulated an unsuccessful petition to have children attend the closest school.

#### Commission dossier

Kennard yearned to finish college. In 1956, he approached President William D. McCain at all-white Mississippi Southern College. McCain put off his request.

"Clyde just wanted to finish school," recalled Dorie Ladner. "He wasn't trying to make a political statement."

By the time he tried to enroll again in 1958, he enjoyed the support of Medgar Evers, field secretary for the Mississippi NAACP. "Clyde was like a brother to him," recalled Joyce Ladner.

Kennard believed segregationists could be won over with reason, Dittmer said.

With his intention to attend Southern made public, the state's segregationist spy agency, the Mississippi Sovereignty Commission, compiled an extensive dossier on the small-framed farmer. The commission sought to smear Kennard, but

many interviewed praised him.

"Persons who know Kennard describe him as intelligent, well-educated, quiet spoken, courteous, with a desire to better the Negro race in Mississippi," the commission's own report concluded. The only "dirt" it could find against Kennard was a claim he was "known to associate with ... a self-confessed communist," who in reality was a local rabbi.

The commission called Kennard a "race agitator," but the Dahmer family said nothing was further from the truth.

"The two most Christian people I've ever known were Clyde and my husband," recalled Dahmer's widow, Ellie. "They were always concerned about doing something for somebody else with nothing in return."

An agent reported back to the commission that a white Citizens' Council leader said if the commission "wanted Kennard out of the community and out of the state just to let him know and he would see that this was taken care of. He claimed that no violence and no publicity would take place. He indicated that it would be handled by bringing economic pressure on the Negroes."

Kennard felt that pressure and so did other Mississippians in the civil rights movement.

"We couldn't get loans. They put the squeeze on us," recalled Ellie Dahmer. "You couldn't believe you were an American, and this would happen to you - all because of the color of your skin."

Gov. J.P. Coleman met with Kennard. "State officials offered to pay for his education out of state, and he said, 'No, I want to be near my family. I just want to finish,'" recalled Dorie Ladner.

Officials secretly sent leaders from all-black universities to get Kennard to stop his registration efforts.

In fall 1959, he decided to apply in person at Southern. When he returned to his car, two constables arrested him, charging him with both reckless driving and illegal possession of whiskey.

Authorities' framing of Kennard is made clear in Sovereignty Commission records.

College security officer John Reiter, a former FBI agent, told commission agent Zack J. Van Landingham that when Kennard tried to enroll in 1958, Reiter "had been approached by individuals with possible plans to prevent Kennard's going through with his attempt. One of the plans was to put dynamite to the starter of Kennard's Mercury. Another plan was to have some liquor planted in Kennard's car and then he would be arrested."

Van Landingham called the arrest an apparent "frame-up with the planting of evidence in Kennard's car," but neither he nor any other state official did anything to stop a court from convicting the Army veteran of both charges.

The constables testified they knew nothing of Kennard's attempt to enroll at Southern, despite the fact they arrested him on campus minutes after he tried to register.

Justice of the Peace T.C. Hobby promptly found Kennard guilty, fining him \$600 for possessing whiskey and driving recklessly.

"Of all the cases I have ever heard," Hobby told the 75 who crowded into his office to hear the case, "the state has proved more in this one the guilt of the defendant."

Hobby had a serious conflict of interest in hearing the case. Commission records reveal he opposed Kennard's enrollment, telling state officials he was responsible for "persuading Kennard to stay out of Mississippi Southern College last January."

Kennard appealed to County Court, which held a hearing without notice to him or his lawyer, R. Jess Brown of Jackson. Rather than grant a delay, the county judge upheld the conviction.

Kennard vowed to continue his efforts to attend Southern.

#### Burglary arrest

On Sept. 25, 1960, as he walked toward his house to get ready for Sunday school, authorities arrested him, this time for burglary. The state relied on the testimony of Johnny Lee Roberts, who said Kennard put him up to breaking into the Forrest County Co-op and stealing \$25 in feed, even describing how he should leave the warehouse door unlocked.

Kennard insisted on his innocence, but the jury made up entirely of white men convicted him.

Circuit Judge Stanton Hall, a former senator who had led a legislative investigation into the NAACP, sentenced Kennard to the maximum seven years in prison. Roberts, who pleaded guilty to burglary, received a suspended sentence.

Evers called the outcome a mockery of justice: "In a courtroom of segregationists apparently resolved to put Kennard 'legally away,' the all-white jury found Kennard 'guilty as charged' in only 10 minutes."

Evers' widow, Myrlie Evers-Williams, said her husband was so angered by the verdict he put his fist through the wall of their

home.

Hall cited Evers with contempt and ordered him to serve 30 days in jail, but Evers refused to back down. "I have no apology to make even if it means six months in jail," said Evers, whose charge eventually was dismissed by the high court.

The McComb Enterprise-Journal, which defended segregation, warned readers in a Dec. 30, 1960, editorial, "Our cause will not be regarded as righteous if the people of the other states believe that equal justice for all people is not provided in the courts of Mississippi. ... Justice has no relationship to the popularity or unpopularity of an individual or a movement. Justice stems from equality under the law. We of Mississippi must be concerned because we cannot be unconcerned with truth nor immune to principle. Truth implies fidelity to the best that is within us."

On March 6, 1961, the Mississippi Supreme Court ordered a new trial on reckless driving and liquor charges for Kennard, but it did him little good. He remained behind bars, where he'd been since his September 1960 burglary arrest.

Less than a month later, the same justices upheld Kennard's conviction, sending him to the State Penitentiary at Parchman. He joined other black inmates on the "sunup to sundown gang," forced to pick cotton all day on the segregated prison farm underneath a steamy Delta sun. "We were like slaves," Kennard later said. "They even fed us leftovers from what the white prisoners ate."

#### Release from prison

Evers assisted Thurgood Marshall in Kennard's unsuccessful appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court. During an NAACP banquet, Evers, a man who never cried, began to weep as he talked of Kennard, said David Oshinsky, author of *Worse Than Slavery: Parchman Farm and the Ordeal of Jim Crow Justice*.

By summer, Kennard suffered weight loss and severe abdominal pain. He was hospitalized, where doctors misdiagnosed him with sickle-cell anemia.

Back at prison, guards forced him to continue to work, Oshinsky said. "Despite the fact everybody knew he was ill, he was pretty much denied medical care."

In March 1962, he underwent colon cancer surgery at the University of Mississippi Medical Center.

Kennard's cancer continued to spread, and Evers, Martin Luther King Jr., Dick Gregory and others put pressure on Gov. Ross Barnett to release the Army veteran.

Oshinsky said this was the first civil rights case that drew attention to conditions in Mississippi's prison system, "and we can certainly thank (Kennard) for that."

Avoiding a potentially embarrassing situation, Barnett granted clemency to Kennard on Jan. 30, 1963, allowing him to return to his family farm, which Evers had fought to keep out of foreclosure.

Hours after he arrived, so did Victoria Gray and other NAACP officials, who had come in search of information to speed Kennard's release.

"It was quite a pleasant surprise," she recalled.

Gray and others listened as Kennard spoke.

"There was not a trace of anger or revenge or anything whatsoever," she said. "He was just very thankful to be home."

Gray sat there in awe, she said. "I would be mad. I would be angry. I would be thinking how I could get even. There was absolutely none of that. He was the same Clyde - kind, caring, thoughtful."

If anything, Kennard expressed sorrow for his abusers, she said. "It was just like, 'Lord, forgive them for they know not what they do.'"

Before the day ended, a reporter arrived, and Kennard talked of his continuing love for Mississippi: "I still think there are a few white people of good will in the state, and we have to do something to bring this out."

Kennard traveled to Chicago for treatment, Oshinsky said. "He would have died of colon cancer, but he was pretty well worked to death. He simply went up North to die."

Dorie Ladner recalled visiting Kennard in the hospital at the University of Chicago.

He was emaciated, weighing less than 90 pounds. He spoke of his innocence and the horrors of prison, but she sensed no bitterness. "He was just very calm and encouraged us to continue fighting," she said.

On June 12, 1963, word came that Medgar Evers had been fatally shot in the back outside his Jackson home. After an eight-hour operation, Kennard learned death was near for him, too.

John Howard Griffin, author of *Black Like Me*, described his visit with Kennard: "He was a tiny little dwarf. He lay with a sheet pulled up over his face so no one could see the grimace of pain."

Kennard consoled those gathered and finally remarked, "Mr. Griffin, I'd be glad it happened if only it would show this country where racism finally leads. But the people aren't going to know it, are they?"

Griffin vowed to share Kennard's story.

"Be sure to tell them what happened to me isn't as bad as what happened to the guard," Kennard replied, "because this system turned him into a beast, and it will turn his children into beasts."

Kennard died July 4, the anniversary of the Declaration of Independence that promised, "All men are created equal."

Grant - one of Kennard's last living relatives, who pastors Martin Luther King Avenue Baptist Church in Hattiesburg - said Mississippi authorities "only knew him as a black man. They didn't know his character."

David Sansing, professor emeritus of history at the University of Mississippi, said the Kennard case was "the clearest and best evidence of how mean the state was and the extent to which they would go to destroy anybody who challenged that system. I would love to see justice come to him at last. This guy deserves to be exonerated."

#### PULLOUT QUOTE

"The two most Christian people I've ever known were Clyde and my husband. They were always concerned about doing something for somebody else with nothing in return."

Ellie Dahmer, widow of Vernon F. Dahmer Sr.

#### PHOTO CAPTION

Ellie Dahmer holds a photograph of her late husband Vernon F. Dahmer Sr. (right) and Clyde Kennard. She says both men dedicated their lives to serving others and expected nothing in return. She says she believes Kennard was innocent of burglary and should now have his name cleared by the state of Mississippi.

Matthew Bush/Hattiesburg American

#### PHOTOS

J. Ladner

Evers

Sansing

Dittmer

---

Copyright (c) The Clarion-Ledger. All rights reserved. Reproduced with the permission of Gannett Co., Inc. by NewsBank, inc.



## Clarion-Ledger

Estimated printed pages: 3

February 4, 2006

Section: Main

Page: 1A

### Trial testimony false, Kennard witness vows

*Jerry Mitchell*  
Staff

Center on Wrongful Convictions asks governor for pardon

By Jerry Mitchell

[jmitchell@clarionledger.com](mailto:jmitchell@clarionledger.com)

The man whose testimony led to the conviction and imprisonment of Clyde Kennard now swears under oath the decorated Korean War veteran was innocent.

"Kennard did not ask me to steal," Johnny Roberts said in an affidavit made public Friday. "Kennard did not ask me to break in to the co-op. Kennard did not ask me to do anything illegal."

In 1960, Kennard was sent to prison for the maximum seven years after he attempted to become the first black man to attend the University of Southern Mississippi. On Dec. 31, The Clarion-Ledger reported that a three-month investigation showed Kennard was falsely convicted of burglary.

On Friday, the Center on Wrongful Convictions of Northwestern University School of Law and three Illinois students included Roberts' affidavit in a renewed request to Gov. Haley Barbour to issue a posthumous pardon for Kennard, who died of cancer in 1963 shortly after being released from prison.

"This new evidence should put to rest any doubts that you or any other public official have about Mr. Kennard's innocence," the request says. "We hope that it inspires you to move expeditiously to formally clear Mr. Kennard's name by granting him a full pardon of actual innocence."

Last year, Georgia granted a posthumous pardon for Lena Baker, a black maid executed in 1945 for killing a white man she said held her in slavery and threatened her life.

Asked about that possibility for Kennard, spokesman Pete Smith replied, "The governor hasn't pardoned anyone."

The request submitted Friday urged Barbour to change that history: "With one swipe of your pen, Gov. Barbour, you can close this tragic chapter of Mississippi's history, bring some closure to the remaining members of the Kennard family, and restore Clyde Kennard to his rightful place as a hero of the Mississippi civil rights movement."

The three students seeking to clear Kennard's name attend Adlai Stevenson High School in Lincolnshire, Ill.

The U.S. has been more honest about its history than other nations, said their teacher, Barry Bradford, who is overseeing their National History Day Project on Kennard.

Restoring Kennard's name would "not only bring comfort to his family, it will bring comfort to the nation because we have finally told the truth," he said.

Roberts testified Kennard put him up to the crime. Roberts has since remarked that isn't true.

In his Jan. 27 affidavit, Roberts said, "Clyde had nothing to do with stealing the chicken feed. I believe that he was arrested and sent to prison not because of the feed but because he was trying to go to Southern."

Last month, the Mississippi Senate unanimously passed a resolution praising Kennard's contributions to the civil rights movement, but stopping short of saying he was innocent.

After the newspaper's stories on Kennard appeared, former Hinds County Chancery Judge Chet Dillard filed a friend-of-the-court brief asking the Mississippi Supreme Court to throw out the veteran's conviction.

Dillard said Friday he plans to file the affidavit Monday with the high court, saying the sworn statement should lay to rest any



question regarding Kennard's innocence.

Now, 45 years later, he said, Kennard has been "found innocent beyond a reasonable doubt."

#### WHAT'S NEXT

Gov. Haley Barbour has been asked to issue a posthumous pardon for Clyde Kennard, who died in 1963 shortly after being freed.

#### PHOTOS

Kennard

Dillard

---

Copyright (c) The Clarion-Ledger. All rights reserved. Reproduced with the permission of Gannett Co., Inc. by NewsBank, Inc.



## Clarion-Ledger

Estimated printed pages: 4

January 29, 2006

Section: Local

Page: 1B

### Daughter: Barnett said Kennard innocent

*Jerry Mitchell  
Staff*

-Former governor thought case involving civil rights pioneer was 'disgraceful', his daughter says  
By Jerry Mitchell

[jmitchell@clarionledger.com](mailto:jmitchell@clarionledger.com)

Then-Gov. Ross Barnett believed civil rights pioneer Clyde Kennard was innocent of the crime that sent him to prison, his daughter says.

"He said he thought it was disgraceful," said Barnett's daughter, Ouida Barnett Atkins of Jackson, a retired school teacher who supports efforts to clear Kennard's name.

Atkins recalled the words of her father shortly before he freed the decorated Korean War veteran in January 1963 from the State Penitentiary at Parchman. "He said, 'He (Kennard) has cancer. He doesn't have long to live, but he deserves to go home to die.'"

Hattiesburg native Joyce Ladner - who was mentored by Kennard and who fought to win his freedom in 1963 - recalled Barnett being initially opposed to freeing the veteran. "He was appealed to continuously but failed to act until a lot of national pressure was brought against him," she said.

Barnett had to know Kennard was suffering from cancer, Ladner said. "He was in charge, ultimately, of the penal system, so either the warden would have informed him, or he would have inquired about Clyde."

Atkins defended her father's motives in freeing Kennard in 1963. "I don't remember him being embarrassed to do this, as some writers have said," she said. "I was there, and I remember he said it was the right thing as a humanitarian act."

Kennard spent his last days in a Chicago hospital, where he died July 4, 1963, and the story of his life and his unsuccessful attempts to attend the then-all-white Mississippi Southern College, now known as the University of Southern Mississippi, have been largely forgotten.

A three-month investigation by The Clarion-Ledger showed Kennard was falsely convicted of burglary in 1960 before being sentenced to a maximum seven years in prison. Forty-five years later, the man who had testified Kennard put him up to the burglary now says Kennard never asked him to do anything illegal.

"Why they got him was not the feed," Johnny Roberts told The Clarion-Ledger. "It was because he was trying to go to Southern. If he wasn't a black man trying to go to Southern, you wouldn't have heard nothing."

After the story appeared Dec. 31, former Hinds County Chancery Judge Chet Dillard filed a friend-of-the-court brief asking the Mississippi Supreme Court to throw out Kennard's conviction.

On Friday, the Mississippi Senate unanimously passed a resolution praising Kennard's contributions, but stopping short of saying he was innocent. In the wake of that vote, state Sen. John Hornh, D-Jackson, is asking Gov. Haley Barbour to issue a posthumous pardon for Kennard.

He's not alone. On behalf of Kennard's brother-in-law, the Rev. Willie Grant of Hattiesburg, the Center on Wrongful Convictions and three Illinois students also have asked the governor to pardon Kennard.

"Makes me happy to know somebody is working toward it," said Grant, who pastors the Martin Luther King Avenue Baptist Church in Hattiesburg. "I have great faith it's going to work out."

Their letter to Barbour calls Kennard's burglary trial "a travesty. He was forced to go to trial within a week of his indictment on burglary charges. Repeated requests by Kennard's trial attorney, a legendary local black attorney named R. Jess Brown,

were denied. An all-white jury convicted Kennard after only 10 minutes of deliberation."

The center's legal director, Steven Drizin, professor at Northwestern University School of Law in Chicago, said the case against Kennard, already thin, has now come unraveled.

"It's taken 45 years but Johnny Lee Roberts has finally felt comfortable enough to tell the truth of what happened to Kennard," Drizin said. "His courage is now causing others to come forward, including prominent whites, to express their long-held misgivings about Kennard's conviction."

The time has come, he said, "to recognize Kennard for his heroic efforts and to right the wrongs to which he was subjected."

The students from Adlai Stevenson High School in Lincolnshire, Ill., who have been conducting interviews on Kennard's case for a National History Day documentary, brought the case to the attention of the center, which has relied on their work to help make the case for Kennard's pardon.

"It's part of the American dream to get an education," said Mona Ghadiri, whose family emigrated from Iran. "To see someone denied that is wrong."

The late governor's daughter said she was 29 when she overheard her father's conversations on Kennard.

Her father believed in Kennard's innocence and so did Erle Johnston Jr., who headed the state's now-defunct segregationist spy agency, the Mississippi Sovereignty Commission, Atkins said. "They all thought he was railroaded."

Johnston's beliefs are contained in his Oct. 15, 1965, letter to an Ohio man in which Johnston wrote, "Many responsible Mississippi citizens recognize there was a miscarriage of justice in the Kennard case."

In March 1962, Kennard underwent cancer surgery but wasn't freed by Barnett until January 1963.

His daughter doesn't know why her father didn't free Kennard sooner, she said. "He said he really felt sorry for him and that it was the right thing to do. I thought so, too."

Now 72, she still volunteers at Lanier High School, where she taught 11 years.

She received a degree in history from Southern in 1955 and is pleased the university in 1993 named a building after Kennard and Walter Washington, the first African American to receive a doctorate from the institution. "Clyde Kennard's name should be cleared," she said. "I do think my father would support it. I certainly do."

#### PHOTOS

Barnett

Kennard

---

Copyright (c) The Clarion-Ledger. All rights reserved. Reproduced with the permission of Gannett Co., Inc. by NewsBank, inc.



## Clarion-Ledger

Estimated printed pages: 3

January 24, 2006

Section: Main

Page: 1A

### Ex-judge wants court to exonerate Kennard

*Jerry Mitchell*  
Staff

By Jerry Mitchell

[jmitchell@clarionledger.com](mailto:jmitchell@clarionledger.com)

A former judge has petitioned the state Supreme Court to clear the name of a decorated black Korean War veteran falsely convicted of a burglary after he tried to enroll in the late 1950s at a white Mississippi university.

Former Hinds County Chancellor Chet Dillard urged justices "to exonerate and clear records to show the innocence and good moral character of Clyde Kennard," who repeatedly tried to enroll at the University of Southern Mississippi, only to be sent to prison for seven years for a burglary he didn't commit. "Without question and beyond any reasonable doubt, Kennard was innocent of any crime yet this court affirmed his conviction," he wrote.

Dillard, who graduated from Southern in 1953, filed the friend-of-the-court brief after a three-month investigation by The Clarion-Ledger revealed how Kennard was falsely imprisoned.

Attorney General Jim Hood said because Dillard's motion doesn't include affidavits or similar proof, his office will oppose the request.

Dillard said he doesn't think affidavits are necessary because it's well known Kennard was railroaded. Long-secret records confirm this.

Erle Johnston Jr. - executive director of the state's now-defunct segregationist spy agency, the Mississippi Sovereignty Commission - wrote an Ohio man in 1965: "Many responsible Mississippi citizens recognize that there was a miscarriage of justice in the Kennard case."

In Kennard's 1960 trial, 19-year-old Johnny Lee Roberts testified that the 33-year-old Kennard put him up to breaking into Forrest County Co-op to steal \$25 in feed.

Now, 45 years later, Roberts said none of that is true.

Approached by The Clarion-Ledger, he said he's willing to swear under oath that Kennard "wasn't guilty of nothing."

Legal experts say Roberts' recanting means Kennard's burglary conviction falls.

In 1960, the white jury took 10 minutes to convict Kennard. The judge sentenced him to the maximum seven years in prison but gave Roberts no jail time.

Months later, the state Supreme Court upheld Kennard's conviction, rejecting defense arguments that black residents had been barred from voting and, therefore, from serving on Kennard's jury: "The jury box is filled without regard to race." (That same year, the Justice Department charged Forrest County Circuit Clerk Theron Lynd with voter discrimination.)

Behind bars, Kennard suffered weight loss and severe abdominal pain. Doctors misdiagnosed him with sickle-cell anemia, and prison guards forced him to pick cotton all day at the State Penitentiary at Parchman.

In early 1963, Gov. Ross Barnett released Kennard, who died months later of cancer.

In 1991, The Clarion-Ledger published secret documents that showed how authorities first framed Kennard on reckless driving and illegal liquor possession.

In 1993, USM honored Kennard by renaming its student services building after him and Walter Washington, the first African American to receive a doctorate there.

But Mississippi has never taken any official action to clear his name.

State Sen. John Horn, D-Jackson, has introduced a resolution that calls Kennard's burglary conviction "a gross miscarriage of justice." The resolution calls on Gov. Haley Barbour to issue a posthumous pardon for Kennard and/or for the courts to clear Kennard's name.

The resolution has been referred to the Senate Rules Committee, and Horn said he plans to meet with the chairman, President Pro Tem Travis Little, to see if passage can be expedited.

Dillard said he thinks the best way to clear Kennard's name rests with justices. "There's no way anybody can change that (burglary conviction) except the Supreme Court."

Cindy Crohn of Amherst, Mass., said her late husband, Harris Crohn, served on the music faculty at Southern in the late 1950s and early 1960s.

One day in 1959, she recalled him coming home and being told by then USM-President William McCain that a black man was going to try to enroll the following day, saying, "We have the situation under control."

She said her husband told her faculty members were instructed to say nothing about what was to happen. The next day, Kennard was arrested on illegal liquor charges, only to be convicted of that and later burglary.





## Clarion-Ledger

Estimated printed pages: 3

February 24, 2006

Section: Main

Page: 1A

### High court denies Kennard petition

*Jerry Mitchell*  
Staff

By Jerry Mitchell  
[jmitchell@clarionledger.com](mailto:jmitchell@clarionledger.com)

Supporters seeking to exonerate the man who tried to become the first black student at the University of Southern Mississippi are looking for help elsewhere after the state Supreme Court passed on overturning the decorated Korean War veteran's 1960 burglary conviction.

In an 8-0 decision made public Thursday, the state Supreme Court said it doesn't have the authority to throw out Clyde Kennard's conviction. "The Post-Conviction Collateral Relief Act only provides relief for prisoners currently in custody," Chief Justice Jim Smith wrote. "Since Kennard died in 1963, the Post-Conviction Relief statutes provide no remedy."

More than 1,500 USM students - and university President Shelby Thames - have signed a petition asking state officials to clear Kennard's name. "We want his soul to be free," said LaKeisha Bryant, president of the Afro-American Student Organization.

Fourth District Rep. Gene Taylor wrote a Feb. 16 letter to Gov. Haley Barbour, enclosing a letter from Dr. Glen Pearson, a Hattiesburg physician who knew Kennard and has called on state officials to clear the late veteran's name.

"At this point in life, it is his (Pearson's) concern for a young man wrongfully treated and misused," Taylor said. "All of us have been aware of these kinds of things in our lifetime and hope we can put them behind us and move on. One of the ways we can do this is by righting wrongs wherever and whenever we have that opportunity.

"We now in Mississippi have that opportunity of making right a wrong in our past. It is my hope that you would see fit to address this case that tugs so strongly at Dr. Pearson's heartstrings and help to set it right."

A spokesman for the governor has said Barbour has not pardoned anyone so far and has no plans to.

Kennard's brother-in-law, the Rev. Willie Grant of Hattiesburg, said he'd like to see his relative's name cleared for the family's sake.

At his request, Northwestern University's Center for Wrongful Convictions and three Illinois students have asked Barbour to pardon Kennard.

In December, an investigation by The Clarion-Ledger revealed that Kennard was locked up for a crime he never committed.

In the 1960 trial, 19-year-old Johnny Lee Roberts testified that Kennard, a 33-year-old devout Baptist and farmer, put him up to breaking into Forrest County Co-op to steal \$25 in feed, even describing how he should leave the warehouse door unlocked.

Now, 45 years later, Roberts said none of that is true. He said Kennard never put him up to burglary, never asked him to steal, never asked him to do anything illegal - a statement he now has repeated under oath.

Pearson, one of Kennard's few white supporters at the time, said he always believed the veteran was innocent. "It was a terrible blow to me to see this man dealt such a grievous thing," he said. "He died young without it being corrected. Now we have an opportunity. We can't really correct it, but we can do the best we can."

The 92-year-old physician said it still hurts him to think of Kennard being railroaded in this case. "He suffered at the state's hands. I feel it's my duty to do anything I can to see this expunged from the record," he said.

Thames signed the students' petition Wednesday after hearing Kennard's story firsthand from Raylawni Branch, one of the two first African-American students to attend USM. "He (Thames) said he's supporting us, and he hates Mr. Kennard had to

go through that," Bryant said.

Student organizations, including the Center for Human Rights and Civil Liberties, American Humanics and the student chapter of the NAACP, plan to continue gathering signatures for another week.

In January, former Hinds County Chancery Judge Chet Dillard petitioned the high court on Kennard's behalf. Thursday, Dillard said he plans to appeal the matter to the U.S. Supreme Court.

PHOTOS

Thames

Kennard

---

Copyright (c) The Clarion-Ledger. All rights reserved. Reproduced with the permission of Gannett Co., Inc. by NewsBank, inc.



## Clarion-Ledger

Estimated printed pages: 2

January 28, 2006

Section: Local

Page: 1B

### Senators' resolution recognizes Kennard

*Jerry Mitchell  
Staff*

Lawmaker petitions governor to pardon civil rights pioneer convicted on false burglary charges

By Jerry Mitchell

[jmitchell@clarionledger.com](mailto:jmitchell@clarionledger.com)

The Mississippi Senate unanimously passed a resolution Friday honoring a forgotten civil rights pioneer.

"When Clyde Kennard refused to give up his quest to become the first black student to enroll at the University of Southern Mississippi, authorities sent him to state prison in 1960 for seven years," the resolution reads.

State Sen. John Horhn, D-Jackson, commended senators for its passage - then questioned why the wording was changed from what he originally penned to omit the declaration that Kennard, a decorated Korean War veteran, was innocent of the burglary charge that sent him to prison.

"This was a cowardly act because we all know this man was poorly treated, and the state had a part in it," Horhn said. "Forty-six years after this occurred, we as a state can't acknowledge we did something wrong, and we dropped the ball."

Senate President Pro Tem Travis Little said the wording of the resolution was changed under advice of attorneys. What the Senate didn't want to do, he said, was set a precedent in declaring someone's innocence.

On Friday afternoon, Horhn sent Gov. Haley Barbour a letter, requesting Kennard's pardon: "New evidence shows that Mr. Kennard was an innocent victim of a gross miscarriage of justice."

On Dec. 31, The Clarion-Ledger reported that Kennard was falsely convicted of burglary in 1960 before being given the maximum sentence. Forty-five years later, the man who testified then that Kennard put him up to the burglary now has acknowledged to The Clarion-Ledger that Kennard never asked him to do anything illegal.

The Senate resolution passed Friday cites the fact USM in 1993 renamed its student services building after Kennard and Walter Washington, who became the first African American to receive a doctorate from the university.

The Senate resolution, expected to be presented to surviving members of Kennard's family, says: "We do hereby remember the legacy of the late Clyde Kennard, the first black student to apply for admittance at the University of Southern Mississippi, for his significant role in the history of the university and for his significant role in the history of the civil rights movement in Mississippi."

Col. Raylawni Branch of Hattiesburg, one of USM's first two African-American students in 1965, said the Senate should have at least acknowledged that Kennard, a devout Baptist and teetotaler, was framed in 1959 on the illegal liquor possession charge - something confirmed by records from the state's segregationist spy agency, the Mississippi Sovereignty Commission.

Branch said she hopes the state takes further steps to clear Kennard's name. "It would show the continuance of progress that's being made in the state of Mississippi and point us towards what a great state we are with the potential of being one of the greatest states in the nation."

PHOTOS

Horhn

Kennard



## Clarion-Ledger

Estimated printed pages: 3

January 12, 2006

Section: Local

Page: 1B

**Horhn: 'He was railroaded'**

*Jerry Mitchell  
Staff*

Resolution aimed at clearing name of black farmer

By Jerry Mitchell

[jmitchell@clarionledger.com](mailto:jmitchell@clarionledger.com)

A state lawmaker is proposing a resolution aimed at clearing the name of the late Clyde Kennard - a black farmer imprisoned after he tried to enroll at the University of Southern Mississippi.

"I think justice needs to finally be done for a man whose only crime was trying to pursue higher education," said state Sen. John Horhn, D-Jackson. "It's been documented he was railroaded. He needs to have his name cleared."

That resolution is expected to include a recommendation on how to clear his name. "We're exploring whether this is a matter possibly taken up posthumously by courts or whether to seek a pardon from the governor," he said.

A three-month investigation by The Clarion-Ledger revealed Kennard was imprisoned for a crime he never committed.

Kennard's brother-in-law, the Rev. Willie Grant, pastor of the Martin Luther King Avenue Baptist Church in Hattiesburg, said he was grateful to hear the news about the proposed resolution. "Clyde was an honorable, godly person," he said. "With the Lord, his record is clear, but this is for society."

The farmer and decorated Korean War veteran repeatedly tried to enroll at Southern, only to be sent to prison for seven years for burglary at the age of 33.

In the 1960 trial, 19-year-old Johnny Lee Roberts testified Kennard put him up to breaking into Forrest County Co-op to steal \$25 in feed.

Now, 45 years later, Roberts said none of that is true.

Approached by The Clarion-Ledger, he said he's willing to swear under oath Kennard "wasn't guilty of nothing."

Legal experts say Roberts' recanting means Kennard's burglary conviction can't stand up since Roberts' testimony was the sole evidence linking Kennard to burglary.

Minutes after Kennard tried to enroll at Southern in 1959, constables arrested him on reckless driving and illegal liquor possession - charges for which he was convicted.

In 1991, The Clarion-Ledger published secret documents from the state's now-defunct segregationist spy agency, the Mississippi Sovereignty Commission, that showed how authorities framed Kennard on those charges.

Two years later, USM honored Kennard by renaming its student services building after him and Walter Washington, the first African American to receive a doctorate from the institution.

But Mississippi has never taken any official action to clear his name.

LaKeisha Bryant, president of the Afro-American Student Organization at USM, said the state should erase the criminal record of this innocent man. "He fought hard to make education available so that we as African-American students could enroll at Southern Miss," she said.

In 1962, Kennard became ill, but still had to pick cotton from sunrise to sunset at the State Penitentiary at Parchman. In early 1963, Gov. Ross Barnett released Kennard, who died months later of cancer.

Lawrence Guyot, who battled for voting rights in Hattiesburg, said he believes the state owes it to Kennard to exonerate him.

"I think we now know who Clyde Kennard was, what he stood for, how he was trapped in the times of Mississippi then," he said.

"Mississippi as we know it now has the ability and the power to clear him and in doing so, re-establish its place of prominence in Southern politics."

PHOTO

Kennard

---

Copyright (c) The Clarion-Ledger. All rights reserved. Reproduced with the permission of Gannett Co., Inc. by NewsBank, inc.





## Clarion-Ledger

Estimated printed pages: 2

January 17, 2006

Section: Local

Page: 1B

### Action would clear name

*Jerry Mitchell*  
Staff

Resolution before Legislature condemns false burglary charge against Clyde Kennard in 1960s

By Jerry Mitchell

[jmitchell@clarionledger.com](mailto:jmitchell@clarionledger.com)

A lawmaker introduced a resolution Monday aimed at clearing the name of a late black farmer imprisoned on a false charge in 1960 because he tried to enter an all-white university in Mississippi.

"It's fitting on the day we celebrate Martin Luther King that we try to get justice for Clyde Kennard, this honorable Mississippian who paved the way for blacks having access to higher education anywhere in Mississippi," said state Sen. John Horhn, D-Jackson.

The resolution is expected to be referred to the Senate Rules Committee, chaired by President Pro Tem Travis Little.

Kennard's brother-in-law, the Rev. Willie Grant, pastor of the Martin Luther King Avenue Baptist Church in Hattiesburg, said he hopes lawmakers will pass it. "It should be done for people, friends and family who are still here and know what kind of person he was," he said.

A three-month investigation by The Clarion-Ledger revealed Kennard was imprisoned for a crime he never committed.

The farmer and decorated Korean War veteran repeatedly tried to enroll at the University of Southern Mississippi, only to be sent to prison for the maximum seven years for burglary at the age of 33.

In the 1960 trial, 19-year-old Johnny Lee Roberts testified Kennard put him up to breaking into Forrest County Co-op to steal \$25 in feed.

Now, 45 years later, Roberts said none of that is true.

Approached by The Clarion-Ledger, he said he's willing to swear under oath Kennard "wasn't guilty of nothing."

Legal experts say Roberts' recanting means Kennard's burglary conviction can't stand up; Roberts' testimony was the sole evidence linking Kennard to burglary.

Minutes after Kennard first tried to enroll at Southern in 1959, constables arrested him on reckless driving and illegal liquor possession - charges for which he was convicted.

In 1991, The Clarion-Ledger published secret documents from the state's now-defunct segregationist spy agency, the Mississippi Sovereignty Commission, that showed how authorities framed Kennard on those charges.

Two years later, USM honored Kennard by renaming its student services building after him and Walter Washington, the first African American to receive a doctorate from the institution.

But Mississippi has never taken any official action to clear his name.

Monday's resolution says Kennard was innocent and calls his burglary conviction "a gross miscarriage of justice." The resolution calls on Gov. Haley Barbour to issue a posthumous pardon for Kennard and/or for Attorney General Jim Hood or the district attorney to seek to clear Kennard's name through the courts.

Little said Monday he hasn't seen the resolution, Senate Concurrent Resolution 543, and can't comment until he does.

PHOTOS

Horn

Kennard

RELATED

·Bills would expand home health care, 1A

·Judge added to 5th circuit, 1A

---

Copyright (c) The Clarion-Ledger. All rights reserved. Reproduced with the permission of Gannett Co., Inc. by NewsBank, inc.

# EXHIBIT C

## MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE

2006 Regular Session

To: Rules

By: Representative Watson, Brown, Whittington, Calhoun

## House Concurrent Resolution 55

### (As Adopted by House)

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REMEMBERING THE LEGACY OF THE LATE CLYDE KENNARD, THE FIRST AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDENT TO APPLY FOR ADMITTANCE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI, FOR HIS SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN THE HISTORY OF THE UNIVERSITY AND IN THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT IN MISSISSIPPI AND URGING THE PROPER AUTHORITIES TO TAKE NECESSARY MEASURES TO RESTORE HIS REPUTATION.

WHEREAS, Clyde Kennard, an African American decorated war veteran and farmer, repeatedly tried to become known as the first black student to enroll at the University of Southern Mississippi (USM), but his false arrest is known by researchers as a sad event of the civil rights movement in Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, when Clyde Kennard refused to give up his quest to become the first black student to enroll at the University of Southern Mississippi, authorities sent him to state prison in 1960 for seven years; and

WHEREAS, a three-month investigation by *The Clarion-Ledger* has revealed that the decorated Army veteran was locked up for a crime he never committed; and

WHEREAS, in the 1960 trial, 19-year-old Johnny Lee Roberts testified that Kennard, a 33-year-old devout Baptist and farmer, put him up to breaking into Forrest County Co-op to steal \$25.00 in feed, even describing how he should leave the warehouse door unlocked; however, 45 years later, Roberts has said that none of his testimony was true, is willing to swear under oath that Clyde Kennard never put him up to the burglary, or asked him to do anything illegal; and

WHEREAS, born in 1927, Kennard's early life foreshadowed a grim future when, at the age of four, his father died. He grew up helping his mother run the family farm. In 1950, Kennard began attending college in Fayetteville, N.C., during the Korean War. Kennard served as a paratrooper and rose to the rank of sergeant, receiving three medals including the Bronze Star; and

WHEREAS, after the Korean War, he came home to run the family farm in Mississippi, and at the age of 28 joined the NAACP; and

WHEREAS, Kennard served as President of the local NAACP youth chapter and on the local school board; and

WHEREAS, after becoming aware that the area's 125 black students had to travel 11 miles past the all-white school to attend classes, Kennard became outraged and circulated an unsuccessful petition to have children attend the closest school; and

WHEREAS, Kennard desired to finish college and in 1956, he approached President William D. McCain at the then segregated Mississippi Southern College, but was denied entrance; however, when he tried to enroll again in 1958, he enjoyed the support of Medgar Evers, Field Secretary for the Mississippi NAACP and, when his intention to attend college was made public, the state's segregationist spy agency, the Mississippi Sovereignty Commission, compiled an extensive dossier on the small-framed farmer and sought to smear his reputation; authorities' framing of Kennard is made clear in Sovereignty Commission records; and

WHEREAS, on March 6, 1961, the Mississippi Supreme Court ordered a new trial on reckless driving and liquor charges for Kennard, but it did him little good because he remained behind bars, where he had been since his September 1960 burglary arrest and less than a month later, the same justices upheld Kennard's conviction, sending him to the State Penitentiary at Parchman; and

WHEREAS, in 1993, USM honored Kennard by renaming its student services building after him and Walter Washington, the first African American to receive a doctorate from the institution, and a biography of Kennard on the university's Web site refers to the charges against Kennard as "false," but Mississippi never has taken any official action to clear his name; and

WHEREAS, Clyde Kennard wrote a letter to the *Hattiesburg American* in 1958 challenging the idea of separate but equal. Kennard suggested people work together to build up one another: "When merit replaces race as a factor in character evaluation, the most heckling social problem of modern times will have been solved"; and

WHEREAS, in March 1962, he underwent colon cancer surgery at the University of Mississippi Medical Center, but died July 4, 1963, the anniversary of the Declaration of Independence that promised, "All men are created equal"; and

WHEREAS, the handling of Kennard's case was evidence of injustice in Mississippi's past history, and the reputation of this Mississippian deserves to be exonerated:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN, That we do hereby remember the legacy of the late Clyde Kennard, the first African-American student to apply for admittance at the University of Southern Mississippi, for his significant role in the history of the university and in the history of the civil rights movement in Mississippi.**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That (a) we strongly urge the Governor to grant Mr. Kennard a posthumous pardon in this case based upon the new evidence referred to in this Concurrent Resolution, or (b) in the alternative, the District Attorney for the Twelfth Circuit Court District or the Attorney General for the State of Mississippi should investigate and present evidence for a new trial on this matter to the appropriate grand jury, or (c) in the alternative, the Mississippi Supreme Court should take up the Kennard burglary conviction on its own motion.**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution shall be forwarded by the Secretary of State to the District Attorney for the Twelfth Circuit Court District, the Attorney General for the State of Mississippi and the Clerk of the Mississippi Supreme Court.**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution shall be presented to the surviving family members of Clyde Kennard and be made available to the Capitol Press Corps.



**\*\* News \*\***

Press Releases  
Columns  
Proclamations  
Executive Orders  
Appointments

**\*\* Speeches \*\***

Inaugural  
State of the State  
Other Speeches

**\*\* Photos \*\***

Photo Gallery

**\*\* Scheduling \*\***

Upcoming Events  
Request the Governor  
Request the First Lady

**\*\* Services \*\***

Constituent Services

**\*\* Links \*\***

State Agencies  
Education

**\*\* News \*\***

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the late Clyde Kennard, the first African-American to apply for admittance to the Univ Southern Mississippi, played a significant role in the history of USM and a significant role in the Ci Movement in Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, born in 1927, Kennard lost his father at the age of 4 and grew up helping his mother i family farm. In 1950, Kennard began attending college in Fayetteville, North Carolina, during the h War. Kennard served as a paratrooper and rose to the rank of sergeant, receiving three medals ir Bronze Star; and

WHEREAS, after the Korean War, Kennard came home to run the family farm in Mississippi. Ther old, Kennard joined the NAACP and later served as President of the local NAACP youth chapter. served on the local school board and circulated an unsuccessful petition to have children of all rac the closest school to their home; and

WHEREAS, Kennard wanted to finish college and in 1956, he approached President William D. M the then segregated Mississippi Southern College, but was denied enrollment. By the time he tried again in 1958, he enjoyed the support of Medgar Evers, Field Secretary for the Mississippi NAACI his intention to attend college was made public, the Mississippi Sovereignty Commission began to the activities of Kennard; and

WHEREAS, Clyde Kennard wrote a letter to the Hattiesburg American in 1958 challenging the ide separate but equal. Kennard suggested people work together to build up one another: "When mer race as a factor in character evaluation, the most heckling social problem of modern times will hav solved"; and

WHEREAS, during the time in which Kennard refused to give up his quest to become the first bla to enroll at the University of Southern Mississippi, he was tried and convicted for his alleged role i burglary of the Forrest County Co-Op in 1960; and

WHEREAS, Kennard died July 4, 1963, the anniversary of the Declaration of Independence that p "All men are created equal"; and

WHEREAS, the University of Southern Mississippi, in a ceremony lead by USM President Aubrey held in 1993, "apologize(d) for the indignities he (Kennard) suffered" and held a dedication of Ken Washington Hall; and

WHEREAS, Johnny Lee Roberts, the key witness to testify against Kennard in his 1960 burglary c gave statements to The Clarion Ledger in 2005 which reveal that Kennard was not involved in the the Forrest County Co-op; and

WHEREAS, there is other compelling evidence that Clyde Kennard was not guilty of the crime for was convicted; and

WHEREAS, Clyde Kennard, if he were living, would be entitled to have his rights restored, and, w living, his rights would have been restored during this Administration;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Haley Barbour, Governor of the State of Mississippi, hereby proclaim Mar 2006 as

CLYDE KENNARD DAY

in the State of Mississippi and urge all citizens to remember the legacy of the late Clyde Kennard, the African-American to apply for admittance at the University of Southern Mississippi, for his determining the injustices he suffered, and his significant role in the history of the Civil Rights Movement in Mississippi.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi to be affixed.

DONE in the City of Jackson, on the thirtieth day of March in the year of our Lord, two thousand and six, the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and thirtieth.

HALEY BARBOUR

Governor Haley Barbour  
P.O. Box 139 \* Jackson, MS \* 39205  
Phone: 601.359.3150 \* Fax: 601.359.3741



# EXHIBIT D



## One Mississippi Negro Who Didn't Go to College

RONALD A. HOLLANDER

**J**AMES H. MEREDITH was not the first Negro to seek the educational opportunities offered at Mississippi's all-white universities. Two others tried and failed before he succeeded. One was dispatched for a time to the state mental hospital, the theory being that "any nigger who tried to enter Ole Miss *must* be crazy." The other was Clyde Kennard.

Clyde Kennard, a native of Hattiesburg, comes of farming people: growers of cotton and corn, peas and potatoes. Hattiesburg, a city of thirty-five thousand in the southeastern part of the state, is the home of the University of Southern Mississippi. Mississippi Southern College, as it was called in 1959 when Kennard applied, now has an enrollment of some 4,200. Basically a liberal-arts school, it prides itself on its Fine Arts Department. The school is entirely state-supported, depending for its funds upon appropriations of state tax moneys. President William D. McCain is responsible to a state board of trustees. White-columned, red-bricked, broad-walked, and ivied, with lily pond and kissing bridge, the campus impresses most visitors by its calm and charm. Msc, as it was called locally, was approaching its fiftieth anniversary at the time of Kennard's application.

Leona Smith, Kennard's mother

(she remarried when he was nine, five years after the death of his father), saw to it that her five children attended Sunday school and "did their lessons." Clyde, her youngest, was a quiet, obedient, considerate son. He left Hattiesburg at twelve to live with his sister Sara in Chicago.

After paratroop service in Germany and in Korea, Kennard returned to Chicago, where he spent three years at the University. With money he had saved in Korea, he bought his parents a small farm on the outskirts of Hattiesburg. In 1955, at the age of twenty-eight, with a year of school remaining, he was forced to return to Hattiesburg. His stepfather had been disabled, and Kennard went home to run the farm.

**F**INISHING his education was still uppermost in his mind. Mississippi Southern was a mere fifteen-minute drive from the farm. Yes, he was told, msc does accept senior-year transfer students, but . . . Kennard began having discussions with President McCain. They talked over a period of some three years, McCain finding the applicant "courteous at all times."

The decision to apply to Mississippi Southern did not come easily for Kennard. But when it came, it came from Kennard alone. Speaking to a

friend, he said, "It's a public school. I'd like to go there."

"What if you come up missing?" the friend asked.

"History is in the making," Kennard answered.

Although possessing what a preacher has called "an upbuilding feeling for his race," Kennard didn't believe in a forced, violent integration of the schools. "He didn't care," his mother has said. "He'd offered to take his courses at night." Nor did he relish the idea of seeking court orders to compel the college to admit him. When asked if he thought he'd be able to enter Mississippi Southern without a court order, Kennard replied, "These people at msc are more liberal. They're not like the old ones. I'll get in without the courts." (Three years after Kennard's last application, President McCain explained his views on segregation: "Why, I've got 270 years behind my feelings." Although Kennard later attempted to organize an NAACP Youth Council in Hattiesburg, he refused offers of legal aid. He explained his position in a letter to the Hattiesburg *American*. In Hattiesburg the letter drew the comment, "No nigger coulda' written that.")

He wrote: ". . . [This has] led me to request that I be permitted to enroll at Mississippi Southern College, without a court order to do so. I, too, am a solid believer in the ability of the individual States to control their own affairs. I believe that if this state should lead out with only the smallest amount of integration it would never have to worry about Federal intervention.

"I have done all that is within my power to follow a reasonable course in this matter. . . . I have tried to make it clear that my love for the State of Mississippi and my hope for its peaceful prosperity is equal to any man's alive. The thought of presenting this request before a Federal Court for consideration, with all the publicity and misrepresentation which that would bring about, makes my heart heavy. . . ."

In 1958 Kennard was invited by the then Governor J. P. Coleman to Jackson, the state capital. President McCain of msc was also at the meeting. It was an election year in Mississippi; the pending application was

an unpleasant topic for any election campaign. Kennard was told that he could select any college in America that would accept him, and that the state of Mississippi would pay his expenses. He refused. As he had explained in his letter to the *American*:

"Mississippi Southern College is the only State supported four year college in this area and my situation at home makes it very difficult for me to leave home to continue my education. On this account I have been unable to attend school for nearly five years. By attending Mississippi Southern College my problem would be solved, as I could live at home and attend school."

Governor Coleman explained that the political situation was hot and urged Kennard to wait. He said that time would take care of things. He'd try to work it out. Kennard wanted to know when; Coleman couldn't say—someday. He asked that Kennard withhold his application until after the primary in 1959. Kennard agreed, but Coleman's hand-picked candidate to succeed him lost anyway.

In the fall of 1959 Kennard resubmitted his application. Several people had been approached to try to persuade him not to. The Mississippi Sovereignty Commission, the executive investigatory body to preserve and enforce segregation, had sent its men to the homes and offices of various people in Hattiesburg. "I am here at the request of the governor," announced one, urging a white religious leader and friend of Kennard's to plead with him not to apply. The head of the Hattiesburg Negro school system and a Negro principal were also approached. But as Kennard put it, "It's a question of principle."

### The Moonshine Method

The date for Kennard's formal interview had been set for Tuesday, September 15. Despite the warning of a local civil-rights leader that McCain was in contact with the White Citizens' Council, Kennard continued to trust him. He took no special notice when President McCain called as he was leaving that morning to find out just when he expected to be on campus. Kennard first drove his mother to their potato

patch in his 1956 Mercury station wagon. She intended to "do some hoeing, pick some peas, and pull some vines for the cows." Kennard was to drive by later to pick up the vines. He continued into town, by a back road that was the quickest route from the potato patch.

In town, Kennard stopped briefly at the house of a clergyman he knew to leave a statement he had prepared. The minister had called Kennard the night before, suggesting that he prepare a statement asking for a lawyer to represent him in the event of his being jailed. It was about 9:45. Kennard continued on.



He stopped for a shoeshine, then stopped again to give a lift to a friend of his mother's, dropping her off before reaching the campus. He went into the president's office to see McCain.

McCain was not alone. Zack J. Van Landingham, chief investigator for the Sovereignty Commission had apparently just happened by, and was seated in the office. After twelve or fifteen minutes, the interview ended. Kennard returned to his locked car, where he was met by two waiting constables. They placed him under arrest, charging him with reckless driving. Kennard gave the constables his keys and they opened the car door. They had trouble starting the car. Kennard showed them how. He was then taken to the Hattiesburg police station in the constables' car by one of the officers. The other

drove Kennard's car. Some minutes later, as Kennard was being questioned, one of the constables entered with a paper bag containing five half-pints of liquor, claiming that it had been found under the front seat of the station wagon. Clyde Kennard was booked and charged with reckless driving and possession of liquor, which is illegal in "dry" Mississippi.

His application had of course been rejected. The college's statement read: "Clyde Kennard, a Negro presumably residing in Forrest County, today appeared at Mississippi Southern College in connection with his request to be admitted to the college. He was denied because of deficiencies and irregularities in his application papers." McCain said that he could not reveal the irregularities because "Once a prospective student's records become a part of the registrar's records we are prohibited from releasing any part of that information except on the student's request."

Concerning the interview, McCain stated: "Generally we went over what we had discussed in the past. He was determined to press his application. And we denied it. That's about it." He told newsmen: "Hundreds of students are refused admission every year for the same reasons listed in Kennard's rejection." Kennard himself said that he had been given three reasons for his rejection: irregularities in his medical records making his "moral character" questionable, the fact that Mississippi Southern had not received his records from the University of Chicago, and the alleged refusal of the University of Chicago to readmit Kennard after three years' attendance, which Kennard held was untrue. William Van Cleve, the registrar of the University of Chicago, agrees. "Kennard was never refused readmission. In fact, the University expected him to resume studies in the winter of 1957. He left here with a clean slate."

IN A RECENT CONVERSATION, President McCain explained that Kennard had advanced the dates on his medical certificate and character recommendations by a year. Although McCain conceded that these documents could have been prepared for an earlier application, the dates nevertheless were falsified, he pointed

out. "And Mississippi Southern does not deal in forged documents." He disclaimed any knowledge of a meeting with the governor, denied that there was any communication between Mississippi Southern and the Sovereignty Commission, and could not be sure whether an application had actually been pending in 1958, the date the documents originally bore. McCain indicated that there were several other reasons for Kennard's being rejected, but that "one is sufficient." He said that while Kennard was applying, he had had the Mississippi Southern security force investigate Kennard's past. "Shady dealings were discovered." Did McCain mean that Kennard had committed crimes or broken the law? "Just shady dealings." McCain would not elaborate. He pointed out that he is employed by a board of trustees, that two choices face him: to follow their decisions or to resign. He can do more, the former general feels, to develop honesty, culture, and individual integrity as president of Mississippi Southern than he can in a "silly martyrdom for one Negro."

The constables who arrested Kennard, Charlie Ward and Lee Daniels, denied having advance knowledge of his pre-publicized plan to enroll at msc. Although there were already several law officers on campus when Kennard arrived, including Mississippi Highway Patrol Chief Bill Hood, as well as the head of the Sovereignty Commission, both Ward and Daniels claimed to be unaware that Kennard "would be on campus to carry out an integration attempt." They claimed that they had simply seen a speeding car on the highway, followed it, then lost it, picked it up again on the campus, and waited for its driver to return.

"It's obvious those men planted that whiskey in Clyde's car," a cousin of Kennard's said. "He neither drinks nor smokes. In fact, he doesn't even drink soft drinks." The constables explained that the liquor was found under the front seat of the car during a search conducted while the prisoner was being questioned. One of them added that he had "heard something rattling" when he drove Kennard's station wagon into town. "They didn't mention liquor until I was in jail," said Ken-

nard at the time. "They brought it in and said they found it in my car." When it was pointed out that Kennard didn't drink, one of the constables knowingly commented, "Most bootleggers don't."

Kennard was convicted in a hearing before a justice of the peace and fined six hundred dollars and costs. It is customary in such unrecorded hearings, when an appeal is intended, for the defense to withhold its evidence and witnesses for the higher court trial. Kennard's attorney followed this course. But an appeal was never heard. Because of misleading information given Kennard by the Forrest County district attorney, Harold B. Cubley, by Justice of the Peace T. C. Hobby, and to his attorney by the jailer of Forrest County with whom bond was posted, the defense was not present at the setting of the docket for the appeal. Appeals to have the original appeal heard were twice denied by Mississippi courts. Finally, the lower court rulings denying the original appeal were overturned by the Mississippi Supreme Court. However, this ruling did not come until 1961, at which time the state merely remanded the case to the files. Kennard had already been convicted of another offense and sentenced to seven years at Parchman Penitentiary.

#### **The Making of a Felon**

After the 1959 application was rejected, Governor Coleman is reported to have said that "If Clyde did reapply, there'd be no way of holding him out because his record was sufficient. There'd be no alternative but to close the college." In Mississippi, however, there is a law that no one with a felony on his record will be admitted to a state school. Burglary is a felony.

Early on Sunday morning, September 25, 1960, the Forrest County Co-operative warehouse was burglarized of twenty-five dollars' worth of chicken feed. Clyde Kennard was named as an accessory in the burglary. He was arrested that same morning.

The feed had actually been stolen by an illiterate nineteen-year-old Negro, Johnny Lee Roberts, who had been employed by the Co-op as a helper on the trucks and had delivered feed to Kennard's farm. He tes-

tified that that morning, at 4:40, he had broken into the Co-op warehouse through two rear sliding doors which he had previously left unbarred. He loaded five sacks of egg or laying mash worth five dollars each into his car, but before he could leave, the night watchman arrived to investigate. Roberts retreated into the shadows. The watchman made no attempt to stop the theft or to locate the burglar. He merely noted Roberts's license plate and left to call the police.

Roberts, according to his own testimony, emerged from his hiding place unseen and drove directly to Kennard's chicken house, about two miles beyond the farmhouse, where he put the feed in the unlocked egg house and then drove back to the farmhouse. He claimed that Kennard was waiting for him in front of the house and paid him ten dollars for the feed, making no mention of when the rest would be paid. After his arrest, Roberts claimed that it was Kennard who had persuaded him to steal the feed. He denied that he had ever stolen any before, but claimed that one Thursday evening Kennard came to Roberts's house and asked about getting some feed "on the side." Several days later there was a second meeting, said Roberts, at which time Kennard suggested that Roberts leave the rear doors of the warehouse unbarred. Roberts claimed that he did so before the Co-op closed at noon on Saturday.

Sunday morning, after Roberts had confessed, the police arrived to arrest Kennard. He was taken to jail at about 8:30, and the police returned to search the premises at about noon. Deputy Sheriff W. V. Oubre testified that the feed hoppers were filled with mash, and that the chickens were "having a ball." More important, he said that he found a feed ticket, used to identify each sack, "on a trash pile out back." The number on this ticket was then shown to be next in sequence to the number on a bag of feed found loaded on a dolly at the warehouse door. It seemed that Roberts had intended to take ten sacks, but was frightened off with only five loaded in his car.

The tangible evidence in the case would have convicted Kennard only of possession of stolen goods. It was

Roberts's testimony that supported the charge of his being an accessory to burglary. Under the Mississippi Code, "Every person who shall be an accessory to any felony before the fact, shall be deemed and considered a principal, and shall be indicted and punished as such." Roberts, after testifying for the state, received a five-year probation sentence.

### Due Process of Law

The circuit court of Forrest County, Judge Stanton A. Hall presiding, convened on November 14, 1960. Jess Brown, Kennard's attorney, moved to have the indictment dismissed on the ground that Negroes were "systematically excluded" from the grand jury, but Judge Hall overruled the motion. A request to see the voter registration records was similarly denied. (Before a state constitutional amendment had been ratified the week before, jurors were required to be registered voters.) A Hattiesburg attorney, in practice for thirty-eight years, testified for the state on the motion: "Rather than break it down by years, I'd say that through the period of my practice, I have on numerous occasions seen negroes come into the court room in response to process as prospective jurors, and invariably I have seen those negroes excuse themselves, because they were good men, and they knew that there was no facility for the separation of the races . . . in our court room structure, and so invariably they would excuse themselves, and I admired them for it."

The chronology of the two supposed meetings between Roberts and Kennard was crucial in establishing Kennard as an accessory. For Roberts to have acted on the alleged suggestion from Kennard that the rear doors of the warehouse be left unbarred, the suggestion must have been made prior to noon on Saturday, the Co-op's closing hour. Roberts's testimony was anything but clear on this point.

Hattiesburg District Attorney James Finch questioned Roberts concerning the meetings, the dates of which were never given. The transcript reveals a court stenographer with a sensitive if somewhat biased ear for dialect:

A. (ROBERTS): "On Thursday, I think. He seen me one Thursday,

and then one Friday night on Mobile [Street] when he seen me again."

Q. (FINCH): "All right. When was the next time that you saw Clyde?"

A. "One Friday night."

Q. "Where were you then?"

A. "Hit was one Saturday night on Mobile when I was makin' groceries."

...

Q. "And what, if anything, did he say to you about how you would get [the feed]?"

A. "Well, 'bout de door. Leavin' de door open."

Q. "Now, what about that?"

A. "He say, leave de door open where hit's fastened, and I won't have to do anything but shove it open."

Roberts obviously was confused concerning the day of the supposed second meeting, and Finch seems to have overlooked his having said "Saturday." As the testimony continued, Finch noted the slip and attempted to rectify it. Roberts, however, only became further entangled:

Q. (FINCH): "Now, this conversation you had with Kennard on a Saturday night; was that the Saturday night immediately before you went in on Sunday morning?"

A. (ROBERTS): "Dat's right."

Q. "Huh? It was?"

A. "Yassuh, dat's right."

Q. "All right. What time did you leave the Co-op that Saturday?"

A. "Twelve o'clock."

Q. "Now, Johnny Lee, are you or not confused as to the Saturday or Friday that you talked to Kennard? Was it about a week before you went in on Sunday?"

A. "Yassuh, 'bout a week."

ATTORNEY YOUNG (for Kennard): "Object, Your Honor. He's leading the witness."

THE COURT: "Yes, I sustain as leading."

Q. "How long was it before you went in the Co-op was it that you talked to Kennard the last time?"

A. "De last time I talked to 'im?"

Q. "Yes."

A. "Well, I talked to him dat Saturday night, and I went in dere dat Sunday morning, at twenty minutes to five."

Q. "Now, Johnny, I don't want to confuse you, but when did you leave the door unlocked?"

A. "Dat Saturday at dinner. See,

we closed at twelve o'clock on Saturday evenings."

Q. "Had you or not been told how to leave that door unlatched before you saw Kennard that last time?"

A. "I didn't git you."

Q. "Had you already been told by Kennard how to get in the place?"

A. "Yassuh."

Q. "All right. When did he tell you how to get in it?"

A. "Well, he tole me on Thursday."

Q. "On Thursday. All right, now, you say you closed . . ."

The all-white local jury took just ten minutes to decide on a guilty verdict for Kennard. Judge Hall gave him the maximum sentence of seven years. The *Jackson State Times* commented that one year for each \$3.57 stolen seemed rather severe; twenty-five dollars seemed to be petty larceny rather than burglary. The *State Times* is now defunct. The case was appealed to the Mississippi Supreme Court, which affirmed the ruling. Certiorari was denied by the U.S. Supreme Court.

AFTER TWO YEARS in prison, Kennard does not seem bitter. He still feels that there are "good people at Mississippi Southern." He writes to his mother every week, but he doesn't want her to visit unless it's proved that he'll have to be there "a long long time." He told her to pretend that he's still in the Army.

In Hattiesburg, there is still occasional mention of Kennard's letter to the *American*, especially of one paragraph:

"I admit that we have had and still have, to a large extent, lower economic and moral standards than many of our white neighbors. However, we must realize that this condition is not a cause for segregation, but the effect of segregation and discrimination. The more segregation and discrimination we have in our community the more shall we continue to have ignorance and immorality and poverty."

James Meredith's enrollment at the University of Mississippi ought to give Clyde Kennard a good deal of satisfaction. In a year and a half Meredith is scheduled to earn his degree. Clyde Kennard, however, faces five more years at Parchman Penitentiary.

# EXHIBIT E

**MDAH Archives & Library**

Normal Size

Change Image Zoom

Currently displaying printer friendly

SCR ID # 1-27-0-29-1-1-1

Route 1 Box 70

Hattiesburg, Mississippi

September 8, 1959

Mr. Aubrey K. Lucas  
 Director of Admissions  
 Mississippi Southern College  
 Hattiesburg, Mississippi

Dear sir:

Inclosed you will find my application to enroll at Mississippi Southern College, a medical examination report, and five recommendations of my moral character.

Your records will show that the people who have made these recommendations are not graduates of Mississippi Southern College, as your present regulations require; however, they are all professional people who live in my community, and have at least the equivalent of a degree from Mississippi Southern College. Moreover, as a Negro, I feel that these people would be in a much better position to attest to my moral character than graduates of Mississippi Southern College. Further, I do not know five graduates of Mississippi Southern College who are in a position to make the necessary recommendations. Therefore, for the reasons which I have given, I sincerely request that these recommendations be accepted in place of the recommendations from Mississippi Southern College graduates, as is done in applications involving students who do not live in Mississippi.

(Obtained from Dr. McCain)  
 1-27-27

STATE SOVEREIGNTY COMMISSION	
SEP 8 1959	
INDEXED	.....
SERIALIZED	.....
FILED	.....

## MDAH Archives & Library

Normal Size

Change Image Zoom

*Currently displaying printer friendly*

SCR ID # 1-27-0-29-2-1-1

2

This particular request and the unusual nature of this application make necessary, I think, a more general statement of my position on the subject of my enrollment at Mississippi Southern College.

Mississippi Southern College is the only State supported four year college in this area, and my situation at home makes it very difficult for me to leave home to continue my education. On this account I have been unable to attend school for nearly five years. By attending Mississippi Southern College the problem which confronts me would be mostly solved, as I could live at home and attend school at the same time.

Now, you must know that I am keenly aware of the race problem here entailed, as nothing has so constantly occupied my thoughts during the past three years as this one. I know that there are those among us who feel that both races would be best benefited by a policy of private and public separation of the races, and that this segregation should be maintained no matter what the cost to ourselves and to future generations. Unfortunately, perhaps, I have not as yet been able to convince myself, nor has anyone else been able to convince me that this is really the wisest course for Mississippi to continue to follow at this critical junction in our state's history.

Those who openly advocate or quietly support the separation of the races theory generally include in their reasoning one or more of the following five points: (1) To teach Negro and white students in the same schools would mean, in part, mixing of white and Negro blood, to the extent of destroying both races, (2) Negroes, as a result of their economic and social history, have developed such low moral habits, until it would be tragically degrading to white youngsters for them to associate with Negro youngsters, (3) Since white students are so much



## MDAH Archives & Library

Normal Size

Change Image Zoom

Currently displaying printer friendly

SCR ID # 1-27-0-29-3-1-1

more advanced, scholastically, than Negro students that it would be a grave injustice to Negro students to have them compete in the same class room; for since Negroes are so inferior in development to White students that for them to study in the same atmosphere would put an end to even the little development which they are capable of making when left to themselves; (4) If schools are racially integrated, Negro people who are now in the teaching profession would have to turn to some other income source here in Mississippi or leave the State completely for employment, and (5) If schools maintained for Negro people are equal in facilities and teachers to those maintained for White people then the schools are equal in total essence.

Although I have tried never to underestimate the importance that many people attach to just being of a certain racial group, still I have not been able to discern a noticeable difference, other than color, between a good white man and a good Black or Yellow man. Yet, since this Pseudo Problem seems so urgent at this time, I would be in favor of helping to support a commission of eminent social scientists who would make a careful study of colleges and universities which have practiced total integration over a long period of time to determine whether or not the purity of any of the races involved has been greatly diluted, and if so, to what extent this dilution has actually impaired the effective<sup>ness</sup> of the people involved.

The study of such a commission would show, I believe, that the percentage of interracial court-ships which lead to anything as serious as marriage or reproduction would be so small as to be completely negligible in total effect. Should such a commission report a contrary result, however, then I would be among the first to about-face and join actively the segregationist among us.

## MDAH Archives & Library

Normal Size

Change Image Zoom

Currently displaying printer friendly

SCR ID # 1-27-0-29-4-1-1

The second major objection which segregationists advance against racial integration is the question of morality. No thinking person would pass lightly over this problem; for it is no secret that the percentage of Negroes who are accused of crime is often higher than their white counter-part. I admit that we have had and still have, to a large extent, lower economic and moral standards than many of our white neighbors. However, we must realize that this condition is not the cause but the effect of segregation and discrimination. The more segregation and discrimination we have in our community the more we shall have ignorance and immorality. Teach men to do a job and then give them the job to do, and high morality will follow as the day follows the night.

To those who think that it would be an injustice to Negroes to have them compete with white students, the answer is found in the fact that our plan is to establish a policy or system of education and not just a temporary scheme to relieve ourselves of a problem which we are not willing to face. Certainly there will be instances in the first phase of the integration program where Negro students are behind white students in development; though not because of any natural inferiority, but because the society in which we live has systematically failed, for so long, to abide by its own contract to provide equal educational facilities for all of its children. Thus, for a few years there will be scattered instances where Negroes might fall behind white students, but in a very short period of time this problem or inconvenience would be, for the most part, eliminated.

There is another group of segregationist who maintain that integration is all right, but it would put an end to the employment of Negro teachers. Those who feel this way seem not to correctly appraise the transition in which we find ourselves. In the first place,

## MDAH Archives & Library

Normal Size

Change Image Zoom

*Currently displaying printer friendly*

SCR ID # 1-27-0-29-5-1-1

5

it will take many years to drastically change the present patterns of our communities; for years to come we shall continue to have communities predominantly white, and communities primarily Negro.

The law will not have to require this arrangement; the pride which people have in their homes, churches, and schools will motivate this stability. Therefore, with a very few exceptions most institutions which are now all white or all Negro will remain mostly so for a good long while. What seems to be the second major defect in their argument is the idea that the same prejudices which are leveled against Negroes before integration will remain after integration. This will not be the case. We are entering a period in which merit must rule the selection of teachers. There was a time when a person could get through college by hook or by crook, and if he found that he could do nothing else, then he would teach. This practice is rapidly becoming a thing of the past, and in tomorrow's world it will be unheard of. Thus, if a teacher has mastered his profession, and has made the proper adjustments, and is willing to dedicate himself to man's highest calling, though he is yellow, black, or white there will be a place for him.

Finally, let us mention the argument for separate but equal facilities in public education, as being superior to a non-restricted system. This argument may seem more plausible if getting an education was an end in itself, and not a means to an end. The end product of an education is a greater and more useful participation in the art of living in a civilized society. If an education does not help make out of people more useful citizens to themselves and their general community, then it has failed. Conversely, if the general community fails to provide those whom it educates an opportunity to serve it to the fullest extent, then the community is guilty

## MDAH Archives & Library

Normal Size

Change Image Zoom

Currently displaying printer friendly

SCR ID # 1-27-0-29-6-1-1

6

of self impoverishment or even self destruction.

This is the precise sense in which I have not been quite able to understand what possible good a vast equalization program could serve, if no sincere plans are being made to equalize employment opportunities. If there are to be no jobs in government, science or industry, in vain is time and money spent in educating the child. The big question seems then, to be, what part will the educated Negro play in our society in future years? If we plan to continue our policy of employing all white on our hospital staff, all white in government service, all white on engineering staffs, all white in any thing which requires the least amount of brain, what will the thousands of Negroes do who will be graduating each year? On the other hand if we decide to be realistic and fair about the whole thing and decide to employ people according to merit, would it not be much more sensible and certainly more economical to permit the lawyers, doctors and engineers who are to be working on the same staffs just after graduation, to go to the same school where they could learn to respect and appreciate each other?

Questions of this kind have led me to request of you that you permit me to enroll at Mississippi Southern College without a court order to do so. I am a solid believer in the ability of the states to control their own affairs. I believe if the state should lead out with only the smallest amount of integration it would never have to worry about Federal intervention. As you know, I have done all that is within my power to follow a reasonable course in this matter. I have wanted the state to see that our position had at least some validity. I have tried to make you see that my love for the state of Mississippi and my hope for its peaceful prosperity is equal to any man alive.

**MDAH Archives & Library**

Normal Size

Change Image Zoom

*Currently displaying printer friendly*

SCR ID # 1-27-0-29-7-1-1

The very thought of presenting this request before a Federal Court for consideration, with all the publicity and misrepresentation which that would entail, makes my heart heavy. Yet, what other course can I take?

Thank you for what ever consideration you might give this matter.

I am

Respectfully yours,

Clyde Kennard

# EXHIBIT F

# MDAH Archives & Library

Normal Size



Change Image Zoom

Currently displaying printer friendly

SCR ID # 1-27-0-6-1-1-1

ORIGIN: Hattiesburg, Mississippi

File: 1-21

Issued: December 17, 1958

\*\*\*\*\*

INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD: December 1, 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 15, 16, 1958

\*\*\*\*\*

REPORT BY: Zack J. VanLandingham

\*\*\*\*\*

TITLE:

CLYDE KERNARD, aka  
Clyde Kenard, Clyde Kinnard,  
Clyde Smith

CHARACTER:

Integration Agitator;  
Attempt To Integrate  
Mississippi Southern  
College

\*\*\*\*\*

COPIES:

- 1 -Governor J. P. Coleman
- 2 -Attorney General Joe T. Patterson
- 2 -State Sovereignty Commission

APPROVED BY:

*Zack J. VanLandingham*

\*\*\*\*\*

STATE SOVEREIGNTY COMMISSION	
DEC 17 1958	
INDEXED	.....
SERIALIZED	.....
FILED	.....

1

1-27-5

# MDAH Archives & Library

Normal Size

Change Image Zoom

Currently displaying printer friendly


SCR ID # 1-27-0-6-2-1-1

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Administrative Data - - - - -	1
Synopsis - - - - -	2
Table of Contents - - - - -	4
I. Attempts to Enter M.S.C. - - - - -	6
Colonel Roger Johnson† - - - - -	6
A. A. Lucas† - - - - -	7
Ruth Dulin† - - - - -	8
John Rister† - - - - -	9
Dr. E. R. Jobe† - - - - -	9
Dr. W. D. McCain† - - - - -	9
Dr. M. W. Kenna† - - - - -	10
II. Personal History - - - - -	-11
Birth Data - - - - -	11
Army Record - - - - -	12
Credit Bureau Records - - - - -	13,33
T. B. Fatherree† - - - - -	16
Forrest County Chancery Clerk's Records - - - - -	16
Forrest County Circuit Clerk's Records - - - - -	17
Law Enforcement Records - - - - -	17,33
III. Employment - - - - -	18
Dave A. Matison† - - - - -	18
Edward P. Arnold† - - - - -	19
W. H. Lane† - - - - -	20
IV. Education - - - - -	20
Bay Springs Consolidated School - - - - -	20
Mendell Phillips High School - - - - -	20
Fayetteville Teachers College - - - - -	20
University of Chicago - - - - -	33
V. NAACP Activities - - - - -	21
Letter to Hattiesburg American - - - - -	22
E. P. Arnold† - - - - -	23
Robert L. Rawls† - - - - -	24
Sam Rees† - - - - -	24
Max Gandy† - - - - -	24
H. R. McPhail† - - - - -	26
W. H. Lane† - - - - -	26
H. C. Clark† - - - - -	27
Archie Rogers† - - - - -	27
Harold Pollard† - - - - -	27



# MDAH Archives & Library

Normal Size 

Change Image Zoom 

*Currently displaying printer friendly*

SCR ID # 1-27-0-6-3-1-1

	Page
Rev. R. W. Wouillard	27
Professor A. B. S. Todd	29
Ruth Bates	29
Professor N. R. Burger	30
Professor C. E. Roy	31
C. W. Sullivan	31
Dudley Conner	31
VI. Investigation, Chicago, Illinois	33
VII. Attempted Solution	34
Negro Committee, Hattiesburg, Mississippi	34
Dr. W. D. McCain	35
Governor J. P. Coleman	35
Professor J. H. White	35
Leads	37

## MDAH Archives & Library

Normal Size

Change Image Zoom

Currently displaying printer friendly

SCR ID # 1-27-0-6-4-1-1

### SYNOPSIS:

Clyde Kennard, single, negro, age 31, residing at Eatonville, Forrest County, Mississippi, has indicated he intends to seek admission to Mississippi Southern College, Hattiesburg, Mississippi at beginning of term January 5, 1959. Kennard has made two previous unsuccessful attempts to enter M.S.C. during past three years.

Applicant granted high school diploma June 26, 1950 from Mendell Phillips High School, Chicago, Illinois, on basis of Army G. E. D. test and attended a negro college, Fayetteville State Teachers College, Fayetteville, North Carolina, from December 4, 1950 to March 3, 1952, making above average grades. He also attended University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, from February 1953 to June 1955 where grades were below average. He did not graduate from either school. Records of University of Chicago also reflect Kennard while attending Bay Springs Consolidated School at Eatonville, Mississippi, in 1954-55, was a member of the German Youth Club and the Young Progressive Citizens Club. Kennard was in U.S. Army from September 23, 1945 to October 6, 1952. He was honorably discharged with the rank of Sergeant. While in Army he received Korean Service Medal, United Nations Service Medal and Good Conduct Medal. Kennard at present has a poultry farm where he lives with his mother. They recently sold a part of this farm to the Mississippi State Highway Commission for approximately \$14,000.00 for use for right of way for a highway.

Kennard paid cash for a 1958 Mercury in about August 1958. Investigation in neighborhood of Kennard's home indicates that he is possibly NAACP leader in his community. Persons who know Kennard describe him as intelligent, well educated, quiet spoken, courteous, with a desire to better the negro race in Mississippi. Kennard known to associate with Rabbi Martinband, Hattiesburg, Mississippi, who has been described by a self-confessed communist as a Director in a communist front organization. Kennard also attempted to get a white farmer to sell his farm in the Eatonville community stating that this was an all negro settlement and they wanted to keep it that way.

Kennard had poor credit rating in Hattiesburg, Mississippi up to two years ago when credit rating improved and is now

## MDAH Archives & Library

Normal Size



Change Image Zoom

*Currently displaying printer friendly*

SCR ID # 1-27-0-6-5-1-1

considered very good. Applicant has no criminal record in Chicago, Illinois, Hattiesburg, Mississippi, Mississippi State Bureau of Identification, or FBI records.

On December 6, 1958, The Hattiesburg American printed a letter signed by Clyde Kennard, RFD 1, City, which advocated integration and adherence to the solution to the race problem as advanced by the NAACP and U.S. Supreme Court. University of Chicago recently received a letter from Kennard requesting permission to return to the University to take a course in Foreign Relations. A negro committee composed of a negro preacher and several negro educators have agreed to contact Kennard for the purpose of getting him to withdraw his application and desist in his efforts to enter Mississippi Southern College. Every indication negro educators on this committee want to bargain their efforts for a Negro Junior College at Hattiesburg, Mississippi. Plans submitted by this committee whereby Governor J. P. Coleman would confer with Kennard in an effort to get him to refrain from his attempts to enter M.S.C. Committee believes Kennard mainly desires attention and recognition from established authority.

PENDING

## MDAH Archives & Library

Normal Size

Change Image Zoom

Currently displaying printer friendly

SCR ID # 1-27-0-6-6-1-1

### I. ATTEMPTS TO ENTER MISSISSIPPI SOUTHERN COLLEGE

On December 1, 1958, efforts were made at Mississippi Southern College to secure information relative to Clyde Kennard. However, as the day was a holiday and no administrative office open, no information could be obtained.

On December 2, 1958, Colonel Roger Johnson, Administrative Assistant to the President, advised that the President, Dr. W. D. McCain, was out of the city and in Texas and would be gone for a week. Colonel Johnson stated that he did not have very much information regarding Kennard and that Kennard's file was not in the files of the other students inasmuch as it was carried as a special case and handled by President McCain personally. He did not know where Mr. McCain had placed the file and was unable to locate it in Mr. McCain's office. Colonel Johnson had Mrs. McCain make a thorough search of the home of Dr. McCain with negative results, as to locating Clyde Kennard's file. Colonel Johnson stated that Kennard first applied for admission to Mississippi Southern College three years ago, but since he did not have the necessary five recommendations from alumni in his home county, his application was denied. Colonel Johnson stated that as he recalled it, some six months later during the middle semester, Kennard made another effort to get into Mississippi Southern and requested that the five recommendations from alumni be waived. Kennard at that time came and talked to Dr. McCain and was told that his application would have to be passed on by the Board of Trustees and any exceptions made in his case would have to be made by the Trustees. Kennard subsequently telephoned and requested of Colonel Johnson's office the names of all Mississippi Southern Alumni in Forrest County. He was told that such a list was not available and Kennard then stated that he was coming over to the College in order to go over the files and secure such a list. However, he never showed up. Colonel Johnson stated that the Security Officer for Mississippi Southern, Mr. John Reiter, had conducted some investigation and had determined that Kennard had attended the University of Chicago and also the Fayetteville North Carolina Teachers College. He stated that transcripts of records from these schools had been obtained and were in Kennard's file.

## MDAH Archives & Library

Normal Size

Change Image Zoom

*Currently displaying printer friendly*

SCR ID # 1-27-0-6-7-1-1

Colonel Johnson made a telephone call to Fort Bliss in Texas and talked to Dr. W. D. McCain. Mr. McCain stated that he did not know just where he had put Kennard's file and that he would have to wait until he returned to Mississippi Southern College and made a search for the file himself.

Mr. A. A. Lucas, Director of Admissions at Mississippi Southern College, advised that he had held this position for one and a half years. Mr. Lucas said that he had no connection with the school when Clyde Kennard first attempted to register. At that time Dr. M. W. Kenna was Director of Admission. Dr. Kenna is now the Registrar at Mississippi Southern College. Mr. Lucas advised that he did not have Clyde Kennard's file and that he understood that the file was in the possession of Dr. McCain. He did, however, have the transcript of Kennard's record at Fayetteville Teachers College, Fayetteville, North Carolina. He furnished a photostatic copy of this transcript and the same will be commented upon later on in this report.

Mr. Lucas said that about two months ago Clyde Kennard had telephoned him and wanted to know if he had to make another application to get consideration for admission into Mississippi Southern College. He was told that he would have to make such an application. Kennard then asked that four application blanks be sent to him. When asked why four Kennard said that there were several other negroes in the Eatonville community where Kennard resides, who are possibly interested in making application for entrance to Mississippi Southern. Kennard was told by Mr. Lucas that each individual would have to make request himself for an application and that one such application would be sent to Kennard. This application was forwarded to him on November 15, 1958. Kennard gave his address as Route 1, Box 70, Hattiesburg. The Eatonville community is in Forrest County about 6 miles northeast of Hattiesburg. Mr. Lucas stated that this community is largely inhabited by negroes who appear to be above average in intelligence and education. He stated that some of the negroes are almost white in appearance and that it is difficult sometime to tell just whether they are white or colored. Mr. Lucas stated that his colored maid is from the Eatonville community and grew up with Clyde Kennard. He said that he had talked to her about Kennard and that she considers him one of the outstanding negroes in the Eatonville community. He is well educated and very intelligent and all of the other negroes look up to him. Mr. Lucas advised that Kennard is in the poultry business at Eatonville.

## MDAH Archives & Library

Normal Size

Change Image Zoom

Currently displaying printer friendly

SCR ID # 1-27-0-6-8-1-1

Mr. Lucas stated that all admission requirements must be met before a student can be admitted to Mississippi Southern College. These requirements must be met at the time of registration. Such requirements are:

1. Completed application.
2. Medical examination record.
3. Five recommendations from alumni from the county from which the applicant is applying.
4. A transcript of all previous work from schools from which the applicant is transferring.

Mr. Lucas stated that in Clyde Kennard's case if the school is unable to locate the file on him, it will be necessary for him to again furnish a transcript of his record from the University of Chicago. There is already a transcript on hand from the Fayetteville Teachers College in Fayetteville, North Carolina.

Mr. Lucas stated that Mrs. Ruth Dulin, who presently resides at Petal, Mississippi, was formerly Secretary of the Director of Admission and would possibly have information with reference to Clyde Kennard's attempts to enter Mississippi Southern.

Mrs. Ruth Dulin, 116 Green Street, Petal, Mississippi, advised on December 3, 1958, that Clyde Kennard had applied to Mississippi Southern College three years ago. At that time Mrs. Dulin was the Secretary to the Director of Admissions. She said that Kennard was unable to get five recommendations from alumni in Forrest County and he was turned down. Subsequently, he requested that his application be accepted without the five recommendations. He was told that this matter would have to be taken up with the Board of Trustees who would have to pass on any exception to a rule. Kennard subsequently telephoned Dr. McCain a number of times to find out about the application and was finally told that he had failed to meet all of the admission requirements and his application had been turned down. Mrs. Dulin stated that she had no information which might indicate anyone might be behind Kennard in pushing him to demand admission to Mississippi Southern College.

## MDAH Archives & Library

Normal Size

Change Image Zoom

Currently displaying printer friendly

SCR ID # 1-27-0-6-9-1-1

Mr. John Reiter, Security Officer, Mississippi Southern College, advised that he had made an investigation for the school some three years ago and advised that most of the investigation was made by the Credit Bureau as it was not desired that anyone know of Kennard's attempt to enter the school or that any investigation was being made. Reiter said that it was his recollection that the investigation had been handled in such a secretive manner that the credit report said the investigation was being made for Port Arthur, Texas. Mr. Reiter said that he was unable to recall very much regarding the investigation other than the fact that Kennard had been to school somewhere in the North, had been in the Army and had received an honorable discharge. Mr. Reiter said that he did not recall any derogatory information being developed regarding this applicant.

As Officials at Mississippi Southern College had indicated that the Chairman of the Board, Dr. E. R. Jobe, at Jackson, Mississippi, had at one time been furnished the file on Clyde Kennard and since they were of the opinion that Dr. Jobe might still have this file, contact was made with him on December 5, 1958. However, Dr. Jobe stated that he had at one time seen the file on Clyde Kennard but did not believe that it was in his possession at the present time and he felt sure he had returned it to Dr. McCain. Dr. Jobe said he would have his office staff make a complete search for the file, and notify the writer. Subsequently that same day, the writer was informed by the secretary of Dr. Jobe that a complete search had been made and they were unable to locate it in the office of Dr. Jobe.

On December 9, 1958, I contacted Dr. W. D. McCain, President of Mississippi Southern College, Hattiesburg, Mississippi, and he stated that he had made a thorough search of his office and his house and had been unable to locate the file on Clyde Kennard. Dr. McCain said that he was very much embarrassed at not being able to locate the file. He said he had put the file away so well that he could not find it. He also stated that he had loaned the file to Dr. Jobe at Jackson, about three years ago when the matter first came up but he was sure Dr. Jobe had returned the file.

Dr. McCain stated that as he recalled the file, Kennard had had approximately three years of college work at the University of Chicago and Fayetteville Teachers College, Fayetteville, N. C.

## MDAH Archives & Library

Normal Size

Change Image Zoom

Currently displaying printer friendly

SCR ID # 1-27-0-6-10-1-1

He stated that he recalled that Kennard's grades were above average and there was nothing derogatory in his file. He said that the only information in the file was the transcript of the records from the schools which Kennard had attended together with his application for admission to Mississippi Southern and the credit report. Dr. McCain expressed his personal opinion that he did not believe the NAACP was behind Kennard's attempt to enter Mississippi Southern. He recalled that he had talked with Kennard when the applicant had first applied for admission some three years ago and that Kennard had met all of the requirements with the exception of furnishing the five recommendations from alumni in the county from which he was applying. For this reason his application was not complete and was not processed. Dr. McCain stated that he would continue his efforts to locate the missing file and would notify the writer if he was successful in this regard.

Dr. M. W. Kenna, Registrar Mississippi Southern College, advised on December 9, 1958, that he was formerly Director of Admissions at this school and held this office at the time Kennard first attempted to get admitted to Mississippi Southern. He recalled that Kennard had first telephoned and requested that a Catalog of the school be sent him. This was done and at that time it was not known that Kennard was a negro. After receipt of this catalog, Kennard telephoned and asked for an application for admittance to the school and at that time stated that he was a negro. The application was not forwarded to him and subsequently Kennard came to Mississippi Southern and talked to Dr. W. D. McCain. Dr. Kenna was in on the conference. At that time, Kennard was told that he would have to meet the requirements of having five recommendations from former alumni in Forrest County. Kennard said he would like to apply but that he would be unable to complete the application because he would be unable to secure the five recommendations. Dr. McCain told him that this was a regulation of the Board of Trustees and any waiving of this recommendation, as was requested by Kennard, would have to be considered by the Board. Kennard subsequently submitted his application without the five recommendations. The same was sent to the Board of Trustees for direction. Kennard then phoned several times thereafter with reference to his application. He was finally told that since his application was not complete the same could not be considered. Dr. Kenna stated that he recalled the file and there was absolutely nothing derogatory regarding



## MDAH Archives & Library

Normal Size

Change Image Zoom

Currently displaying printer friendly

SCR ID # 1-27-0-6-11-1-1

this applicant. Dr. Kenna stated that Clyde Kennard is a light colored negro, he was a musician, played the organ, that he was very polite and courteous and appeared to be intelligent. He said the negro was not offensive in any way.

Dr. Kenna advised that recently Kennard had telephoned and requested an application. He indicated that he again intended to apply for admission to Mississippi Southern College for the winter term beginning January 5, 1959. The Hattiesburg American Newspaper of Wednesday, December 10, 1958, as well as the News Telecast at 10:00 P.M. that evening, carried an article that Clyde Kennard, Route 1, Hattiesburg, Mississippi, a negro was again seeking admission to Mississippi Southern College. An effort was made to contact Dr. McCain, President of Mississippi Southern, on the morning of December 11, 1958, but Dr. McCain was out of the city. The Registrar and Director of Admission were also out of the City. The writer was informed by the secretary of Dr. McCain that no further application had been received from Kennard. This secretary did not know how the newspapers had obtained this information relative to Kennard's attempt to enter Southern at this time.

### II. PERSONAL HISTORY

On December 3, 1958, the records of the State Bureau of Vital Statistics, Jackson, Mississippi, were examined. The same reflect that one Clyde Kennard, birth registry number 21678, born June 20, 1927, at Hattiesburg, Mississippi. The father's name was given as Will Kennard, age 41, occupation farmer, residence, RFD 1, Hattiesburg, Mississippi. The mother's name was listed as Laura Fairley, with the same address. Her age was given as 33, born in Smith County, Mississippi. This was the fourth child born to the mother and father. The physician was listed as Charles M. Smith, 606 Mobile Street, Hattiesburg, Mississippi. All of the individuals were listed as being of the colored race. The birth certificate was filed July 8, 1927.

The records of confidential informant T-1 reflect that Clyde Kennard has no middle name. He has Social Security Number 426-24-9206. His address in October 1952, was given as Route 1, Box 512, Hattiesburg, Mississippi. Kennard was born June 12, 1927 in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. His mother is listed as Leona Smith,

## MDAH Archives & Library

Normal Size



Change Image Zoom

*Currently displaying printer friendly*

SCR ID # 1-27-0-6-12-1-1

Hattiesburg, Mississippi, Route 1, Box 512. The records further show that he was single in October 1952, and at that time a freshman at the University of Chicago. He entered the United States Army September 23, 1945. His Army Serial Number was RA 44-143-812. He was separated from the Service at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, on October 6, 1952, as a Technical Sergeant. He was at that time assigned to Headquarters Company 279, Infantry Regiment. His discharge was listed as honorable. His description was given as, height, 5' 7", weight, 151; race, negro; eyes, brown; hair, black; complexion, medium. The records of confidential informant T-1 further reflect that Kennard was employed October 20, 1952, at a salary of \$25.00 a week by Dave A. Matison, 420 S. 21st Avenue, Hattiesburg, Mississippi.

Kennard's education was listed as high school graduate and having attended Fayetteville, North Carolina Teachers College for two years. At the time, Kennard claimed he had never been convicted for any crime. He also stated that his health record was excellent. The records further disclosed that Kennard was employed from 1942 to 1945 as a clerk typist for the Mutual Insurance Company, Chicago, Illinois. While Kennard was in the Army, he received the following decorations and medals: Korean Service Medal with one Bronze Service Star; United Nations Service Medal; Good Conduct Medal.

## MDAH Archives & Library

Normal Size

Change Image Zoom

*Currently displaying printer friendly*

SCR ID # 1-27-0-6-13-1-1

On December 2, 1956, Mrs. Rees of the Credit Bureau of Hattiesburg, Mississippi, furnished a special credit report prepared on Clyde Kennard under date of February 25, 1956. This credit report was for Mississippi Southern College and reflects that Clyde Kennard is a negro residing at Route 1, Hattiesburg, Mississippi. His age was given as approximately 26, single with no criminal record. His step father was listed as a truck farmer. His credit rating was shown as unsatisfactory. The following remarks were contained in the credit report:

Clyde Kennard, (sometimes referred to as Kinnard,) uses a variation of his name for reasons best known to himself. Ostensibly, he is just out of the Army for less than two years. He has shown no sense of responsibility in meeting his obligations. This seems to be a characteristic of the negro race in general, as shown in the extensive files of this organization. He has more obligations than income.

Subject is living with mother and stepfather. (Mother and stepfather may be common law man and wife since extensive investigation revealed no marriage license issued to Silas L. Smith or Leonia Kennard or Kinnard), at Route 1, (Eatonville, Hattiesburg, Mississippi).

Informants state that they believe subject is a graduate of some colored college and believe that he is teaching somewhere in Forrest County, however, a check through the County Superintendent's office, reveals that subject is in no way employed in the Forrest County School system. However, The County Superintendent stated that subject is on the Board of Trustees of the Bay Springs Consolidated School (colored). He also knew of subject's intentions, and told investigator as much, however, investigator did not reveal any knowledge of existing situations.

## MDAH Archives & Library

Normal Size

Change Image Zoom

Currently displaying printer friendly

SCR ID # 1-27-0-6-14-1-1

On or about May 13, 1949, Clyde Kennard and his mother, Leonia Smith, purchased the following property:

20 acres of land located as  $N\frac{1}{2}$  of  $NE\frac{1}{4}$  of  $SW\frac{1}{4}$  township 5 N Range 13 W in Forrest County, from Mrs. Mary Ann Gandy, widow of the late Mr. Doyle Gandy, deceased. Purchase price was \$5,650.00, down payment was stipulated at \$650.00 and the balance was to be paid at the rate of \$75.00 monthly at 6% interest until paid in full. Three years and 13 days later on March 16, 1952, this mortgage was paid in full, an unusual event in the case of mortgage loans where people of the subject's race are concerned. Proof of this transaction may be found on page 423, book 111, Chancery Clerk's office, Forrest County, Mississippi.

On or about the month of June, 1954, Clyde Kennard, and his mother, Leonia Smith, mortgaged the following property, to-wit:

$N\frac{1}{2}$  of  $NE\frac{1}{4}$  of  $SW\frac{1}{4}$ , sec. 20, Tier 5, N Range, 13, W Forrest County and  $E\frac{1}{4}$  of  $SW\frac{1}{4}$  of  $SE\frac{1}{4}$ , section 18, township 5, N Range 13W and  $S\frac{1}{2}$  of  $NE\frac{1}{4}$  of  $NE\frac{1}{4}$  and  $SW\frac{1}{4}$  of  $NE\frac{1}{4}$  S 19 township 5 N, Range 13W Forrest County, less and except a parcel of land sold to George Ann Lee, deed dated January 18, 1949, book 109, page 495, Chancery Clerk's office, Forrest County, Mississippi. The mortgage is a first mortgage held by a Savings and Loan for \$3,120.00. Payments at the start of the loan were \$50.00 per month but they they were reduced to \$35.00 on June 15, 1955. This amount is seriously delinquent since November 1955. If the subject fails to meet this obligation, it is reasonable

## MDAH Archives & Library

Normal Size

Change Image Zoom

Currently displaying printer friendly

SCR ID # 1-27-0-6-15-1-1

to assume that the said Savings and Loan will foreclose.

On or about September 8, 1955, a second mortgage was assumed by a local Motor Company against the above described property owned by subject and his mother for \$563.00 for payment on a 1951 GMC 3/4 ton pickup truck. Proof of this second mortgage may be found in book 171, page 586 Chancery Clerk's office, County of Forrest State of Mississippi. Payments were to be \$34.60 per month. It is not revealed how subject has been paying this. Investigator noted the above mentioned mortgage loans were signed in a very nice handwriting.

On or about the month of June 1955 subject purchased the following from a local general merchandise company:

1 push mower; 4 power mowers, 1 wheelbarrow and a numerous assortment of gardening tools ostensibly to conduct a gardening service. The total purchase price of this equipment was \$443.84 payable at \$74.00 per month. This account has a present balance of \$217.00 since October 1955, and unless full settlement is forthcoming the merchandise will be repossessed. The firm states that they would not sell again to this man under any circumstances on credit again.

Subject has no record of being arrested or convicted of any crime in the city of Hattiesburg or in the county of Forrest.

Additional information in the files of the Credit Bureau under date of August 13, 1958, reflect that Clyde Kennard, single man, negro, age approximately 28, occupation, farmer, had come into some money this past year from the sale of land to the State Highway Department for a highway. A check of the Chancery Clerk's office Forrest County, Mississippi, under date of December 2, 1955, by Mr. Sam Reas of the Credit Bureau

## MDAH Archives & Library

Normal Size

Change Image Zoom

*Currently displaying printer friendly*

SCR ID # 1-27-0-6-16-1-1

reflects that on June 5, 1958, the Highway Department had paid \$11,500.00 to Clyde Kennard and his mother, Leonia Smith. On the same date additional payment of \$2500.00 was shown to both Kennard and his mother, Leonia Smith by the State Highway Department.

The records of the Credit Bureau also reflect that in July 1958 Clyde Kennard had paid cash for a 1958 station wagon. On September 10, 1958, the Aetna Finance Company, Hattiesburg, Mississippi, had loaned Kennard \$650.00.

The records of the Credit Bureau reflect that in the past 3 years Kennard has had a good credit rating indicating that he had been coming into some money. Prior to the past three years his credit rating had been very unsatisfactory. Information from the Credit Bureau's file reflects that the subject's mother, Leonia Smith, has apparently never married the man she is living with as there is no record of any marriage license being issued to either subject's father or mother in Forrest County.

Mr. T. B. Fatheree, State Director, Farm Home Loan Administration, Jackson, Mississippi, advised on December 5, 1958, that his records reflect that one Clyde Kennard, Route 1, Hattiesburg, Mississippi, had sold 10.76 acres to the State Highway Department for \$11,877.00. Kennard had applied \$3,500.00 of this on accounts due the Farmers Home Administration. Mr. Fatheree stated that his Department had not released the acreage from the terms of their mortgage.

An examination of the Forrest County Chancery Clerk's records at Hattiesburg, Mississippi, by the writer on December 9, 1958, disclosed that in Book 201, Page 460, there was a Warranty Deed to the State Highway Commission by Leonia Smith and Clyde Kennard, dated June 5, 1958. For this it was shown they were paid \$135.00. Page 462, the same book, reflects Leonia Smith and Clyde Kennard paid \$991.00 by the State Highway Commission on a Warranty Deed. Page 464 reflects that Leonia Smith and Clyde Kennard paid \$659.00 on a Warranty Deed by the State Highway Commission. Page 470 same book, reflects that on June 5, 1958, Leonia Smith and

## MDAH Archives & Library

Normal Size

Change Image Zoom

Currently displaying printer friendly

SCR ID # 1-27-0-6-17-1-1

Clyde Kennard were paid \$11,098.00 by the State Highway Commission on a Warranty Deed. Further examination of the Chancery Clerk's records at Hattiesburg, Mississippi, disclosed a Chattel Deed of Trust from Clyde Kennard, Spite 1, Box 70, Hattiesburg, recorded September 10, 1958, in favor of the Aetna Finance Company, 206 W. Front St., Hattiesburg, for a loan of \$650.00 made September 5, 1958, payable in eleven monthly installments of \$54.00 per month with the exception of the first month when a payment of \$56.00 was due. This Deed of Trust was secured by a 1958 Mercury Station Wagon, Motor Number 3 509776-77A-S 2133, Serial No. M 8ZF509776.

The Chancery Clerk's records further reflect that Clyde Kennard had recorded his honorable discharge from the Army on October 13, 1952. This gave his Army Serial Number as RA 44143612. It reflected that he was discharged October 6, 1952 as a Sergeant in the Regular Army. He was described as born June 12, 1927 at Hattiesburg, Mississippi, Male, Negro, Black hair, brown eyes, height 67 inches, weight 151 pounds.

The Chancery Clerk's records further reflected that in 1944 Clyde Smith, age 16, was attending the Bay Springs Consolidated School, Hattiesburg, Mississippi. In 1945 records reflect this same individual as Clyde Kennard, age 17, born February, parents' name given as Smith.

Records of the Circuit Clerk, Hattiesburg, Mississippi, disclosed book 5, page 158, marriage of Will Kennard to Leona Fairly, Forrest County, Mississippi, on April 22, 1915 by Reverend B. M. Lindsay. This marriage certificate was filed for record May 31, 1915.

A search of the records of the Circuit Clerk failed to disclose any record of the marriage of Leona Fairly or Leona Kennard of Laura Fairly or Laura Kennard to Silas L. Smith.

A search of the records of the Police Department at Hattiesburg, Mississippi, on December 2, 1958, failed to reflect any record on Clyde Kennard.

A search of the Sheriff's office on December 2, 1958

## MDAH Archives & Library

Normal Size

Change Image Zoom

Currently displaying printer friendly

SCR ID # 1-27-0-6-18-1-1

at Hattiesburg, Mississippi, failed to find any record of Clyde Kennard.

There was no arrest record on file of Kennard at the State Bureau of Identification, Mississippi Safety Patrol, Jackson, Mississippi.

A search of the records of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Washington, D. C., by the Mississippi Highway Patrol Identification Officer, Director Sam Ivy, failed to disclose any record of Kennard with the FBI Criminal File, Washington, D. C.

### III. EMPLOYMENT

As previously noted in this report, the records of confidential informant T-1 reflect that Clyde Kennard was employed in 1952 at a salary of \$25.00 per week by Mr. Dave A. Matison, 420, S. 21st Avenue, Hattiesburg, Mississippi. Upon interview on December 10, 1958 with Mr. Dave A. Matison, a partner in the firm, Fine Brothers - Matison Company, the largest department store in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, informed the writer that approximately the year 1952 Clyde Kennard had come to him stating that he wanted to go to school at the University of Chicago and needed to earn some money. Kennard asked Mr. Matison for a job. Mr. Matison said that he was sympathetic to Kennard's desire for further education and although he did not exactly need him, he hired him for approximately four months' work around his home. Mr. Matison said that he found Kennard to be highly intelligent and most efficient. He said that Kennard was very polite and did not push himself at all; that Matison's entire family became very fond of Kennard. Mr. Matison said that Kennard went to the University of Chicago for several years and then returned to Hattiesburg; that since that time Matison has had him work on several jobs and was highly pleased with the results. Mr. Matison stated that he planned to build a very expensive home in the suburbs of Hattiesburg and that after doing this he is going to offer Kennard the job of caretaker, a full time job at his home. Mr. Matison stated that Kennard has a poultry farm and frequently Matison's wife takes their children out to this farm where they enjoy very



## MDAH Archives & Library

Normal Size



Change Image Zoom

Currently displaying printer friendly

SCR ID # 1-27-0-6-19-1-1

much seeing the horses, cows and chickens and playing around the place. Mr. Matison states that he has never heard Kennard mention the NAACP; that Kennard has spoken of the unjust manner in which the South treats the negroes and that he is unable to understand why they cannot get fair and equal treatment. He says that Kennard is very independent and won't be driven by anyone. Mr. Matison says he does not understand why Kennard remains in Mississippi unless he just has a missionary zeal to try and change things. Mr. Matison states that he does not think Kennard will be able to enter Mississippi Southern and he is more or less letting himself in for a hard time and will create tension and unrest in that locality. Matison said he would be glad to talk to Kennard but he did not think it would do any good; that Kennard would listen to a member of his own race more readily than he would to a white person. He suggested that possibly the negro professors, Burger and Roy who are principals of negro schools in Hattiesburg might be able to talk to Kennard to get him to withdraw his application for admission to Mississippi Southern. It was apparent that Mr. Dave A. Matison, a member of the Jewish Faith, is very sympathetic toward Kennard but as a practical and realistic person he felt that Kennard had no chance of getting into Mississippi Southern at this time and undoubtedly was doing more harm to himself and to his race than good in his present endeavor.

The records of confidential informant T-1 as noted previously in this report, disclose that Kennard was employed from 1942 to 1945 as a clerk typist for the Mutual Insurance Company, Chicago, Illinois. Efforts are presently being made to check this information at Chicago as well as to conduct additional investigation in that city relative to Kennard's activity when he was living there.

Mr. Edward P. Arnold who is a partner in the A & R Feed Mill on North Main Street, Hattiesburg, Mississippi, advised on December 9, 1958, that Kennard had a farm in the Batonville community about 8 miles northeast of Hattiesburg. Mr. Arnold further stated that Kennard had

## MDAH Archives & Library

Normal Size



Change Image Zoom

Currently displaying printer friendly

SCR ID # 1-27-0-6-20-1-1

approximately a year ago purchased 3,000 chickens and set up a poultry farm. Previous to that time he had been farming a little cotton. Mr. Arnold advised that he had sold Kennard some poultry feed at various times.

Superintendent of Education, W. H. Lane also advised that Clyde Kennard had had a farm at Route 1, Hattiesburg for a number of years where he had farmed cotton. However, in the past year he had set up a poultry farm. He did not know the extent of Kennard's operation.

#### IV. EDUCATION

The official transcript of the record of Clyde Kennard from the Fayetteville Teachers College, Fayetteville, North Carolina, dated October 24, 1958, which is in possession of the Director of Admissions, Mississippi Southern College, Hattiesburg, Mississippi, reflects that Clyde Kennard attended Bay Springs Consolidated High School, Hattiesburg, Mississippi from 1943 to 1945 and graduated from the Wendell Phillips High School, Chicago, Illinois on June 26, 1950, after taking a G.E.D. test. This G.E.D. test was taken January 11, 1950. Clyde Kennard has the following high school credits:

English, 3 units  
 Algebra 1½ units  
 Plane Geometry, 1 unit  
 Latin, 2 units  
 History, 1 unit  
 General Science, 1 unit  
 Biology, 1 unit  
 Chemistry, 1 unit  
 Commercial Law, 1 unit  
 Art & Music 1½  
 Gym - ROTC, 2, making a total of 16 units.

The records show that Kennard was admitted to the Fayetteville State Teachers College on December 4, 1950 as a special student while he was attending U.S. Army - Fort Bragg, North Carolina. He did not graduate and withdrew

## MDAH Archives & Library

Normal Size

Change Image Zoom

Currently displaying printer friendly

SCR ID # 1-27-0-6-21-1-1

from the school March 3, 1952. He took the following subjects and received the following credits and grades:

World Geography, 3 hours credit, quality points 9, grade A.  
 Western Civilization, 3 hours credit, 9 quality points, grade A.  
 U.S. History, 3 hours credit, 9 quality points, grade A minus.  
 Urban Sociology, 3 hours credit, 9 quality points, grade A minus.  
 English Composition, 3 hours credit, 6 quality points, grade B.  
 Western Civilization, 3 hours credit, 9 quality points, grade A.  
 U.S. History, 3 hours credit, 6 quality points, grade B.  
 Social Psychology, 3 hours credit, 9 quality points, grade A.  
 U.S. History, 3 hours credit, 6 quality points, grade B minus.  
 American Government, 3 hours credit, 6 quality points, grade B minus.  
 International Relations, 3 hours credit, 9 quality points, grade A.  
 This makes a total of 33 hours credit, and 87 quality points.

Investigation has also disclosed that Kennard attended the University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois. Efforts are at present being made to secure the results of his attendance at this school together with other investigation relative to his activity while in Chicago.

### V. NAACP ACTIVITIES

The Hattiesburg American under date of Friday, December 6, 1958, carried a letter to the Editor which was signed, Clyde Kennard, RFD 1, City. Attached hereto is a copy of the article appearing in the Hattiesburg American newspaper.

# MDAH Archives & Library

Normal Size

Change Image Zoom

Currently displaying printer friendly

SCR ID # 1-27-0-6-22-1-1

Page 2A HATTIESBURG AMERICAN Friday, Dec. 6, 1954

## Letter To Editor

### MIXING

Editor, The American.

It is interesting to me that subjects which are most widely discussed are those which seem to be least understood by the public. Whom these discussions are designed to inform.

It would not surprise me if more words had not been spoken and written on integration and segregation in the last four years than on any other subject, especially in the South.

In our state the officials spend much of their time and perhaps

much of our money trying to convince the integrationists, and reassure the segregationists, that the policy of perpetual segregation is the wisest course for us to pursue, in spite of the tremendous cost of duplication.

Somewhat I feel a great sympathy for the people who truly believe that the interest of both the White and Negro people would be served best by a system of complete or partial segregation. Although I am an integrationist by choice, I am a segregationist by nature, and I think most Negroes are. We prefer to be alone, but experience has taught us that if we are ever to attain the goal of first class citizenship, we must do it through a closer association with the dominant (White) group.

Now it is this "getting closer" attempt by the Negro group that has aroused too much attention throughout the world, and no doubt a temporary animosity between the two groups.

There are two schemes for the solution of the present race problem. The first, spearheaded by the National Association for the Advancement of the Colored People, and given authoritative backing by the Constitution of the United States, as interpreted by the Supreme Court in its 1954 decision says that Negroes are American citizens and are entitled to the same rights and privileges, the same opportunities and duties as any other citizens; and that the best way to secure these rights and duties on a fair and equal basis, would be to (in all things public) subject both races to identical conditions of life.

The second scheme, championed primarily by the Southern

States, says that Negroes are American citizens and are entitled to the same rights and privileges, the same opportunities and duties as any other citizens, and that the best way to secure these rights and duties on a fair and equal basis, would be (in all things public and private) to subject both races to different conditions of life.

As the public schools are the essential organs for general intellectual discipline, and the preparation for private life and public service, let us superimpose the plan of separate but equal on the public school system.

It is my understanding that separate but equal means that in matters where public funds are involved every time a dollar is spent for the development of Negro students, a dollar will be spent for the development of White students, and vice versa.

This plan is to be followed through Junior college, Senior college, medical schools, law schools, divinity schools, graduate schools and all supported by public funds.

After our paralleled graduate schools, where do our parallels of separate but equal go? Are we to assume that paralleled hospitals are to be built for the two groups of doctors? Are we to build two bridges across the same stream in order to give equal opportunities to both groups of engineers? Are we to have two courts of law so as to give both groups of lawyers the same chance to demonstrate their skills; two legislatures for our politically inclined, and of course two governors?

The folly of such a conclusion is perfectly obvious. Yet, the question remains, what is to become of the doctors who are not allowed to treat their patients in public hospitals? What will the engineers do when there are no roads or bridges for them to build? How must the lawyers occupy their time when the state courts restrict their opportunities to practice? How shall young statesmen, who can't even get their names on the ballot, ever hope to be elected to the legislature?

Segregationists whose convictions are based on reason rather than passion might agree that the most honorable and actually the only path to our goal, would be to allow integration at some level, if not on the school level, then surely on the "job" level.

In utter desperation, I can see one other possible solution to which segregationist might resort, short of integration. They could do in theory what our state now does in fact, namely, raise and educate young people for the benefit of other states. While they get richer we get poorer.

The integrationists offer a program which at first seems if not cruel at least awkward. We admit to bring two groups of people together who have different social and ethnic backgrounds presents certain adjustment problems. We should expect that and any intelligent program must allow for these adjustments.

What we request is that

In all things competitive, merit be used as a measuring stick rather than race.

We believe that for men to work together best, they must be trained together in their youth. We believe that there is more in going to school than listening to the teacher and reciting lessons. In school one learns to appreciate and respect the abilities of the other.

We say that if a man is a good doctor though his skin be white as light or black as darkness let him practice his art. We believe that the best engineers should build the bridges, run the trains, and believe that the most brilliant men should be in the profession. We believe in the dignity and brotherhood of man and the divinity and fatherhood of God, and as such, men should work for the upbuilding of each other, in mutual love and respect. We believe when merit replaces race as a factor in character evaluation, the most hecking social problem of modern times will have been solved.

Thus we believe in integration on all levels from kindergarten to graduate schools; in every area of education; in government, federal, state, local; in industry from the floor sweeper to the superintendent's office; in science from the laboratory to the testing ground.

This, I believe, is our creed. And though it is not perfect, still I had rather meet my God with this creed than with any other yet devised by human society.

Respectfully submitted,  
Clyde Kennard  
RFD 1, City

## MDAH Archives & Library

Normal Size

Change Image Zoom

*Currently displaying printer friendly*

SCR ID # 1-27-0-6-23-1-1

Mr. E. P. Arnold, a white man who is a partner in the A & R Feed Mill, North Main Street, Hattiesburg, Mississippi, advised on December 9, 1958 that he was acquainted with Clyde Kennard as in the past he has sold Kennard chicken feed for his poultry. He advised that Kennard has been seen frequently in the past with Rabbi Martinband of Hattiesburg. Arnold said that he believes that Kennard has worked in the past at Rabbi Martinband's church. ( On March 12, 1957, Manning Johnson, a negro self- confessed communist party member testified before a legislative committee at Baton Rouge, Louisiana to the effect that the Mississippi Council on Human Relations was a transmission belt of communist infiltration in the South. Johnson named Rabbi Charles Martinband of Hattiesburg, Mississippi, as one of the Directors of this organization.) Arnold advised that Kennard was running a poultry farm which he had had approximately one year. Prior to that time he was mowing yards in the city and doing a little farming. Arnold further stated that it was rumored around that Kennard was receiving money from the NAACP. He had nothing to back this statement, he merely stated that it was a subject of comment and rumor in the community. Arnold advised that about August or September 1956 he had purchased a farm which adjoined Clyde Kennard's farm. Shortly thereafter Kennard had come to see Mr. Arnold stating that the negroes had had a meeting and that he was representing the negroes in the community, further that he realized that Mr. Arnold was a business man and that he was prepared to offer Mr. Arnold a profit on his farm. He stated that the negroes in the community desired to purchase the farm from Arnold since this was an all negro community, they desired to keep it that way. Arnold said he told Kennard that he was not interested in selling his property. Mr. Arnold advised that lately the negroes in the Eatonville community were having a lot of fish fries and that he and others believed these are only fronts for NAACP meetings. He said that Clyde Kennard appeared to be one of the negro leaders in that community. Mr. Arnold advised that about a year ago the negroes had circulated a petition for the purpose of having their children integrated in the white Eatonville School, but that some of the more level headed

## MDAH Archives & Library

Normal Size

Change Image Zoom

Currently displaying printer friendly

SCR ID # 1-27-0-6-24-1-1

negroes had gotten together and stopped this petition and it was never presented to the School Board. Arnold said that he had recently heard that the negroes were going to attempt to circulate such a petition again.

Mr. Robert L. Rawls, a white man who is a partner in the A & R Feed Mill, North Main Street, Hattiesburg, Mississippi, stated that he is acquainted with Clyde Kennard who approximately one year ago purchased about 3,000 hens for his poultry farm. He said that he had no evidence to the effect, but that Kennard was reputed to be a leader of the NAACP in Eatonville community. He understood that these negroes were having frequent meetings and he had heard that automobiles with out of state license plates had been seen at some of these meetings. Mr. Rawls stated that he, in partnership with Mr. Arnold, own the adjoining farm to Kennard's which is in an all negro settlement. He however, said that Mr. Arnold takes care of this farm and that he knew very little about Kennard of his activities.

Mr. Sam Rees who is presently employed by Radio Station WFOR, Hattiesburg, but who was formerly in charge of the Hattiesburg Credit Bureau, advised that he had made the Credit Bureau investigation and report on Clyde Kennard some three years ago for Mississippi Southern College. He stated that he was of the opinion that Kennard had no sense of responsibility in meeting his obligations. His credit was bad at the time but has since that time improved considerably. It was Rees's opinion that Kennard had possibly been receiving funds from the NAACP and had possibly been the so called payoff man for other negroes in the Eatonville community. He had nothing to back this opinion other than his belief. Rees stated that he had made a thorough investigation but had been unable to locate any marriage license for Kennard's mother and Silas L. Smith with whom she was living at the time. In his opinion, they were living as common law man and wife.

Mr. Max Gandy, a white man who runs the Candy Market and Grocery Store in the Eatonville community, advised on December 3, 1958, that any information he gave would have to be strictly confidential as most of his trade is from

## MDAH Archives & Library

Normal Size

Change Image Zoom

Currently displaying printer friendly

SCR ID # 1-27-0-6-25-1-1

negroes in the community and if they thought he was giving out any information his business would be ruined.

Mr. Gandy stated that Kennard's father, Will Kennard, had died about 27 years ago and that Kennard's mother had married Silas Smith and that Smith died approximately two years ago. He said that Kennard goes around with a negro girl by the name of Bobbie Jean Watts. However, Kennard is not married. He said that Kennard has a sister, Dorothy, who died recently in California. He also has two brothers, neither of whom reside in the Hattiesburg area. It was his opinion that these brothers either live in St. Louis or Chicago. Mr. Gandy said that Kennard had recently come into some money from the State Highway Department but that this money had been tied up by the Farmers Home Administration. He advised that Kennard does his banking business with the Citizens National Bank, and that he has cashed checks that Kennard has given to other negroes in the community. Gandy stated that he was sure there is a NAACP Chapter in the Eatonville community and undoubtedly Clyde Kennard is one of the leaders of the organization. He said that the Branch met he thought at various houses. He named the following negroes as leaders in the organization:

Clyde Kennard.  
 Vernon Dahmer.  
 George Kelley.  
 Major Bowen.  
 Kermit Eaton.  
 Darnell L. Eaton.  
 Levi Simmons.  
 James Barney and wife, Lila Barney.  
 Gilbert Watts.  
 Kenneth Beard and wife, Mrs. Kenneth Beard,  
 who is the sister of Vernon Dahmer.

Mr. Gandy said that recently Lila Barney had been in his store buying up a number of cold cut meats. When he asked her why

## MDAH Archives & Library

Normal Size



Change Image Zoom

Currently displaying printer friendly

SCR ID # 1-27-0-6-26-1-1

she needed so much, she said that they were fixing to have a NAACP meeting at her home and mentioned that Clyde Kennard, Vernon Dahmer, George Kelley and others would be present. Mr. Gandy further stated that he had recently observed cars from Illinois, or at least one car from Illinois, in the community. The car contained white people and he thought they were agitating the negroes in the Eatonville community. He said he had heard that the negroes were preparing to circulate a petition demanding that their children attend the Eatonville white school since they had closed down the colored school and it was now necessary to transport the colored children some eleven miles to Palmer Crossing for school and that enroute to this place they passed several white schools.

Mr. H. R. McPhail a white man who runs a country store in the Eatonville community, advised confidentially that he had known Clyde Kennard for possibly five years and that he is a quiet type of individual and is a leader among the negroes in the community. It was Mr. McPhail's opinion, though he had nothing with which to back it, that the NAACP is financing Kennard; he also named George Kelley, Vernon Dahmer and Kermit Eaton as other negroes in the community who are interested in the NAACP. He recalled the fact that Reverend R. W. Wouillard, a negro preacher at Eatonville, had physically thrown two or three of the individuals out of his church when they attempted to hold a NAACP meeting there. Mr. McPhail said that he knew of no petition or any plans for circulating a petition on the part of the negroes to enter the Eatonville white school, although he knew that the negroes in the community were quite upset when their colored school was closed. Mr. McPhail said that he had not observed any foreign cars or cars with foreign license plates in the community.

Superintendent of Education W. H. Lane, advised that there was no negro school at the Eatonville community this year as the same had been closed and consolidated with the school at Palmer's Crossing about 11 miles away. This necessitated transporting the children to this negro school. He stated that there were only about 125 negro children



## MDAH Archives & Library

Normal Size

Change Image Zoom

Currently displaying printer friendly

SCR ID # 1-27-0-6-27-1-1

attending school in Eatonville and that was not sufficient to maintain a school in that locality. Mr. Lane said that Clyde Kennard was one of the leaders of the negroes in Eatonville and he was of the opinion that there was a NAACP Chapter in that place. He also stated that George Kelley and Vernon Dabner were leaders of the negroes in that community. He had no information to the effect that any petition was being circulated for the purpose of having the negro children attend the white school at Eatonville. However, Kennard had recently told Mr. Lane that he saw no reason why the children in that community had to be transported eleven miles when there was a school out there that they could attend, having reference to the white school. Mr. Lane said that Clyde Kennard had formerly been a member of the Board of Trustees of the Bay Springs Consolidated School which was the negro school at Eatonville. However, when the school was consolidated at Palmer's Crossing, Kennard was let off of the Board of Trustees. Mr. Lane expressed the opinion that the Eatonville negroes would be the potential source of any trouble in the county, and this would undoubtedly be the first place where any attempt would be made on the part of the negroes to integrate the schools.

On December 10, 1958, I conducted interviews with Rev. H. C. Clark, a negro preacher, 710 Memphis Street, Archie Rogers, a negro, age 76, Memphis Street, Harold Pollard, a negro, 709 Mobile Street. All of these negroes attend the Mt. Carmel Baptist Church and had come to the sheriff complaining that their preacher had thrown them out of the church. They claimed that the preacher, Rev. James C. Chandler, was attempting to organize a NAACP Chapter in the church. I questioned them with reference to their knowledge of Clyde Kennard, however, they stated that they did not know Kennard personally, although they had read the letter he had written to the newspaper. They claimed they had no information about a NAACP Chapter at Eatonville.

On December 10, 1958, I interviewed Rev. R. W. Woullard who is pastor of a church at Hattiesburg as well as negro church at Eatonville. Rev. Woullard also runs a Funeral Home on New Orleans Street, Hattiesburg, Mississippi.

## MDAH Archives & Library

Normal Size

Change Image Zoom

Currently displaying printer friendly

SCR ID # 1-27-0-6-28-1-1

Rev. Woullard was recommended to the writer by Sheriff Ford Vance, Hattiesburg, and Chief of Police Combs, Hattiesburg, both of whom advised that he had cooperated with them in the past and also that he had prevented a NAACP Chapter from being organized in his church at Eatonville which had resulted in a fight on the part of several members of the congregation and Rev. Woullard. As a result of this situation, a number of the negroes referred to Rev. Woullard as "Uncle Tom". Rev. R. W. Woullard's telephone number is Juniper 3-1761, (office). His home telephone number is Juniper 3-3756. He advised that he had been a preacher at Hattiesburg for over 38 years. He also referred to the fight which he had with several members of his congregation at Eatonville in preventing them from holding NAACP meetings in his church. He referred to the negro leaders in the Eatonville community as Clyde Kennard, Vernon Dahmer, George Kelley, Major Bowens; he says there is a NAACP Chapter at Eatonville, though he has no way of proving it.

With reference to Clyde Kennard, Rev. Woullard says he is a well educated negro and intelligent, and had been up North to school for a number of years. With reference to the letter in the Hattiesburg American signed by Kennard, Rev. Woullard said that in his opinion, Kennard did not actually write that letter but he believes that the NAACP prepared it for him. Rev. Woullard advised that he did not know Kennard's father but that his mother was a good woman. Rev. Woullard expressed the opinion that the Eatonville community was a potential trouble spot and that any attempt to integrate the schools on the part of the negroes would arise in that community. Rev. Woullard also stated that the Negro Ministerial Improvement Association in Hattiesburg was just a front for the NAACP and that the NAACP spoke through the Ministerial Association. Rev. Woullard said he would be glad to cooperate any way he could in ascertaining the activities of the NAACP as he has fought them ever since they had attempted to organize in Hattiesburg. He says that as a result they have attempted to ruin his business, especially, his insurance business which he runs in connection with his Funeral Home. He also expressed the opinion that Kennard is going to do more harm than good by stirring up strife and dissention in filing an

## MDAH Archives & Library

Normal Size

Change Image Zoom

Currently displaying printer friendly

SCR ID # 1-27-0-6-29-1-1

application to enter a white college, Mississippi Southern College. Rev. Woullard said he would be glad to head up a committee of negroes to go to visit Kennard and attempt to talk to him and persuade him against filing an application to enter Mississippi Southern. It was his belief that they would be able to talk Kennard out of such an attempt if he is going to make the attempt on his own. Of course, if he is being backed by the NAACP that might present another complication.

Professor A. B. S. Todd, negro Principal of the Palmer's Crossing School, stated that in his opinion Clyde Kennard is a radical individual. Todd said that he did not know of any NAACP Chapter operating in Hattiesburg and he was sure there was none at Palmer's Crossing. All of the negroes in that locality seem to be satisfied with their new school. He did state that there was some dissatisfaction around Eatonville because of the eleven miles their children had to be transported to the Palmer's Crossing school. However, there was only about 125 students at Eatonville which was not sufficient to support a separate school. Todd was of the opinion that these dissenters at Eatonville would not cause any trouble however. He said that he had known Kennard for only about three years and that he was not married. However, he recently attended a PTA meeting at Palmer's Crossing and got up and attempted to ask some questions and make a speech. Professor Todd said that he put Kennard in his place in a nice way. He said he had never heard anything against Kennard's character and that he seemed to be an intelligent individual.

Professor Todd said that in his opinion Kennard would do more to stir up dissatisfaction, ill will and tension in the community by filing an application to enter Mississippi Southern College. He said that he would be glad to serve on the committee to go to see Kennard in an attempt to talk him out of filing the application.

Mrs. Ruth Bates, English Teacher at the negro school at Palmer's Crossing, advised that she lives in the Eatonville community and has known Kennard all of his life. She said that he tries to be different and seems to take the opposite side of everything. She said that he has caused dissension in the church as well as the school. Mrs. Bates

## MDAH Archives & Library

Normal Size

Change Image Zoom

Currently displaying printer friendly

SCR ID # 1-27-0-6-30-1-1

said that she has taught at the Bay Springs Consolidated School when Kennard had attended it. She knew of absolutely nothing against his character. She said he was a highly intelligent individual and just seems to think different from the others in the community. She stated that in her opinion Kennard was not a leader among the negroes and that there were only two or three who would go along with him. She denied knowing of any NAACP activities in Eatonville and claimed that she knew the people in that community well and she was certain they would cause no trouble. She stated that there were only a few dissenters such as Clyde Kennard, George Kelley and Major Bowen. In connection with my talk with Mrs. Bates, she brought up the fact that they greatly needed a Negro Junior College to serve the surrounding area. She expressed the opinion that the negroes would be well satisfied if the State would give them a Junior College. She further said that they did not want to integrate with the whites as long as they were able to get equal facilities.

Agent interviewed N. R. Burger, a negro Principal of Royal Street School, Telephone Juniper 4-5763 on December 11, 1958. Burger said he is well acquainted with Clyde Kennard whom he described as intelligent, well educated, and a deep thinker. He said that he does not know whether Kennard is a member of the NAACP or whether there is any NAACP Chapter at Eatonville. He further said that he did not know whether Kennard had the support of the NAACP in his attempts to enter Mississippi Southern. He had read Kennard's letter to the newspaper. It was Burger's opinion that Kennard might be first attempting to get things started by filing an application to enter Mississippi Southern with the hope that the NAACP would then come around and lend him support. Burger expressed the opinion that nothing but ill will, dissension and strife would result in Kennard's attempt to get into Mississippi Southern. He said that he would like to see Kennard withdraw his application for entrance into this school; that he is willing to work with a committee of negroes to try to get him to withdraw this application. He stated however, that he would like to talk to Professor Al Johnson, Negro Head of Prentiss Institute and with the Negro Head of Alcorn College whose name is Boyd. Burger stated that he is for segregation and does not want the negroes integrated in the white schools. In this connection, however,

## MDAH Archives & Library

Normal Size

Change Image Zoom

Currently displaying printer friendly

SCR ID # 1-27-0-6-31-1-1

he brought up the fact that the negroes in and around Hattiesburg badly needed a Junior College and that to secure such a school would go a long way toward satisfying the negroes in that area.

G. E. Roy, Negro Principal of the W. H. Jones School, interviewed on December 11, 1958, expressed the opinion that he was for segregation and believed that the majority of the negroes in the community were satisfied with the new schools which had been built for them. He expressed appreciation for these schools. He stated that he does not personally know Clyde Kennard but he believes that Kennard's efforts to enter Mississippi Southern College will only result in strife and ill will and will create tension in the community. He agreed to serve on a committee of negroes to visit Kennard and attempt to talk him out of filing such an application. Roy said he knew of no NAACP Chapter in Hattiesburg or Eatonville. He, along with the negro professors Burger and Todd, stated that they attempted to steer a course down the middle. In other words, they did not want to get mixed up with the NAACP nor did they want to be regarded as traitors to their own race, and held up as subjects of scorn and ridicule. All of these negro educators stated that they believed they would be able to talk Kennard out of filing his application at Mississippi Southern provided he was not being backed by the NAACP. If that was the case, they all stated that certain complications would arise and they did not know whether they would be able to get the desired results from Kennard.

Mr. C. W. Sullivan, Hattiesburg City Attorney, advised on December 11, 1958, that his maid had told him that some outside white people had been in the community stirring up the negroes and were promoting Kennard's attempts to get into Mississippi Southern. Sullivan had no further information on this and said that he would attempt to find out further from his maid regarding this matter and would advise the writer.

Mr. Dudley Conner, Attorney at Hattiesburg, Mississippi, advised on December 10, 1958, that Milton Barnes was head of the NAACP in Hattiesburg. Other leaders of this organization in Hattiesburg are Nathan Bourne, and Rev. W. D. Ridgeway.

## MDAH Archives & Library

Normal Size



Change Image Zoom

Currently displaying printer friendly

SCR ID # 1-27-0-6-32-1-1

Mr. Dudley Conner, Attorney, Hattiesburg, Mississippi, who was formerly head of the Citizens Council at Hattiesburg was interviewed on December 10, 1958. Mr. Conner said that he did not know Kennard personally but he had read the letter that Kennard wrote the Editor of the Hattiesburg American. He stated that he is well acquainted with the negroes in the Eatonville community who are potential trouble makers.

As a matter of background, Mr. Conner said that at the time of the Civil War some of the white renegades who did not go away to war lived around Eatonville and that they had both white and colored children. As a result, the community around Eatonville is made of negroes who are almost white or have a considerable amount of white blood in them. He stated that some of the negroes could well pass for white men. As a result, a number of these negroes have attempted to cross the color line. He particularly named the sister of Vernon Dahmer who Mr. Conner said had gone to Chicago, Illinois, and married a white doctor. Recently she was back in Hattiesburg with a big black negro chauffeur driving her around in a Cadillac. He said he thought she merely came back to show her acquaintances in and around Hattiesburg that she had crossed the color line. Mr. Conner said that one of the most dangerous negroes in the Eatonville community is Vernon Dahmer whose father, George Dahmer, now deceased, had once told Mr. Conner that Vernon Dahmer hated all white men because he could not cross the color line, although he is almost white. His father said that he would never accept the fact that he is a negro and some day he will undoubtedly be hanged.

Conner states that several years ago he broke up an attempt to organize a NAACP Chapter in the Eatonville community and had personally gone out and ordered a negro from Brooklyn, N. Y. to leave the county and never return. He found out this negro was agitating and causing trouble in the Eatonville community. Conner further stated that if the State Sovereignty Commission wanted Kennard out of the community and out of the State just to let him know and he would see that this was taken care of. He claimed that no violence and no publicity would take place. He indicated that it would be handled by bringing economic pressure on the negroes.

## MDAH Archives & Library

Normal Size



Change Image Zoom

Currently displaying printer friendly

SCR ID # 1-27-0-6-33-1-1

### VI. INVESTIGATION - CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Mr. Kline Weatherford, a former agent of the FBI, has conducted the following investigation at Chicago, Illinois, and transmitted the same to the State Sovereignty Commission under date of December 12, 1958:

The Chicago Police Department has no record of Clyde Kennard or Clyde Kinnard, wither in the criminal or subversive file. The subversive file is a rather extensive one, including all of the known and suspected persons possessing subversive activities.

The Retail Merchants Credit Bureau of Chicago has no information identifiable with Clyde Kennard or Clyde Kinnard.

From the University of Chicago, it was learned that Kennard attended the University from February 1953 to June 1955. The records indicate that he attended the Bay Springs Vocational High School, Hattiesburg, Mississippi and that he graduated from Mendall Phillips High School, Chicago, Illinois, in 1950. These records further disclose that Kennard attended Fayetteville State Teachers College, Fayetteville, North Carolina from 1950 to 1952. These records further indicate that he was in the United States Army from September 1945 to October 6, 1952.

Kennard's grades were below average at the University of Chicago and he was required to take some examinations over. Recently a letter was received from Kennard by the University of Chicago requesting permission to return to the University and take a course in Foreign Relations. Prior to returning, Kennard would be required by the University to take some examinations again. The records reveal nothing in the way of disciplinary action against Kennard, nor was there any subversive activity attributed to him. The records do disclose that while in High School in Hattiesburg, Kennard was a member of the German Youth Club and of Young Progressive Citizens.

## MDAH Archives & Library

Normal Size

Change Image Zoom

Currently displaying printer friendly

SCR ID # 1-27-0-6-34-1-1

### ATTEMPTED SOLUTION

As has been noted in this report, I contacted Rev. R. W. Woullard, a negro preacher, and the following negro Principals of new High Schools and Elementary Schools in the Hattiesburg area on December 9th and 10th 1958: N. R. Burger, Principal of Royal Street School, C. E. Roy, Principal of W. H. Jones School, A.B.S. Todd, Principal of the negro school at Palmer's Crossing. It was suggested to these individuals that since they were leaders of their race in the community and since they were in favor of maintaining segregated schools, that it might serve a useful purpose if they would constitute themselves as a committee to call on Clyde Kennard and persuade him that it was for the best interest of all concerned that he withdraw and desist from filing an application for admission to Mississippi Southern College. All of these negroes agreed that this was a desirable solution and they expressed confidence that they would be able to handle the situation and persuade Kennard to refrain from any further action or attempt to enter Mississippi Southern College. This committee has agreed to contact the writer at an early date and furnish the result of their meeting with Kennard.

It is interesting to note, however, that all three of the negro educators when interviewed on separate occasions, brought into the conversation their need for a Negro Junior College in that area. The inference was inescapable that they were attempting to bargain in a subtle manner. They were merely told that their desire and need for a Junior College would be called to the attention of the Governor.

On December 16, 1958, Rev. R. W. Woullard, Hattiesburg, Mississippi, telephoned advising that he felt he should report the following matter to the writer:

He said that he had contacted Professor A.B.S. Todd, who had said he would get in touch with Professor N.R. Burger and C. E. Roy with reference to having a meeting and deciding



## MDAH Archives & Library

Normal Size

Change Image Zoom

Currently displaying printer friendly

SCR ID # 1-27-0-6-35-1-1

on the procedure to take with reference to contacting Clyde Kennard. Woullard stated, however, that he does not think he should be chairman of the committee as Kennard is a close friend to Vernon Dahmer, George Kelley, and Major Bowen, all of whom Rev. Woullard had kicked out of his church for attempting to organize a NAACP Branch. Woullard said that he did not feel he would have any influence with Kennard. He felt that one of the Professors named above should act as chairman of the committee. Woullard said that he would be glad to counsel and advise with the committee and if they thought proper he would accompany them to see Kennard. Woullard also advised that on the previous day, December 15, 1958, The Hattiesburg American carried an article to the effect that Clyde Kennard had requested a conference with Dr. W. D. McCain, President of Mississippi Southern. The paper stated that Dr. McCain had granted Kennard the conference.

Governor J. F. Coleman telephonically contacted Dr. McCain with reference to this conference. Dr. McCain advised that he had given Kennard a conference and had attempted to persuade Kennard that he should enroll at some other school in the North to continue his education. However, Kennard had said that he did not want to go to any other school other than Mississippi Southern.

On December 16, 1958, J. H. White, President of Mississippi Vocational College, Itta Bena, Mississippi, was interviewed in Jackson, Mississippi. He said that on the previous day he had gone to Hattiesburg, Mississippi, at the request of H. R. Burger, Principal of the Royal Street School at Hattiesburg. White, who is also a negro, had conferred with Burger with reference to the Clyde Kennard case. Burger told him that he was working with a negro preacher and two laymen in an effort to arrive at a solution which would prevent tension between the races at Hattiesburg and in an effort to get Clyde Kennard to withdraw and desist from filing any application for entrance to Mississippi Southern College. White stated that approximately three years before he had gone to Hattiesburg and talked to Kennard to get him to discontinue his efforts to get into Mississippi Southern. He had been successful on that occasion.

## MDAH Archives & Library

Normal Size

Change Image Zoom

*Currently displaying printer friendly*

SCR ID # 1-27-0-6-36-1-1

White described Kennard as intelligent, well educated and believed that he was sincere in his efforts to raise the standard of the negro race. White said he did not know whether the NAACP was behind the efforts of Kennard to get into Mississippi Southern. However, he was of the opinion that they were not behind Kennard. In fact, he stated that Professor N. R. Burger had told him definitely that the NAACP was not behind Kennard nor was there anyone else backing him in his attempt to enter Mississippi Southern. White stated that Burger had talked to Kennard and Kennard had assured him of these facts. White stated that he was working through Professor Burger and that no other members of Burger's committee knew that he was interested in this matter and that his name was not to be mentioned at this time relative to the same.

White stated that Kennard had a great deal of respect and admiration for Dr. McCain, President of Mississippi Southern. He said that Dr. McCain had not attempted to push him around but had talked to him and reasoned with him as man to man. White made the suggestion that Dr. McCain get Kennard and bring him to Jackson, Mississippi in his car to the office of Dr. E. R. Jobe, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Higher Learning and while Kennard is there, Governor Coleman will drop in as if by accident at the meeting, and talk to Kennard, showing him that he is taking the wrong course and the ill will, tensions and the like he will engender between the races should he continue his efforts to enter Mississippi Southern; also the fact that he would have on his shoulders the responsibility of causing possibly Mississippi Southern College to close and maybe other educational institutions by his actions. White expressed the opinion that Kennard wanted recognition and attention from those in authority and he believed that by receiving this recognition and attention through a conference with Dr. McCain, Dr. Jobe and Governor Coleman he would be satisfied and would withdraw his application to Mississippi Southern. It might be pointed out that White during his conversation, brought up the fact that the negroes in Hattiesburg were greatly desirous of getting a negro Junior College for that area. Undoubtedly this is a bargaining point which they would try to present at such a conference as outlined above.

## MDAH Archives & Library

Normal Size

Change Image Zoom

*Currently displaying printer friendly*

SCR ID # 1-27-0-6-37-1-1

Professor White stated that Kennard was the one who issued the statement to the press at Hattiesburg to the effect that he had requested a conference with Dr. McCain and that Dr. McCain had agreed to give him an audience. This further indicates Kennard's desire for attention and publicity.

Governor Coleman is aware of White's proposal and plan for a conference in Dr. Jobe's office with Clyde Kennard. Governor Coleman is giving consideration to this plan.

### LEADS AT HATTIESBURG, MISSISSIPPI:

Will maintain contact with the negro committee who are to contact Kennard in an effort to get him to withdraw this application from Mississippi Southern College.

Will through the State Banking Department get access to and examine the bank account of Clyde Kennard at Citizens National Bank, Hattiesburg, Mississippi. An attempt was made to examine this bank account during the period of this investigation, however, the President of the bank, Mr. Brett, declined to exhibit this account, stating that there was a law which prohibited him from doing so. The records of this account may reflect the source of some of Kennard's money and also to whom he has been paying out money.

# EXHIBIT G

# MDAH Archives & Library

Normal Size

Change Image Zoom

Currently displaying printer friendly

SCR ID # 1-27-0-6-22-1-1

Page 2A HATTIESBURG AMERICAN Friday, Dec. 6, 1952

## Letter To Editor

### MIXING

Editor, The American.

It is interesting to me that subjects which are most widely discussed are those which seem to be least understood by the public, whom these discussions are designed to inform.

It would not surprise me if more words had not been spoken and written on integration and segregation in the last four years than on any other subject, especially in the South.

In our state the officials spend much of their time and perhaps

much of our money trying to convince the integrationists, and reassure the segregationists, that the policy of perpetual segregation is the wisest course for us to pursue, in spite of the tremendous cost of duplication.

Somewhat I feel a great sympathy for the people who truly believe that the interest of both the White and Negro people would be served best by a system of complete or partial segregation. Although I am an integrationist by choice, I am a segregationist by nature, and I think most Negroes are. We prefer to be alone, but experience has taught us that if we are ever to attain the goal of first class citizenship, we must do it through a closer association with the dominant (White) group.

Now it is this "getting closer" attempt by the Negro group that has aroused too much attention throughout the world, and no doubt a temporary animosity between the two groups.

There are two schemes for the solution of the present race problem. The first, spearheaded by the National Association for the Advancement of the Colored People, and given authoritative backing by the Constitution of the United States, as interpreted by the Supreme Court in its 1904 decision says that Negroes are American citizens and are entitled to the same rights and privileges, the same opportunities and duties as any other citizens; and that the best way to secure these rights and duties on a fair and equal basis, would be to (in all things public) subject both races to identical conditions of life.

The second scheme, championed primarily by the Southern

States, says that Negroes are American citizens and are entitled to the same rights and privileges, the same opportunities and duties as any other citizens, and that the best way to secure these rights and duties on a fair and equal basis, would be (in all things public and private) to subject both races to different conditions of life.

As the public schools are the essential organs for general intellectual discipline, and the preparation for private life and public service, let us superimpose the plan of separate but equal on the public school system.

It is my understanding that separate but equal means that in matters where public funds are involved every time a dollar is spent by the development of Negro students, a dollar will be spent for the development of White students, and vice versa.

This plan is to be followed through Junior college, Senior college, medical schools, law schools, divinity schools, graduate schools and all supported by public funds.

After our paralleled graduate schools, where do our paralleled hospitals, where do our paralleled separate but equal go? Are we to assume that paralleled hospitals are to be built for the two groups of doctors? Are we to build two bridges across the same stream in order to give equal opportunities to both groups of engineers? Are we to have two courts of law so as to give both groups of lawyers the same chance to demonstrate their skills; two legislatures for our political inclined, and of course two governments?

The folly of such a conclusion is perfectly obvious. Yet, the question remains, what is to become of the doctors who are not allowed to treat their patients in public hospitals? What will the engineers do when there are no roads or bridges for them to build? How must the lawyers occupy their time when the state courts restrict their opportunities to practice? How shall young statesmen, who can't even get their names on the ballot, ever hope to be elected to the legislature?

Segregationists whose convictions are based on reason rather than passion might agree that the most honorable and actually the only path to our goal, would be to allow integration at some level, if not on the school level, then surely on the "job" level.

In utter desperation, I can see one other possible solution to which segregationist might resort, short of integration. They could do in theory what our state now does in fact, namely, raise and educate young people for the benefit of other states. While they get richer we get poorer.

The integrationists offer a program which at first seems if not cruel at least awkward. We admit to bring two groups of people together who have different social and ethnic backgrounds presents certain adjustment problems. We should expect that and any intelligent program must allow for these adjustments.

What we request is that

in all things competitive, merit be used as a measuring stick rather than race.

We believe that for men to work together best, they must be trained together in their youth. We believe that there is more to going to school than listening to the teacher and reciting lessons. In school one learns to appreciate and respect the abilities of the other.

We say that if a man is a good doctor though his face be white as light or black as darkness let him practice his art. We believe that the best physician should build the bridge, run the train, be the engineer, be the most eminent surgeon, be the best mechanic, be the greatest scientist, be the professorship. We believe in the dignity and brotherhood of man and the divinity and fatherhood of God, and as such, men should work for the upbuilding of each other, in mutual love and respect. We believe when merit replaces race as a factor in character evaluation, the most heckling social problem of modern times will have been solved.

Thus we believe in integration on all levels from kindergarten to graduate schools; in every area of education; in government, federal, state, local; in industry from the floor sweeper to the superintendent's office; in science from the laboratory to the testing ground.

This, I believe, is our creed. And though it is not perfect, still I had rather meet my God with this creed than with any other yet devised by human society.

Respectfully submitted,  
Clyde Hamard  
RFD 1, City

# Letter To Editor

Route 1, Box 70  
Hattiesburg, Mississippi  
September 25, 1959  
**THE RACE QUESTION**  
Editor, The American;

The charge that any person who believes in any form of integration of the races is a Communist or an outside agitator has been made so constantly and with such force that it would not surprise me if there are some people who are innocent enough to believe, if not all, at least some portion of that charge. It is for the benefit of these unfortunate people that I review briefly the fundamental principle upon which the conviction of the integrationists is based.

Most basic to our beliefs about the race question in America today is that there can be no racial segregation without some racial discrimination, and that there cannot be a complete racial equalization without some racial integration.

Now this principle is an easy one for us to follow, for it holds true in human history, especially American History, as it does in logic. Reason tells us that two things, different in location, different in constitution, different in origin, and different in purpose cannot possibly be equal. History has verified this conclusion. For nearly a century now the State of Mississippi has been under a supposedly separate but equal system. Let us ask ourselves, does the history of the system support the theory of the segregationists or the theory of the integrationists? What segregationist in his right mind would honestly claim that the facilities for the two races are equal? Still the segregationists say, give us a little more time, we are really

making progress. Perhaps they are making progress of some kind, but human life is not long enough to extend their time. They have had nearly a hundred years to prove their theory, and so far they are no closer to proof than when they began.

The differences which we now have over this matter of segregation versus integration have, unfortunately, been characterized by some as a mortal contest between outside agitators and/or Communists, and peaceful, law-abiding citizens. This is furthest from the truth. The question is whether or not citizens of the same country, the same state, the same city, shall have equal opportunities to earn their living, to select the people who shall govern them, and raise and educate their children in a free democratic manner; or whether or not because of the accident of color, one half of the citizens shall be excluded from society as though they had leprosy?

If there is one quality of Americans which would set them apart from almost any other peoples, it is the history of their struggle for liberty and justice under the law. Lincoln has rightly said that this nation was conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. Truly, the history of America is inseparable from the ideals of John Locke, John Stuart Mill and Jean Rousseau. We hold these truths to be self evident, says our Declaration of Independence, that all men are created equal. How different that statement is in spirit from the one which says: Before I see my child go to school with a Negro, I will destroy the whole school system. How different a virtue

is the statement of Patrick Henry which says, "I know not what course others may take, but as for me give me liberty or give me death," and the one which says, before I see a Negro with liberty I had rather see him dead.

I find it indeed interesting that the people who come closest to the thinking of Fascists and Communists in their activities should accuse the integrationists of that very thing. Is it the segregationists or the integrationists who are employing secret investigators to search the records and to apply pressure on any one suspected of opposing the present dictatorship of the minority by the majority? Is it the segregationists or integrationists who are preaching the doctrine of the superiority of one race over another? Is it the segregationists or integrationists who are dogmatically suppressing the aspirations of nearly half the people of this great state for their inalienable right to participate in their government?

The segregationists give us their reason for not allowing Negroes to participate more fully in the general community activities that ninety-five percent of the Negroes are not interested, which would leave only five percent of the Negroes in the state who are interested. Now, assuming that their statement is correct, and knowing that no person nor group of people in the United States has the right to forbid even one single person his constitutional rights, what accounts for their actions? Some declare that the northern states can permit integration because they have only a few Negroes, but the South can't do that because the South has so many Negroes. Well, according to their own estimates, only five percent of the Negroes in the South are interested in participating in the general community activities, and five percent of the Negroes in any community would certainly not weigh very heavily in any critical issue, even if we were to assume that they would all vote the same

way. On the other hand, if a majority of the Negro people in this State desires to participate to the fullest extent in the general community activities and are being forbidden to do so either through fear or ignorance, then the segregationists of this State are guilty of one of the strangest and probably the most tragic dictatorships yet recorded by history.

It is an easy matter, I suppose, for White people to misunderstand the aspirations of Negroes; this is understandable. But we have no desire for revenge in our hearts. What we want is to be respected as men and women, given an opportunity to compete with you in the great and interesting race of life. We want your friends to be our friends; we want your enemies to be our enemies; we want your hopes and ambitions to be our hopes and ambitions, and your joys and sorrows to be our joys and sorrows.

The big question seems to be, can we achieve this togetherness in our time? If the segregationists have their way we shall not. For instead of preaching brotherly love and cooperation they are declaring the superiority of one race and the inferiority of the other. Instead of trying to show people how much they are alike, they are busy showing them how much they differ. Instead of appointing a commission to study the problem to determine whether integration or segregation is the best policy for Mississippi at this time, they appointed a commission to try to maintain segregation at all cost whether it is the best policy or not the best policy.

In this matter I like to quote from the great Indian leader, Mahatma Gandhi, in his discourse on the existence of God. He says: "In the midst of death, life persists; in the midst of untruth, truth persists; in the midst of darkness light persists."

So, let it be, in our case.  
Respectfully submitted,

speaking form  
↑  
own copy

SEP 25 1959  
INDEXED  
SERIALIZED  
FILED

1-27-43

# Letter To Editor

Route 1 Box 70  
Hattiesburg, Mississippi  
January 23, 1960  
SCHOOL MIX

Editor, The American:

The discussion of the problem of integration which faces our state at this time, prompts me to offer a statement, not in defense of my efforts to enroll at Mississippi Southern College, but as an explanation of our position on public school integration.

Mississippi Southern College is the only State supported four year college in this area and my situation at home makes it very difficult for me to leave home to continue my education. On this account I have been unable to attend school for nearly five years. By attending Mississippi Southern College my problem would be solved, as I could live at home and attend school.

From a general point-of-view I am keenly aware of the race problem entailed, as nothing has so constantly occupied my thoughts during the past three years. I know that there are those among us who feel that both races would be best benefited by a policy of private and public separation of the races, and that this segregation should be maintained no matter what the cost to ourselves and to future generations.

Unfortunately, perhaps I have not been able to convince myself, nor has anyone else been able to convince me that this is really the wisest course for Mississippi to follow at this critical juncture in our history.

Those who advocate the separation of the races theory generally say: To teach Negro and White students in the same schools would mean, in part, mixing of White and Negro blood to the extent of destroying both races; Negroes as a result of their economic and social history, have developed such low moral habits until it would be tragically degrading to White youngsters for them to associate with Negro youngsters; since White students are so much more advanced scholastically than Negro students it would be a grave injustice to Negro students to have them compete in the same class room, for since Negroes are so inferior in development to White students this would end even the little development which they are capable of making when left to themselves; if schools are racially integrated, Negro teachers would have to turn to some other income source here in Mississippi or leave the State completely for employment; and if schools maintained for Negro people are equal in facilities and teachers to those maintained for White people, then the schools are equal in total essence.

Although, I have tried never to underestimate the importance of these issues, I cannot attach to them

I would be in favor of a commission of eminent social scientists to make a careful study of colleges and universities which have practiced total integration over a long period of time, to determine whether or not the purity of any of the races involved has been greatly diluted, and if so, to what extent this dilution has actually impaired the effectiveness of those involved.

The study of such a commission would show, I believe, that the percentage of interracial courtships which led to anything as serious as marriage or reproduction would be so small as to be completely negligible. Should such a commission report a contrary result, however, then I would be among the first to abstain from face and job, severely, the segregationists among us.

The second major objection which segregationists advance against racial integration is the question of morality. No thinking person would pass lightly over this problem; for it is so stated that the percentage of Negroes who are accused of crime is higher than the Whites. I admit that we have had and still have, to a large extent, lower economic and moral standards than many of our White neighbors. However, we must realize that this condition is not a cause for segregation, but the effect of segregation and discrimination. The more segregation and discrimination we have in our community the more we shall continue to have ignorance and immorality and poverty.

To those who think that it would be an injustice to Negroes to have them compete with White students; the answer is found in the fact that our plan is to establish a system of education and not a temporary scheme to relieve ourselves of a problem which we are not willing to face. Certainly, there will be instances at first where Negro students are behind White students in development; though not because of any natural inferiority, but because the system in which we live has long failed to provide its own contract to provide equal educational facilities for all of its children. There will be scattered instances where Negroes might fall behind White students, but shortly this problem would be, for the most part, eliminated.

Others maintain that integration is all right, but it would put an end to the employment of Negro teachers. Those who feel this way seem not to correctly appraise the transition. In the first place it will take many years to drastically change the present patterns of our community; for years we shall continue to have areas predominantly White, and areas primarily Negro. The law will not have to require this arrangement; the pride which people have in their homes, churches, and schools will motivate this stability.

What seems to be the second major defect in their argument is the idea that the same prejudices which are leveled against

was a time when a person could get through college by hook or crook, and if he could do nothing else he would teach. This practice is rapidly becoming a thing of the past; in tomorrow's world it will be unheard of. Thus, if a teacher has mastered his profession, and has made the proper adjustments, and is willing to dedicate himself to man's highest calling, though he is yellow, black or white, there will be a place for him.

Finally, let me mention the argument for separate but equal facilities in public education, as being superior to a non-restricted system. This argument may seem more plausible if getting an education were an end in itself, and not a means to an end. The end product of an education is a greater and more useful participation in the art of living in a civilized society. If an education does not help make out of people more useful citizens to themselves and their community, then it has failed. Conversely, if the community fails to provide those whom it educates an opportunity to serve it to the fullest extent, then the community is guilty of self-government or self-destruction.

This is why I have not been able to understand what good an equalization program could serve, if no sincere plans are being made to equalize employment opportunities. If there are to be no jobs in government, science, or industry, the time and money spent in educating the child are in vain. The question seems to be, what part will the educated Negro play in our society in future years? If we plan to continue our policy of employing all Whites on our hospital staffs, all Whites in government service, all Whites on engineering staffs, all Whites in anything which requires the least amount of brain-power, what will the thousands of Negroes do who will be graduating each year? On the other hand, if we decide to be realistic and fair about the whole thing, and employ people according to merit, would it not be much more sensible and certainly more economical to permit the lawyers, doctors and engineers who are to be working on the same staffs just after graduation, to go the same schools where they could learn to respect and appreciate each other?

Questions of this kind have led me to request that I be permitted to enroll at Mississippi Southern College without a court order to do so. I am not a child, but I have in the ability of the individual States to control their own affairs. I believe that if the State should lead out with only the smallest amount of integration, it would never have to worry about Federal intervention.

I have done all that is within my power to follow a reasonable course in this matter. I have wanted the State to see that our position has at least some validity. I have tried to make it clear

STATE SOVEREIGNTY COMMISSION  
JAN 23 1960  
INDEXED  
SERIALIZED  
FILED

that my love for the State is not a selfish and my hope for its prosperity is equal to any man's since. The thought of its setting this request before a Federal Court for consideration, and at the publicity and misrepresentation which this would bring about, makes my heart beat. Yet, what other course was there?  
Respectfully submitted,  
Clyde Kennard

*Hattiesburg American*

# EXHIBIT H



JOHNNY LEE ROBERTS, INTRODUCED ON BEHALF OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, AFTER HAVING BEEN FIRST DULY SWORN, TESTIFIED AS FOLLOWS:

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. FINCH:

Q Johnny Lee, I want you to speak loud---

A Yassuh.

Q ---where I can hear you way back here.

A Yassuh.

Q I want you to take your time. Have you ever been in Court before?

A Nawsuh.

Q What is your name in full?

A Johnny Lee Roberts.

Q Johnny Lee, were you sworn while ago by the Clerk, and asked if you swore to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God? Did you take that oath while ago?

A Yassuh.

Q You did.

A Yassuh.

Q All right. You know what it means to tell the truth, Johnny?

A Yassuh.

Q How old are you, Johnny?

A Nineteen.

Q I didn't hear that.

A Nineteen.

Q Nineteen?

A Yassuh.

Q When will you be twenty?

A It'll be April the twenty-eighth.

Q April the twenty-eighth?

A Yassuh.

Q That will be of next year?

A Yassuh.

Q Is that right?

A Yassuh.

Q Nineteen sixty-one?

A Yassuh.

Q How much schooling have you had, Johnny?

A Not none.

Q Not none?

A Nawsuh.

Q In other words, you didn't go to grammar school at

all?

A Nawsuh.

Q And where do you live, Johnny?

A 1214 Scott Street.

Q Is that here in Hattiesburg?

A Yassuh.

Q How long have you lived here in Forrest County?

A All my life.

Q All your life?

A Yassuh.

Q Have you ever been convicted of anything, Johnny?

Do you understand what I mean?

A Yassuh.

Q Have you ever been convicted of anything in your  
life before?

A Nawsuh.

Q Never before?

A Nawsuh.

Q Now, Johnny---

A Yassuh.

Q You have pleaded guilty in this Court, have you, Johnny, of that burglary of this Co-op down here?

A Yassuh.

Q And you are guilty, aren't you?

A Yassuh.

Q Now, do you know Clyde Kennard?

A Yassuh.

Q How long have you known him?

A About three or four years.

Q Three or four years?

A Dat's right.

Q Now, Johnny, before going any further, I want to ask you this.

A Yassuh.

Q Has anyone, that is, any law officer, me, Mr. King, any of the people from the Sheriff's office, the city police,---have any of them promised you anything, Johnny, to testify or not to testify in this case?

A Nawsuh.

Q Now, you said you have known Kennard three or four years.

A Yassuh.

Q Is that right?

A Yassuh.

Q Have you ever been to his place north of Hattiesburg up here, his farm, or home?

A Well, de onlyst one I knows is out dere in Glendale.

Q In Glendale?

A Yassuh.

Q Had you been up there to that place prior to the twenty-fifth of September of this year? Had you been up there before?

A Well, I didn't git you there.

Q Had you ever been up to Clyde Kennard's place at Glendale before you went up there in September, if you did? Do you understand? Have you ever visited up there before?

A Well, yassuh. I haven't visited 'im. Just inquiring around.

Q All right. In other words, you know where it is?

A Yassuh.

Q You know how to get there?

A Yassuh.

Q Now, Johnny, where do you work now?

A Mack's Triangle Service Station on Broadway Drive.

Q Is that Mr. McNease's--

A Yassuh.

Q --Sinclair station there?

A Yassuh.

Q Before you went to work there, did you work for the Coop?

A Yassuh.

Q And is that Coop place where you worked---

A Yassuh.

Q ---here in Hattiesburg,---

A Yassuh.

Q ---Forrest County, Mississippi?

A Yassuh.

Q What did you do at the Coop? What was your job?

A Well, loadin' trucks and haulin' feed.

Q Loading trucks and hauling feed?

A Yassuh.

Q How long had you worked for the Coop?

A A little better'n four years.

Q A little better than four years.

A Yassuh.

Q And when did you leave the Coop? When you got into some trouble?

A Yassuh.

Q All right. Do you recall an occasion, Johnny Lee, when you went into the Coop early one Sunday morning?

A Yassuh.

Q Now, before that, ---before that, Johnny, had you seen and talked to Clyde Kennard?

A Yassuh.

Q Where were you when you first talked to him, before you went in that place, when you first talked to him?

A Well, at home.

Q At home. And that was on Scott Street?

A Yassuh.

Q Now, what time of the day or night was that?

A 'round eight o'clock.

Q At night?

A Yassuh.

Q Was it dark?

A Yassuh.

Q And who was there at your house besides you?

A Wasn't nobody but me and my wife.

Q What part of the house were you in, and what part was your wife in?

A Well, way it was, it was me and him in the front room, and she was in the kitchen.

Q You say you and him was in the front room, ---you mean you and who?

A Mr. Clyde Kennard.

Q And who got there first? Were you there when he came by, Johnny?

A Yassuh.

Q What happened there, Johnny Lee, when Clyde Kennard came to your house?

A Well, he was asking me about gittin' some feed on the side.

Q He was asking you about getting some feed on the side?

A Yassuh, for two and a half a sack.

Q What?

A For two and a half.

Q For two dollars and a half a sack?

A Yassuh.

Q Did you then know of any feed that sold for two and a half a sack?

A Well, suh, they sells it up dere for two and a half a sack, but it's damaged feed.

Q Damaged feed?

A Yassuh.

Q But he asked you about getting it on the side?

A Yassuh.

Q Now, what did you respond to that? What answer did you give him about getting some on the side?

A Well, I told him that I didn't know right then. That I could see.

Q That you could see?

A Yassuh.

Q Now, when was that, Johnny, with reference to when you went in the place? About how many days or weeks before?

A On Thursday, I think. He seen me one Thursday,

and then one Friday night on Mobile when he seen me agin.

Q All right. When was the next time that you saw Clyde?

A One Friday night.

Q Where were you then?

A Hit was one Saturday night on Mobile when I was makin' groceries.

Q When you say you was making groceries, what do you mean? Buying groceries?

A Dat's right.

Q Where were you buying your groceries?

A At de Help-Yo-Self Store on Mobile.

Q All right, and did you see Clyde Kennard down there?

A Yassuh, when I walked out on de outside I seen 'im.

Q And what, if anything, did he say to you then?

A Well, he asked me 'bout de feed, and I told 'im dat I could git it Sunday morning.

Q Who suggested what time you get it?

A He asked me 'bout de feed, an I said, hit'll be Sunday morning.

Q And what, if anything, did he say to you about how you would get it?

A Well, 'bout de door. Leavin' de door open.

Q Now, what about that?

A He say, leave de door open where hit's fastened, and I won't have to do anything but shove it open.

Q Now, how was that door fastened?

A Hit was fastened wid a bar across it, with two nails behind it.

Q Was that on the inside or outside where you put the bar?

A Dat were on de inside.

Q On the inside. Now, was there one door or two doors?

A Two doors.

Q Two doors. And you say that he suggested that you leave the bar off?

A Yassuh.

Q And go in there when?

A Well, I went in dere one Sunday morning at twenty minutes to five.

Q Did Clyde Kennard suggest to you a time when you should bring the feed to him?

A Well, he didn't suggest to me. I told him dat it would be Sunday morning.

Q With reference to daylight?

A Yassuh.

Q Before or after daylight?

A Well, hit was befoe daylight, hit was just breakin' day. Hit was twenty minutes to five.

Q But did you and he discuss about whether you would come before daylight or not?

A Well, nawzuh.

Q All right. Now, what time did you all ordinarily close on Saturday?

A Twelve o'clock.

Q And who generally shut those two back doors?

A Well, hit was the boss. Dey have a boss over dere in de warehouse, Mr. Ollis Moore.

Q Mr. who?

A Mr. Ollis Moore, an he was supposed to check it, but he didn't check dat one.

Q He didn't check that one?



A Nawsuh.

Q Now, this conversation you had with Kennard on a Saturday night; was that the Saturday night immediately before you went in on Sunday morning?

A Dat's right.

Q Huh? It was?

A Yassuh, dat's right.

Q All right. What time did you leave the Co-op that Saturday?

A Twelve o'clock.

Q Now, Johnny Lee, are you or not confused as to the Saturday or Friday that you talked to Kennard? Was it about a week before you went in on Sunday?

A Yassuh, 'bout a week.

BY ATTORNEY YOUNG:

Object, Your Honor. He's leading the witness.

BY THE COURT:

Yes, I sustain as leading.

Q How long was it before you went in the Co-op was it that you talked to Kennard the last time?

A De last time when I talked to 'im?

Q Yes.

A Well, I talked to him dat Saturday night and I went in dere dat Sunday morning, at twenty minutes to five.

Q Now, Johnny, I don't want to confuse you, but when did you leave the door unlocked?

A Dat Saturday at dinner. See, we closed at twelve o'clock on Saturday evenings.

Q Had you or not been told how to leave that door unlatched before you saw Kennard that last time?

A I didn't git you.

Q Had you already been told by Kennard how to get in the place?

A Yassuh.

Q All right. When did he tell you how to get in it?

A Well, he tole me one Thursday.

Q One Thursday. All right, now, you say you closed there about noon Saturday. Is that right?

A Yassuh.

Q Now, who was in the back or whatever part of the building is where the door was you left unlatched, when you were supposed to close that Saturday at noon, who was back there?

A Jes' me by myself.

Q Just you?

A Yassuh.

Q Now, what did you do as to leaving the doors unlocked? Did you leave them unlocked?

A Yassuh.

Q Where did you leave the bar?

A Standin' up dere by the door.

Q Standing up by the door?

A Yassuh.

Q All right. When did you go back to the Co-op?

A Well, I didn't go back until twenty minutes 'till five.

Q That Sunday morning?

A Yassuh.

Q Who went back there with you, if anyone?

A Well, I was by myself.

Q By yourself?

A Yassuh.

Q And did you have your car?

A Yassuh.

Q What kind of car was it?

A A fifty-six Mercury.

Q Now, how do you get to the back part of that Co-op building, Johnny?

A Well, you goes up on a hill and you turns right, and then go on back down de hill, where we always parks the cars when we was working down there.

Q How close can you get your car to the back door?

A 'bout as far as from me to you.

Q About as far as from me to you?

A Yassuh.

Q When you got down there with your car at about twenty minutes until five, was it daylight or was it before day when you got there?

A It was just breakin' day.

Q It was breaking day?

A Yassuh.

Q All right. Did you go in the storehouse?

A Yassuh.

Q How did you get in there?

A I pushed de doors open.

Q Pushed the two doors?

A Yassuh.

Q All right, when you got inside, what did you do?

A Well, I got a buggy and I went and got five sacks of laying mash, and put on the buggy.

Q What kind of sacks were they?

A White sacks.

Q White sacks?

A Yassuh.

Q Of laying mash?

A Yassuh.

Q Now, were those damaged sacks or good sacks of feed?

A Well, they was good.

Q Good?

A Yassuh.

Q You spoke while ago of having some damaged feed at two and a half, but this was good feed?

A Yassuh.

Q And you put how many sacks did you say on the buggy?

A I put six sacks on de buggy, and I put the whole six sacks in the car.

Q Now, where in the car did you put the feed? Where in the car?

A In de trunk.

Q In the trunk?

A Yassuh.

Q All right, and you say you loaded six sacks in the trunk?

A Yassuh, but I couldn't fasten the lid and I took one sack out.

Q How many sacks were you going to try to take in the load?

A Well, I was gonna try to take ten.

Q Gonna try to take ten?

A Yassuh.

Q Now, what then happened, just tell us now what happened? You say you went in there and you loaded six sacks. Then what happened?

A Well, when I went in there I loaded six sacks on de buggy, and I brought them to de door and I loaded 'em in my car, and I went back and got five or six more sacks, and I

brought them to the door; and well, before I put the six sacks in the car, just as I was puttin' it in, the night watchman walked around the corner.

Q Now, who was that? Did you know him?

A Mr. Kitchens.

Q Mr. Kitchens, The night watchman walked around the corner.

A Yassuh.

Q Did you see him?

A Yassuh.

Q What'd you do then?

A Well, I just backed back, and I walked up in the warehouse.

Q Did you hide?

A Yassuh, behind the door.

Q All right. Then what happened?

A And, uh, he took my tag number and left and went straight across from my car to the hatching department.

Q All right.

A And I came out of the warehouse and got in my car, and pulled off, and went on up the road, and shut the trunk lid down.

Q What kind of car was that, by the way?

A Fifty-six Mercury.

Q Fifty-six Mercury?

A Yassuh.

Q You were able then to get five sacks in the back of it all right?

A Yassuh.

Q And shut the lid down?

A Yassuh.

Q When you stopped to shut the lid down, where did

you go then?

A Out to Clyde Kennard's place of business, the chicken house.

Q And will you identify the place,---the person where you took the feed? Do you see him here in the courtroom?

A Yassuh. Mr. Clyde.

Q Will you point to him?

A (Here witness points to the defendant)

Q Is that the person seated to the right of those three over there?

A Yassuh.

Q In the dark coat?

A Yassuh.

Q And the lighter colored trousers?

A Yassuh.

Q Is that Clyde Kennard?

A Yassuh.

Q You know him, don't you?

A Yassuh.

Q You drove then to his place and in your best judgment, Johnny, about how long did it take you to get out there?

A Oh, about, I'd say five minutes.

Q When you got out to his place, what part of his place did you go to?

A Well, I went to de chicken house.

Q The chicken house?

A Yassuh.

Q You knew where the chicken house was, didn't you?

A Yassuh.

Q What did you do when you got to Clyde Kennard's chicken house?

A Well, I taken the five sacks of feed out and put

it in his egg room department.

Q Put it in his what?

A Egg room department.

Q Egg room department.

A Yassuh.

Q All right. What did you do then?

A Well, when I got it in there, I left and come by his house.

Q Now, how far is it from where you left the feed to where his house is?

A Well, I would say 'bout a mile or mile and a half.

Q Now, which one do you get to first when you go out there? His house first, or do you go past his house to the egg room or what?

A Well, you gits to his house first, but I didn't go to his house first.

Q In other words, you didn't stop at the house?

A Nawsuh.

Q Is that right?

A Yassuh.

Q Let me ask you this, Jehnny. Did that feed have some tickets on it or tags?

A Yassuh.

Q What kind of tags were they?

A Yellow tags.

Q Yellow tags.

A Yassuh.

Q Does all that feed have tags on it?

A Yassuh.

Q All right, then you unloaded the five sacks, and you came back, you say, to Kennard's house? Now, what did you do? How did you get his attention?

A Well, I knowed I had been caught by the night watchman taking my tag number, and I took and went and told him--

Q Told who?

A Mr. Clyde Kennard.

Q You told him what?

A That the night watchman had took my tag number, and I had brought him five sacks of feed.

Q Did you receive any money from Kennard?

A Well, he give me ten dollars.

Q And for what did you get the ten dollars? For what did he give you the ten dollars?

A On the feed.

Q On the feed?

A Yassuh.

Q Well, was that how much you had agreed to take, or he to give, or did he owe you some more?

A Well, he owed me some more.

Q And what did he say about the balance that he owed you?

A Well, he didn't say anything.

Q Did he say he would pay you later?

A Nawsuh.

Q All right. You told him that your tag number had been taken?

A Yassuh.

Q Is that right?

A Yassuh.

Q Now, let me ask you this, Johnny. When you got to his house, did you knock on the door or was he up or how did you--

A Well, he was up, standin' out there in the yard.

Q Up standing out in the yard?

A Yassuh.



Q Was he dressed?

A Yassuh, and he had a pair or rubber boots on, and when I told him, he said that he would go and do away with the feed.

Q After you told him that you'd brought him five sacks, he said that he'd go and do away with the feed?

A Yassuh.

Q And what did he tell you to do?

A Well, he told me to go out to my mother's and stay at dere and carry my car.

Q And carry your car?

A Uh huh.

Q Now, where does your mother live?

A She lives 'bout ten miles out of Hattiesburg on Highway Forty-Two.

Q And for you to take your car and go out there and stay?

A Yassuh.

Q How long?

A All day.

Q All day. Well, did you have any other conversation with him then?

A Well, nawzuh.

Q All right. What did you do? Did you go out to your mother's or what?

A Nawzuh. I came on back to my house, and I parked my car and called a cab, and I went over to my brother's, and a police department had done come to his house and woke him up outta de bed, and they were hunting me instead of him. My tag number is registered in his name, and dat's why they come to him.

Q Uh huh.

A And got him.

Q Why didn't you go out to your mother's like he  
d you?

A Well, I knew that I had got caught and they was  
ma find me anyway.

Q So when you went to your brother's house, did the  
lice come there to get you?

A Well, they already had been there.

Q And then what did you do?

A Well, I left. I wanted to see my wife, but she  
as done left, gwine over home. She stayed dere all night, and  
left going back to my house, and when I got dere the polices  
as there.

Q And did they arrest you there at your house?

A Yassuh.

Q And did you or not then and there and since tell  
the police the truth, and tell them what had happened?

A Yassuh.

Q You never did deny it, did you? You told them the  
truth about it?

A Yassuh.

Q Just as you are telling it now.

A Dat's right.

Q Is that right?

A Yassuh.

Q And then----

A The polices what picked me up, he told me, he  
said, I wants the truth, said, nothin' but de truth.

Q Nothing but the truth. And you told them that,  
did you?

A Yassuh.

Q The same thing you're telling this Court and  
jury now?

A Dat's right.

Q Did you have anyone's permission or consent from the Co-op to go in that place, Johnny Lee, that Sunday morning?

A What you mean? With me or what?

Q No. I say, nobody gave you permission to go in here, did they?

A Nawzuh.

Q Except Kennard.

A Dat's all.

Q And did you or not know that you were breaking in that place and stealing? You knew that, didn't you?

A Yassuh.

Q Johnny, did they have a regular night watchman down there?

A Yassuh, they had a regular night watchman.

Q Now, is the regular night watchman the same one as Mr. Kitchens?

A Nawzuh.

Q They are different ones?

A Yassuh.

Q How many nights did the regular night watchman stay there?

A Well, he worked Monday night up until Friday night.

Q Monday through Friday. Now the regular watchman was never there, then, on Saturday night?

A Nawzuh.

Q You knew that, didn't you?

A Nawzuh, I didn't know dat, but---

Q Why did you pick out Sunday morning early to go in? Did Kennard suggest that time to you?

A Well, I thought maybe the night watchman wasn't around.

Q That's right. Everybody down there that did business around the Co-op knew that, didn't they?

A Yassuh.

Q You knew it.

A Yassuh.

Q The customers knew it?

A Yassuh.

Q And you felt like that would be the safest time to go in and not get caught?

A Yassuh.

Q Johnny Lee, has there anybody in connection with this case, in any capacity, attempted to persuade you to testify anything but the truth, on either side? If they have, tell us.

A Well, I didn't git you dere.

Q I want you to answer this. Has there anyone,--- anyone,---I don't care who,---attempted to persuade or asked you to testify anything different than what you have testified here this morning?

A Well, uh, last Monday morning, today week, Mr. Clyde Kennard, his lawyer, asked me,---he tried to make me say that I didn't take the feed out there.

Q To where?

A To Clyde Kennard's place.

Q Where did that conversation attempt to take place?

A Right outside the door dere in the hall. We was sittin' down out there, and he was sittin' there by me.

Q Do you know that lawyer? Was it Mr.---Was it--- do you know who it was?

A I know 'im when I sees him, but furthermore, I don't knows 'im.

Q Had you seen him in the courtroom here Monday, or Tuesday?

A Dat's right.

Q Was it the white lawyer that appeared here?

A Yassuh.

Q For Clyde Kennard Monday Morning?

A Dat's right.

Q Was that the same one you're talking about?

A Yassuh.

Q The same one?

A Yassuh.

BY MR. FINCH:

That's all, right now, Johnny.

They may ask you some questions.

CROSS-EXAMINATION

BY ATTORNEY BROWN:

Q Now, you are Johnny Lee Roberts. Is that correct?

A Yes.

BY THE COURT:

Stand back over yonder, if

you will, so the jury can hear you.

Q You are Johnny Lee Roberts. Is that correct?

A Yassuh.

Q And I believe you testified that you live at 1214  
Scott Street?

A Yassuh.

Q You've lived there all your life. Is that right?

A Well, nawzuh. I've lived in Hattiesburg all my  
life, but I didn't live right dere all my life. I been stayin'  
dere a little better'n two years.

Q Now, Johnny Lee, you testified that you talked  
with the defendant. Is that right?

A Yassuh.

Q Prior to your having gone into this place that you said you went into?

A Yassuh.

Q And where did you talk with him?

A Talk with who?

Q Where did you talk with him? At what place did you first talk with him relative to going in this place?

A Clyde Kennard?

Q Yes.

A Well, I talked with him at home.

Q Told you---you talked with him at home. At your home or his home?

A Where I'm living now.

Q Where you're living now?

A Yassuh.

Q That is the first time you talked to him?

A Yassuh.

Q Concerning going in this place?

A Yassuh.

Q This Co-op?

A Yassuh.

Q That's located here in Hattiesburg?

A Yassuh.

Q Now, when you talked to him at that time, what transpired between you and him? What was the conversation?

A Well, he was asking me about the feed.

Q Asking you about the feed?

A Yassuh.

Q I see. Now, I'd like to ask you this. I believe you testified that you plead guilty. Is that right? To the crime of burglary that's growing out of this same incident that

we're talking about now?

A Yassuh.

Q You plead guilty?

A Yassuh.

Q To the same crime Clyde Kennard is being charged with here today. Is that correct?

A Yassuh.

Q Now, why did you plead guilty?

A 'Cause I---

BY MR. FINCH:

Object to that. That's obvious.

A I had done a crime.

Q Were you offered any inducement of any kind or told that you would be given a lighter punishment if you plead guilty in this case and gave evidence here against the defendant Clyde Kennard? Remember you're under oath. You told the District Attorney that you would tell the truth.

A Dat's right.

Q You told him that, didn't you?

A Dat's right.

Q Now you have plead guilty to this case?

A Dat's right.

Q Did anybody tell you that if you plead guilty and gave evidence, that is, submitted evidence of testimony here against the defendant, Clyde Kennard, as you are now doing today--

A Dat's right.

Q That you would receive a lighter sentence?

A Nawsuh.

Q They did not?

A Nawsuh.

Q All right, now, you stated that you visited out

there before the incident at Clyde's house. Is that right?

You had been out there?

A Well, I had been out there. I didn't say that I had visited his house. What I mean, just visit his house.

Q But you had been out that way?

A Yassuh.

Q In that area where he lives?

A Yassuh.

Q Now, what time did you say it was that you went to this warehouse?

A At twenty minutes to five.

Q You went to the warehouse at twenty minutes to five?

A Yassuh.

Q That is, to the Co-op building where this feed is kept?

A Yassuh.

Q Now, when you went there, I believe you testified you went by yourself, didn't you?

A Yassuh.

Q Was Clyde Kennard with you when you went to the warehouse?

A Nawsuh.

Q Did he help you break in the warehouse?

A Nawsuh.

Q He was nowhere on the premises at the time that you broke in the warehouse?

A Nawsuh.

Q Do you---you broke in there by yourself. Is that correct?

A Yassuh.

Q Do you know of your own knowledge whether Clyde



Kennard has been inside the warehouse, back there where the feed and everything is kept?

A Nawsuh.

Q He has never been inside there so far where the feed is kept?

A Dat's right.

Q Then, could you tell the Court Clyde Kennard had any knowledge,---you couldn't tell the Court then, that Clyde Kennard had any first hand knowledge of how the door was fastened on the inside, could you?

A Well, by me tellin' him.

Q But you didn't know he had any first hand knowledge

BY MR. FINCH:

Court please, we object.

He would have first hand knowledge if he told him. He'd have a right to answer that.

BY THE COURT:

Yes. Overruled.

Q Now, what time again did you say you went to this place and committed this breaking and entering?

A Twenty minutes to five.

Q Twenty minutes to five?

A Yassuh.

Q Now, did you have a watch?

A Yassuh.

Q You had a watch?

A Yassuh.

Q Can you tell time?

A Yassuh.

Q Now, how did you know the exact time, that it was twenty minutes of five?

A By looking at it.

Q Oh, you looked at your watch?

A Yassuh.

Q Just before you started committing the crime?

A Yassuh.

Q Is that right?

A Yassuh.

Q I notice you don't have your watch. Do you have your watch on now?

A Yassuh. (Here witness takes watch from pocket)

Q Oh, you got it in your pocket.

A Yassuh.

Q You have it now.

A Yassuh.

Q Let me see that watch.

(HERE COUNSEL FOR DEFENDANT  
LOOKS AT WITNESS'S WATCH)

Q Then you took that watch and checked the time just before you began the crime?

A Yassuh.

Q Why did you do that?

A Well, I just looked at my watch. I didn't have any point by looking at it, but I just looked to see what time of the morning it was.

Q Now, you are sworn to tell the truth, is that correct?

BY MR. FINCH:

Now, if the Court please,  
that's twice, and we object to it.

BY THE COURT:

Yes. I'll sustain.

Q Now, you said it was dark. Now, did you have a

Flashlight or anything with you at that time?

A Nawsuh.

Q You didn't have a flashlight?

A Nawsuh.

Q Now, how could you read the watch? Did you have a luminous dial on that watch? Does that watch have an illuminous dial to it?

A Nawsuh.

Q It doesn't?

A Nawsuh.

Q Then how could you read the watch in the dark?

A By the light in the warehouse.

Q Where is the light in the warehouse with respect to where you were at the time you looked at your watch?

A Well, it's got a backside light on the warehouse. It's a light on the outside.

Q Now, if I were to tell you that I'm aware of the fact---

A Dat you'se what?

Q If I should tell you that I am aware of the fact that you have been getting feed from the Co-op and taking it to other places in Hattiesburg, would you deny that?

A Nawsuh. Nawsuh. 'Cause I ain't done it.

Q You have never done that before?

A Nawsuh.

Q Now, you said when you saw the night watchman, you stepped inside the place. Is that correct?

A Yassuh.

Q Did the night watchman come inside?

A Nawsuh.

Q He did not come inside?

A Nawsuh.

Q And why is it he didn't come inside? Do you know?

A Nawzuh.

Q Now, did the night watchman look in the trunk of your car?

A Well, yassuh.

Q He looked in the trunk of your car?

A Yassuh.

Q Did he see anything in the car?

A Yassuh.

Q He saw feed in the car?

A Yassuh.

Q Is that right?

A Yassuh.

Q The feed that you were talking about that you got out of there?

A Yassuh.

Q What did he do about it? What else, actually, what else transpired between you and the night watchman?

A Well, de night watchman showed up around de corner of de building. I walked inside of de warehouse. Well, I knew dat he was comin' on to my car, so I waited in the warehouse, and he didn't come inside de warehouse, he jist shined de light in de warehouse. And he took my tag number, and went straight across dere from de car in the hatching department and called the polices.

Q Now, you said after he came up there and approached you, I believe, and took your tag number, he went and called the police. Is that right?

A Dat's right.

Q How do you know that?

A By seein' him gwine in the hatching department, and they's a phone over dere.

Q Well, now, you saw him going into the hatching apartment where there was a phone.

A Yassuh.

Q Now, do you know he called the police? Did you hear him call the police from where you were standing?

A I didn't hear him call the polices, but---

Q Then how do you know?

A ---he didn't go---

Q You don't know whether he called them or not.

BY MR. FINCH:

Just a minute.

BY MR. KING:

Object to that.

BY MR. FINCH:

Let him answer, Court please.

A --he didn't go in there for nothin', not when he took my tag number.

Q You are just presuming that he called the police. I mean you don't know that he called the police, do you?

A Nawsuh, I don't knows he called them.

Q All right then.

A But he undoubtedly did.

Q By the way, did the night watchman have a pistol on him?

A Yassuh.

Q Now, did he go, after he opened the trunk as you testified, and looked in there and saw this feed and other things in the trunk, did he go in the warehouse and make an investigation in the warehouse to see whether anything was missing from the warehouse or other circumstances?

A Well, nawsuh, he didn't come in.

Q He didn't go into the warehouse at all, did he?

A Well, nawzuh, not as long as I was dere.

Q Now what time was that? You said five-twenty, I believe. Was that five-twenty in the morning or---

BY MR. FINCH:

He did not say five-twenty.

He didn't say five-twenty. He said twenty minutes 'till five.

Q All right, twenty minutes 'till five. Was it twenty minutes to five in the morning or afternoon?

A Twenty minutes to five in the morning.

Q Twenty minutes to five in the morning.

A Yassuh.

Q Now, what are the hours that that warehouse usually, that is, the Co-op, what is their hours usually, their business hours?

A Well, from Monday morning, open up at seven-thirty, and close at five-thirty.

Q From seven-thirty in the morning 'till five-thirty in the afternoon?

A Yassuh.

Q That is the usual hours?

A Yassuh.

Q Is that right?

A Yassuh.

Q Now, is that the same for Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, those hours?

A Yassuh. And Saturday.

Q And Saturday.

A Yassuh, but until dinner on Saturday.

Q They close at dinner time on Saturday?

A Yassuh.

Q Is that correct?

164.

A Yassuh.

Q Now, during these hours,---I mean, what hours are you regularly employed there? What time are you supposed to go to work, and what time are you supposed to leave there?

A Well, I'm there at seven-thirty and leave at five-thirty.

Q Go at seven-thirty and leave at what time?

A At five-thirty.

Q At five-thirty?

A Yassuh.

Q These are the regular hours that you're supposed to be there. Is that right?

A Dat's right.

Q In other words, you are not supposed to be working there at five o'clock in the morning, are you?

A Nawsuh.

Q Is that correct?

A Dat's right.

Q But yet you were there at five in the morning?

A Yassuh.

Q At twenty minutes to five in the morning?

A Yassuh.

Q And at that time you were there the night watchman saw you?

A Yassuh.

Q And after he saw you he saw feed in your car?

A Yassuh.

Q And he took your tag number.

A Dat's right.

Q Is that right?

A Dat's right.

Q And yet he did not arrest you or cause you to be

arrested, did he?

A Well, like I said, he took my tag number and he went over to the hatching department and called the polices.

Q And called the police. Now, did the police arrive? Did the police arrive at the Co-op, at the time and at the place where you had committed the crime that you claim that you committed?

A Did dey arrive dere?

Q Yeah. Did the police come there at that time? You say he called the police. Did the police come? That's what I want to know.

A Well,-----

Q Tell the Court. You know.

BY MR. FINCH:

Now just a minute. He's trying to answer. Let him answer you.

A He didn't---

BY THE COURT:

Just a minute, Brown. Let him answer.

A After he went over to call the policemen, how did I know did day come dere? I was gone. I was gone.

Q You were gone?

A Yassuh.

Q The night watchman called the police, and after the night watchman called the police, before the policemen got there, you had gone?

A Dat's right.

Q Did the night watchman see you leave?

A Nawsuh, he didn't see me leave 'cause he was inside of a building.



Q Now, I would like to ask you, where did you, after you got this feed, where did you carry this feed?

A Out to Mr. Clyde Kennard's house.

Q You carried it to his house?

A To the hatching---to the chicken house department.

Q To the chicken house. What time did you get to the chicken house?

A Well, I don't know, 'cause I didn't look at my watch.

Q You looked at your watch, though, when you committed the crime that you claim that you committed.

A Dat's right.

Q But you didn't look at your watch when you got there with the feed? Is that right?

A Now, if you were so particular about checking the time, checking your watch at the time that you committed the crime that you allege you committed, why was it you wasn't so particular about your watch when you delivered the feed to Clyde's house?

A Well, I wasn't thinkin' 'bout---

Q Tell us why.

A I wasn't thinkin' 'bout it den.

Q Why is it you wasn't thinking about it then, but you was thinking about it when you committed the crime that you allege you committed?

A Well, like I said, I wanted to find out what time of de morning it was gittin' to be.

Q You wanted to find out what time of the morning it was getting to be. Now, when you got out there, and you went to the egg house, is that right?

A Yassuh.

Q And you put this feed, you claim, in the egg house?

A Yassuh.

Q Was the door open or was it locked?

A Hit was jist--

Q What was the condition of the door?

A Hit was open, what I mean, wasn't wide open, but it didn't have a fasten on it. I just shoved it open and put de feed in.

Q What type of lock does it have on it?

A Well, it have a little lock on it, but it never was locked.

Q What kind of lock did it have on it? Describe the lock. Tell the Court what kind of lock it had on it.

A Well, I don't know---all I knows 'bout de lock, hit was just a little lock. I didn't take de number of it. It was a little brown lock.

Q A little brown lock?

A Yassuh.

Q But you didn't take the number of the lock?

A Nawsuh.

Q Now, you said that the lock was brown, but how--

A Anyways, I knows de lock when I see it.

Q You'd know the lock if you saw it?

A Yassuh.

Q Now, had you ever seen a lock before?

A Have I ever---?

Q Had you ever seen the lock before the time that you carried that feed out there?

A Nawsuh.

Q You had never seen the lock.

A Oh, yassuh. I have seen plenty of them.

Q Yeah, but I mean this particular lock. You said you knew the lock. Is that right?

A Yassuh. But you mean,---what you mean? Have I ever seen a lock before I seen dat one?

Q No, I want to ask you this. You said you know the lock?

A Yassuh. I knows it when I see a lock.

Q But had you seen the lock prior to the time that you carried the feed out there?

A Nawsuh. Haven't.

Q Now, what kind of understanding did you have with Clyde Kennard about this matter, this feed? What understanding did you have about it? Were you supposed to bring the feed out and put it in the egg house, then come by Kennard's house to collect your money? What happened? Or what was the understanding you were supposed to have?

A Well, bring it out dere and put it in his egg room for 'im and come by his house.

Q That's what you were supposed to do?

A Yassuh.

Q Now, in other words, after you went there, broke in, took out this feed, and put it in the trunk, and the night watchman saw it in the trunk, took your tag number, and you presumed or felt that he was going in to call the police--

A Yassuh.

Q In view of all that, you still continued with your plan to carry the feed out and put it in Clyde Kennard's egg house?

A Yassuh. Dat's de onlyst where dat I knowed to take it to.

Q How's that? I mean,--- but I mean you went right on with your duties, knowing that the police may catch you before you even got to the egg house?

A Well, I didn't have any idea dat dey would catch

he 'cause as quick as---what I mean I'd a done been out dere and  
back before the man---

Q You knew that the night watchman could identify  
you, and had seen you, didn't you?

A Yassuh.

Q You knew the night watchman could identify you  
because he saw you. You testified to that.

A Yassuh.

Q And also, you knew that the night watchman had  
your tag number, didn't you?

A Dat's right.

Q And yet you took your time and drove on out and  
carried on out---

A Nawsuh,---

Q ---what you claim was your mission---

A I didn't---

Q ---in view of the fact that the police had done  
been called.

BY MR. FINCH:

Just a minute, just a minute.

BY THE COURT:

Just a minute, Brown.

A I didn't take my time. I went on.

Q I imagine you did.

BY THE COURT:

Now just a minute, Brown.

I don't allow any arguing back  
and forth with the witness. Just  
ask your questions, and then let  
him answer.

Q Now, when you went out to the house, I want you  
to describe to the Court, for the Court's benefit, and the

jury's, I want you to describe just how you went out there, that is, what route you took to go out there?

A Well, uh---

Q Just tell me which way you went all the way from the time you left the Co-op until you arrived at Clyde's chicken house.

A I left the Co-op, and I went straight on de hill, above de Co-op was a crossroad, and I went to de first road to de right, and I turned. An' when I got dere, I stopped and let my trunk lid down, and dat same street runs out dere in front of de courthouse, de one dat I got on up the road dere, and I went straight on out dat street to Clyde Kennard's house. I got on de other side of de by-pass out dere, and took right. I went over to Glendale and took left. I went 'bout a mile and a half, I took another left. Den I went on and took a right, went on a little piece and took another right, and went on another little piece up dere and took another right to de chicken house.

BY THE COURT:

All right, now, just a minute. It's twelve o'clock, and I'm going to recess Court until 1:30, so you be back on the stand at 1:30, boy.

(HERE THE COURT WAS IN RECESS FOR LUNCH).

(HERE THE JURY RETURNED)

Q Now, Johnny Lee, I believe you told us, that is, you covered to some extent the course that you took when you left the Co-op.

A Yassuh.

Q And went from the Co-op to Clyde Kennard's place. Now, I'd like to ask you this. From the time that you left the Co-op, where you took the feed, as you alleged, I'd like for you to tell me, please, the street in which, all the streets that you took, that is, the first street and where you turned and all, every street that you took from there 'till you arrived.

A Well, I tell you. I don't know none of de streets.

Q You don't know any of the streets?

A Nawsuh, I sho don't.

Q Now, how long did you say you have lived in Hattiesburg, Mississippi? How long have you lived in Hattiesburg?

A All my life.

Q All your life.

A Yassuh.

Q Now, what was your job at the Co-op?

A Well, haulin' feed and loadin' feed and working in the warehouse.

Q Did you drive a truck around and deliver feed at any time?

A Well, yassuh.

Q You did?

A Yassuh.

Q But yet you don't know the streets?

A Nawsuh.

Q Don't know one street from the other.

A Nawsuh.

Q Another thing, too. Have you lived out there in that area at any time since you have been in Hattiesburg? Have you ever lived in and about or near where Clyde Kennard's place is?

A Yassuh.

Q At any time?

A Yassuh, in---

Q Oh! You have lived out there in that area.

A Yassuh.

Q How long did you live out there?

A I lived out there, I'd say two years, a little better.

Q You lived out there two years, about?

A Yassuh.

Q Or a little better?

A Yassuh.

Q Now, you testified that you didn't go to school any. Can you read?

A Nawsuh.

Q You don't read at all?

A Nawsuh.

Q Is it true that you once lived on Clyde Kennard's place?

A Suh?

Q Did you ever live on Clyde Kennard's place, that is, on his premises?

A Oh, yassuh. What I means, my father moved on his property, in his house.

Q Your father--

A Yassuh.

Q Lived in his house?

A Yassuh, and dat's when I---

Q And you at that time lived with your father. Is that correct?

A Yassuh.

Q Is that correct?

A Wait a minute. I didn't understand you.

Q I mean you lived on Clyde Kennard's place with

your father.

A Yassuh.

Q You had possession, or your father had possession of a house on his place.

A Yassuh.

Q Is that correct?

A Dat's right.

Q Now, how long did you live on his place?

A Well, I think hit was 'bout a year and a half.

Q About a year and a half?

A Yassuh.

Q Now, when did you last live on Clyde Kennard's place?

A I don't know.

Q You don't have any idea?

A Nawsuh.

Q Well, has it been a week ago, a month ago, do you have some idea when you last lived on Clyde Kennard's place?

A Well, hit's been a coupla years since den.

Q It has been a couple of years since you lived on his place?

A Yassuh.

Q Have you ever, at any time, in your regular course of duties, delivered feed to Clyde Kennard's house? That is, to his area out there where he keeps his chickens?

A Well, Yassuh. When I was working on de truck, I wasn't de driver on de truck, but I was a helper on de truck at de present, and he used to buy feed at de Forrest County Co-op.

Q Speak up louder.

A Forrest County Co-op. He used to buy feed dere, at de Forrest County Co-op when I was workin' on a truck, we used to deliver him feed.



Q Uh huh. And you made more than one trip out there in the regular course of your work, haven't you?

A Oh, yassuh.

Q And you are then familiar with the premises around and about where he keeps his chickens,---

A Yassuh.

Q And eggs and feed. Is that right?

A Well, yassuh. I knows where he keeps his eggs and his feed also, 'cause we was de men to pick it up, de eggs and bring 'em back into de Co-op, and we hauled his feed and puts it where he wants it.

Q I see. In other words, you have a fair idea, then, of the proximity, that is, the description of various properties in and around and about there, don't you?

A Yassuh.

Q You understand what I mean?

A Yassuh.

Q You know something about it. You are familiar with his place, his chicken house and his egg house.

A Yassuh. I knows where his chicken house and---

Q And you were familiar with that when you made these trips out there. I mean you observed when you made these trips out there to his place, didn't you? You had to, because you---

A What I mean--

Q ---naturally saw it.

A ---is, I knows where his place is and everything out dere about.

Q Now, I believe you testified that the first time you saw Clyde Kennard was on a,--was at your home. Is that right?

A Yassuh.

Q And, of course, your wife was present at that time.

A Yassuh.

Q When you first saw him. Is that right?

A Yes, suh.

Q And you testified that was the first time that you discussed the matter of going out there---

A Yassuh.

Q ---with Clyde.

A Yassuh.

Q Is that correct?

A Dat's right.

Q Now, what time was that?

A Eight o'clock.

Q Was that eight p. m. or eight a. m.?

A Eight o'clock.

Q I mean, was that eight in the evening or was that eight in the morning?

A Hit was eight at night.

Q Now, you testified that you saw him on the second and final time, I mean, the second and final time at a super market, I believe, on Mobile Street in Hattiesburg. Is that correct?

A Yassuh.

Q Now, what time was that?

A It was around seven-thirty.

Q Now, when Clyde Kennard came out to your house at the time that you say the two of you first discussed this plan for you to go into the Co-op, at your house at that time, did Clyde bring his own car, or did he walk?

A Nawsuh. He had some of his neighbor's car. He didn't---

Q He had what?

A Some of his neighbor's car.

Q Some of his neighbor's car. I'd ask you, what neighbor? What neighbor was it?

A Well, he was driving about a,---I guess a fifty Plymouth.

Q He was driving a fifty Plymouth?

A Sumpin 'nother 'bout like dat. But de neighbors, I don't know 'em only when I sees 'em. What I mean, I knows dem when I sees dem. Well, anyways, Mr. Richard Watts's daughter---

Q What's at?

A Mr. Richard Watts's daughter, the owner of the car.

Q Now, I believe you testified that during the time that you were in the process of getting the feed out of the Co-op, that a night watchman arrived on the scene, that is, he came nearby where you saw him. Is that right?

A You mean what time the night watchman seen me, or how did it happen or what?

Q You testified the night watchman certainly saw you, and you saw him at that time. Isn't that correct?

A Well, I ain't said he really seed me. He came around de corner and I glimpsed him, seen him, I seen him, I knowed who it was, and I just walked back and into de warehouse.

Q How long did you stay in the warehouse after you walked back into the warehouse?

A I wouldn't know, 'cause I jist,---I wasn't payin' no attention to my watch. It wasn't over five and six minutes, no more dan 'bout like dat.

Q Now, when did you first have a conversation with the night watchman? Strike that. Where did you have a conversation with the night watchman? Inside of the warehouse or outside?

A Outside.

Q Outside, outside of the warehouse.

A Yassuh.

Q Now, was the night watchman standin' out there waiting on you to come out?

A Nawsuh.

Q He was not?

A Nawsuh.

Q Where was the night watchman when you came out?

A He was going in a building right across from where my car was into a hatchery department.

Q Into what?

A Hatcher repartment.

Q I believe you testified, I'm not certain, but did you testify that the night watchman had a pistol on him at the time?

A Yassuh.

Q Did he draw it on you?

A Nawsuh.

Q Did the night watchman put you under arrest himself?

A Nawsuh. All de night watchman done is took my tag number and went to call the polices.

Q Did the night watchman say anything to you, either preceding or during or right after acquiring your tag number?

A Well, I'll say sumpin like dis. If de night watchman said somethin' to me, he could held me dere until de polices come, but he didn't say anything to me, or he didn't never see me at least. See, he jest was comin' 'round a corner, jest like dis and I was standin' up here at dis end of de building, and I seen him, and I walked back. Then---

Q But he didn't see you. Is that it?

BY MR. FINCH:

We've been over that, if  
the Court please.

BY THE COURT:

Yes, you've been over that.  
Let's get on to something else  
now, and hurry along.

Q Now, I'll ask you, on those six sacks, I believe,  
of feed that you allege that you put into your automobile---

A Yassuh.

Q You testified that you put five sacks in the trunk.  
Is that correct? Of the car.

A Well, I put six sacks in dere, and I couldn't  
fasten de trunk down with de six sacks, an' I took one out and  
put it back in de door of de warehouse of the Forrest County  
Co-op.

Q After you took one sack out and---

A Dat left five.

Q That left five. Is that right?

A Dat's right.

Q Then, after you took one sack out, then you were  
able to close the trunk down. Is that correct?

A Yassuh, but I didn't close it down at the present  
right den. I took and got in my car and drove on off, and den  
closed it down.

Q Wait. You drove off?

A And den closed it down on up de road.

Q Closed it down up the road?

A Yassuh.

Q Now, what was the weight of each of those sacks  
of feed? In other words, how much does each sack contain rela-  
tive to pounds?

A Well, All I knows is it's a hundred pounds.

Q They are hundred pound sacks?

A Yassuh.

Q Is that correct?

A Yassuh.

Q Could you tell the Court, please, approximately how tall a sack or how high a sack would be?

A Well, it'd be about from this, from here, to 'bout dat tall.

Q Now, when you said that tall, would that be?--- Put your hand up there again, please. Now, it would be that tall from the platform you are sitting on or that tall from the floor?

A Be dat tall from de platform here.

Q That tall from the platform where you are now?

A Yassuh.

Q Is that right?

A Dat's right.

Q From the stand.

A Dat's right. And dat's de sack. That's not with the feed in the sack, you know.

Q Now, that tall,---hold it out there again,--- would be approximately how many feet?

A Well, I wouldn't know.

Q You say you would have no idea?

A Nawsuh.

Q How many feet?

A Nawsuh. I ain't never measured one.

Q Now, approximately how wide,---could you demonstrate approximately with your hands as you did relation to the other question, approximately how wide one of those sacks would be?

A 'Bout like dat. (Indicating)

Q Just about that wide. Now, would the sack be just about the same width all the way around, the circumference,--I mean, what I'm trying to say, is the sack was round---

A Yassuh.

Q ---I imagine, or oval shaped?

A Yassuh, it's round.

Q It's fairly round?

A Yassuh.

Q Would it,---put your hand out here,---demonstrate the width. It would be just about that wide, then, all the way around, is that correct?

A Yassuh.

Q What kind of car were you driving?

A Fifty-six Mercury.

BY THE COURT:

Any other questions?

BY ATTORNEY BROWN:

No, sir.

RE-DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. FINCH:

Q Johnny, you said to counsel you couldn't read nor write. Is that right, Johnny?

A Dat's right.

Q Can you write?

A Nawsuh, I can't write or read.

Q Can't read or write?

A Nawsuh.

Q And you said that you did work on the delivery truck. Did you drive the truck or were you the helper?

A Worked as a helper.

Q You didn't drive?

A Nawsuh.

Q So, of course, you couldn't read the signs to know what a street name was, could you?

A Nawsuh.

Q But you do know your directions?

A Yassuh.

Q Johnny, you said that your wife was present when you had this first conversation with Clyde Kennard at your house?

A Yassuh.

Q Now, was she present in the same room with you and Kennard, or was she somewhere else?

A She was in de kitchen, an' me an' him was in the front room.

Q Did she at any time come to the room where you all were?

A Nawsuh.

Q Did you all go back in the room where she was?

A Nawsuh.

BY MR. FINCH:

That's all, Johnny.

(WITNESS EXCUSED)

---



# EXHIBIT I



**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE**

4805 MT. HOPE DRIVE • BALTIMORE, MD 21215-3297 • (410) 358-8900

**JULIAN BOND**

*Chairman, Board of Directors*

March 29, 2006

**VIA FAX AND FEDEX**

The Honorable Haley Barbour  
Governor, State of Mississippi  
Governor's Office - 15th Floor  
501 N. West Street  
Jackson, Mississippi 39201

Dear Governor Barbour:

I noted with interest that you and Mississippi plan to honor Clyde Kennard on March 30, 2006.

While this is a long over-due recognition, it would be complete if you were to take the occasion to pardon him and to erase the wrongful conviction he suffered from continuing to deface his name and reputation.

As we now know, he was targeted for persecution by state-sponsored forces in Mississippi because of his civil rights activism. As we now know, he was convicted on perjured testimony, now recanted. And as we now know, despite failing health which led to his death, his stay at Parchman Penitentiary was prolonged needlessly.

Mississippi has long suffered because of its segregationists past. You have the opportunity to erase yesterday's shame through your action. I hope you have the courage to take it.

Best wishes,

Julian Bond  
Chairman  
NAACP National Board of Directors



# JOYCE A. LADNER

SARASOTA, FLORIDA 34238

April 5, 2006

Mississippi Parole Board  
State of Mississippi  
Jackson, Mississippi

Dear Honorable Parole Board Members:

I am writing in support of pardon for the late Clyde Kennard, an extraordinary man who never reached his full potential because his life was snuffed out for a crime he did not commit. Had he lived, he would have made very important contributions to many people, especially young black people in his community and in the society at large. His untimely death destroyed not only a man but the tremendous potential this man had to do well. When he was sent to prison his death warrant was signed and sealed. It was not enough for the state officials to incarcerate him. They went the additional step of denying him medical treatment when he became ill with what was later found to be terminal cancer. It is a measure of the man that so many people from diverse backgrounds have come together to try to get Clyde Kennard's name cleared of a crime he did not commit some forty-three years after his death.

I met Clyde Kennard in 1958 when he and his neighbors, Kenneth and Eileen Beard, and Vernon and Ellie Dahmer took my sister Dorie and me to the statewide NAACP meetings in Jackson. These mass meetings were organized by the late Medgar Evers. Eileen Beard was the sister of Vernon Dahmer, and a member of our church. Although Dorie was fifteen and I was fourteen, we were very interested in fighting for racial equality. Our NAACP Youth Council was founded during this period with Clyde elected President and Vernon Dahmer advisor. One of the terrible shames of Mississippi is that both Vernon Dahmer and Clyde Kennard lost their lives fighting for civil rights. I cannot forget what these men did to help me, as a youngster, to develop strong character, courage, the understanding that all people are equal, and to give something back to the community. That is why I write to you in Clyde Kennard's behalf today.

Clyde was a very decent man who did not drink or smoke. He sang in his church's choir. He was a member of his local school board and

he who wrote stimulating letters to the editor of the Hattiesburg American concerning the policies and practices of racial segregation. If high moral character was a true test of the man, Clyde Kennard was one of the greatest Mississippi ever produced. For me, the greatest symbol of his good character was to attempt to apply for admission to Mississippi Southern College. Each time he tried to enroll at MSC, our hopes were raised very high and followed by an equal amount of disappointment. However, we knew that he the laid the groundwork for blacks and whites who followed him.

The worst part of the Kennard case is the interminable suffering he went through. He was targeted for persecution by the Mississippi Sovereignty Commission that tried to get other black leaders to persuade him to withdraw his application. They kept tabs on his every move by interviewing his neighbors, employer, and others. The public officials from Ross Barnett down to the lowliest police officers set out to destroy him in an organized and purposeful way. He was denied medical treatment until his cancer had advanced. The staff at the University of Mississippi Medical Center recommended that he be released from prison following his surgery. We launched a Free Clyde Kennard campaign when I was a student at Tougaloo College.

This small wiry man who stood about 5'9" was not sent home to spend his last days with his family where he could be cared for. Clyde Kennard was sent back to do hard labor in the cotton fields at Parchman Penitentiary where he said the thick mud was so strong that it took off the soles of his shoes. Yet, each time he fell to the ground, the overseers yanked him up so he could continue to pick cotton.

For over forty years, I have fought and prayed that one day Clyde's record would be cleared. When I was a student at Tougaloo College in 1963, I lead a campaign to free Clyde Kennard from Parchman. We wrote letters to Governor Barnett and to other state officials to no avail. Yet, in 2006, we are once again seeking justice for this quiet, assuming, courageous leader. Please do not fail him again.

It will be too late for Clyde to know that he was pardoned and his record was expunged. It will be too late for the state to compensate him in monetary damages. However, it is not too late for the Mississippi Pardon Board to reverse Clyde Kennard's conviction, and for you to urge Governor Barbour to erase his record. This is the moment and the hour for Mississippi to turn

its back on the past. It is time to proclaim that these kinds of crimes against humanity are no longer permitted. This would be a small measure of recompense to restore his good name, especially posthumously.

Sincerely,

Joyce A. Ladner

Joyce Ladner



Dorie Ladner  
Washington, DC 20008

April 3, 2006

Mississippi Parole Board  
State of Mississippi  
Jackson, Mississippi

Dear Parole Board:

As you consider granting a pardon or clemency to the late Clyde Kennard, I urge you to consider that he was an extraordinary individual who would have contributed immeasurably to society. When he was cut down in his middle-thirties, he left an unfinished agenda. There are many good works he would have carried out. I knew Clyde Kennard from the time I was in the NAACP Youth Council in Hattiesburg. Clyde was a remarkable man who was totally committed to making our segregated society a better place for black people. He and some other adults in the NAACP often took my sister, Joyce Ladner, and me to the statewide NAACP meetings in Jackson. They exposed us to judges, lawyers, and other leaders who were making their mark on the society.

The last time I saw Clyde Kennard was when I visited him in Chicago shortly before he died. He was in tremendous physical pain. At times he lay down on the sofa. What was remarkable about him is that he was not bitter about what happened to him. He talked openly about having to work in the fields at Parchman when he couldn't stand up without falling down. He said the supervisors at Parchman pulled him off the ground and stood him on his feet again so he would continue to pick cotton.

Had he lived, Clyde Kennard would have contributed a lot to the black community. He would have worked to get black children in his community educated. The vicious system of racism systematically sought him out and destroyed him. However, Clyde's name was kept alive for all these years by those of us who wanted to ensure that what he stood for not be forgotten. You can ensure that he be exonerated posthumously—and that the things he stood for—human dignity, equality, excellence and caring for others—remain in the forefront. An affirmative decision by your board will right the wrongs perpetrated against him.

Respectfully yours,

Dorie Ladner

Dorie Ladner





**BENNIE G. THOMPSON**  
SECOND DISTRICT, MISSISSIPPI

**COMMITTEE ON  
HOMELAND SECURITY**  
RANKING MEMBER

WASHINGTON OFFICE  
2432 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-2402  
(202) 225-5876  
(202) 225-5886 FAX

E-Mail: [bennethompson@mail.house.gov](mailto:bennethompson@mail.house.gov)  
Home Page: <http://www.house.gov/thompson>

THE COMMISSION ON  
CONGRESSIONAL MAILING  
STANDARDS

CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS  
CONGRESSIONAL GAMING CAUCUS  
CONGRESSIONAL PROGRESSIVE CAUCUS  
CONGRESSIONAL SPORTSMEN'S CAUCUS  
CONGRESSIONAL RURAL CAUCUS  
HOUSE EDUCATION CAUCUS

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-2402**

April 5, 2006

Mississippi State Parole Board  
Post Office Box 158  
Parchman, Mississippi 38738

Dear Mississippi Parole Board Members:

I would like to express my support in the efforts to posthumously grant clemency to Clyde Kennard, who was wrongfully convicted in 1960, for his alleged role in a burglary.

It has been revealed that Mr. Kennard became the target of the Mississippi Sovereignty Commission after several attempts to become the first African-American to enroll in then-segregated University of Southern Mississippi. His commitment to the Civil Rights Movement and determination to obtain equal access to education resulted in the indictment and conviction by a corrupt judicial system.

Kennard was sentenced to seven years imprisonment, of which he served two, and was later granted medical clemency after being diagnosed with cancer. Subsequently, Mr. Johnny Lee Roberts recanted his testimony that Mr. Kennard was guilty and in fact acknowledged full responsibility for the offense. In addition, Mr. Roberts declared that it was indeed his belief that Mr. Clyde Kennard was charged and convicted of burglary due to his desire become the first black student to integrate the University of Southern Mississippi.

With all due diligence, I ask that you use the powers of your office to posthumously exonerate Clyde Kennard. The State's acknowledgment of this transgression is the first step to towards erasing this blemish that has haunted the legacy of Mr. Clyde Kennard for decades. Failure to do so will depict the State of Mississippi with a black eye that will forever be present until justice is restored to the good character and name of Mr. Clyde Kennard.

Sincerely,



Bennie G. Thompson  
Member of Congress

[ ] 107 WEST MADISON STREET  
P.O. Box 610  
BILTON, MS 38041  
(601) 896-6003  
(601) 896-6036 FAX  
(800) 366-6003: In St.

[ ] 608 HIGHWAY 82 WEST  
GREENWOOD, MS 38830  
(662) 466-6003  
(662) 463-0118: FAX

[ ] 910 COURTHOUSE LANE  
GREENVILLE, MS 38701  
(662) 336-6003  
(662) 334-1304: FAX

[ ] 3807 MEDGAR EVERS BOULEVARD  
JACKSON, MS 39213  
(601) 946-6003  
(601) 962-6337: FAX

[ ] 263 EAST MAIN STREET  
P.O. Box 366  
MARSH, MS 38846  
(662) 326-6003  
(662) 326-6003 FAX

[ ] MOUND BAYOU CITY HALL  
P.O. Box 679  
108 GREEN AVENUE, SUITE 108  
MOUND BAYOU, MS 38762  
(662) 741-6003  
(662) 741-6002: FAX



Hunter Gray [John R Salter, Jr]  
Pocatello, Idaho 83204

April 4 2006  
TO THE MISSISSIPPI STATE PAROLE BOARD  
VIA Attorney General Jim Hood  
State of Mississippi

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen of the Mississippi Parole  
Board:

This is a strong letter supporting full clemency for Clyde  
Kennard and for the full erasure of his conviction from all  
of the appropriate records.

I was active in the Deep South on behalf of civil rights  
from 1961-1967. At that time, my name was John R Salter,  
Jr -- since legally changed to John Hunter Gray. A native  
of Arizona, I came to Tougaloo College with my wife, Eldri,  
in the late summer of '61 as a young sociology professor  
and remained at the College until late 1963. I then went  
into full time civil rights field work across the Deep South  
for a number of years.

Soon after my arrival at Tougaloo, I became the Adult  
Advisor to the Jackson NAACP Youth Council -- and was  
also directly active with Tougaloo students. I worked very  
closely -- until the very night of his death -- with Medgar  
Evers. I was also a member of the state-wide Board of  
Directors of the Mississippi State Conference of NAACP  
Branches -- and we all, of course, worked very closely with  
Dr Aaron Henry of Clarksdale. I was one of a number of

people who founded and supported the Mississippi Free Press.

In the fall of 1962, the Youth Council in association with Tougaloo students launched and very effectively continued the far-reaching economic boycott of downtown Jackson and environs -- with the goal being desegregation and fair hiring practices and fair treatment for Black shoppers. In the spring of 1963, we all -- youth and adults -- broadened this boycott movement into the massive, non-violent Jackson Movement with a broad range of civil rights goals. Along with many, many others, I was arrested and beaten and jailed on a number of occasions, seriously injured at another point -- and was honored with the sweeping Chancery Court injunction, City of Jackson vs John R Salter, Jr et al. [We frankly defied that, non-violently.]

From the moment we arrived in Mississippi, my wife and I were poignantly aware of the Clyde Kennard tragedy. In the fall of '61, during the first NAACP dinner that we attended in Jackson -- at the Masonic Temple on Lynch Street -- Medgar Evers stood up to speak. He gave the name of Clyde Kennard and began to recount the events surrounding this hideous frame-up. Everyone present was listening with the greatest intensity.

And then Medgar Evers -- a Man of Flint -- suddenly broke down and cried. Immediately he was surrounded by colleagues and we all sang, "We Are Climbing Jacob's Ladder."

That was almost 45 years ago -- and my wife and I have never, never forgotten that.

The Ladner sisters, Joyce and Dorie, both at Tougaloo -- and many others as well -- faithfully circulated petitions aimed at freeing the known-to-be-extremely ill Clyde Kennard. I remember when our courageous attorney, R. Jess Brown, showed me, in his Farish Street law office, the just received letter finally granting freedom to Clyde Kennard -- with the bold signature of Governor Ross Barnett scrawled across the bottom of the page.

My wife, Eldri, and our whole quite large family join me in asking that you use every resource at your command to ensure swift clemency and record-erasure for Mr Clyde Kennard.

Cordially,

Hunter Gray [John R Salter, Jr]



Monte Piliawsky  
Associate Professor  
Wayne State University

April 7, 2006

Dear Mississippi State Parole Board and Governor Haley Barbour:

I am adding my voice to the thousands of people of good will who passionately request that you grant a pardon posthumously to Clyde Kennard. If ever a person were innocent of the charges leveled against them and deserved such a pardon, it certainly is Kennard.

From 1970 to 1972, I was Assistant Professor of Political Science at the University of Southern Mississippi. During that time, I conducted extensive research about the Kennard tragedy, giving lectures to groups as large as 350 USM students on October 27, 1971 about the grotesque injustices repeatedly perpetuated against the gentle Kennard.

Later, I wrote a book entitled, EXIT 13: OPPRESSION AND RACISM IN ACADEMIA, published in 1982 by South End Press of Boston. Chapter Three of the book is called, "The Killing of Clyde Kennard," which is well summarized by the headnote to the chapter:

"I have no doubt that Clyde Kennard's life and martyrdom the most significant events of our age.

--Jacques Maritain, Catholic philosopher at Princeton's Institute of Advanced Studies

The evidence is overwhelmingly conclusive that Kennard



was the victim of an interlocking system that was so determined to keep him from desegregating the University of Mississippi that it would resort to any means necessary to achieve the goal. Clearly, the charges against Kennard on September 15, 1959 for possession of liquor, then illegal, in Mississippi, were a frame-up. The magnitude of the problem that Mississippi authorities felt that they faced was captured by Governor James P. Coleman, who asserted, "If Clyde did reapply, they'd be no alternative but to close the college."

Because there was a law in Mississippi that prohibited a felon from being admitted to a state school, Mississippi officials determined that Kennard had to be turned into a felon. And so, on September 25, 1960, Johnny Lee Roberts was enlisted to sell twenty-five dollars worth of stolen chicken feed to Kennard, who was then sentenced to the maximum of seven years at hard labor. Properly, Medgar Evers, Mississippi field representative of the NAACP, issued a statement calling Kennard's conviction, "the greatest mockery of judicial justice...in a courtroom of segregationists, apparently resolved to put Kennard legally away."

Recently, Roberts, the only witness against Kennard for being in possession of stolen chicken feed, recanted his testimony in a sworn document. Nothing could be clearer than Kennard's innocence of having any knowledge that the chicken feed was stolen property.

Given the brutal treatment of Kennard in prison after he developed cancer, a compelling case can be made, as I do in my book, that Kennard effectively was killed by the state of Mississippi. Now, the only decent action that can be taken by the State Parole Board is to grant Kennard a full pardon. Kennard's life cannot be restored; however,

his honorable legacy as a truly brave and magnanimous individual can be preserved. I urge you, in the name of humanity, to do the right thing.

Sincerely yours,

Monte Piliawsky  
Associate Professor  
Wayne State University



Prof. Ron Hollander  
Fulbright Scholar  
Journalism Coordinator  
Montclair State University  
Montclair, NJ 07043

April 7, 2006

Dear Honorable Governor Barbour and Esteemed Members  
of the Mississippi Parole Board:

I am writing to urge fervently that you pardon **Clyde Kennard**, as the overwhelming body of evidence now establishes unequivocally that he was not guilty of the petty crime for which he was convicted in 1960.

As the first journalist to break nationally the tragic and morally searing story of Clyde Kennard in *The Reporter* magazine of November 8, 1962 (copy enclosed), I am in a unique position to speak to the miscarriage of justice perpetrated on this patently innocent man. I was on the scene in Hattiesburg and Jackson, and as a reporter for the Mississippi Free Press who wrote a ground-breaking series on the Kennard case in the summer of 1962, I interviewed many of the principals while the case was still current in their minds.

These interviews included—most importantly—Johnny Lee Roberts, the state's sole witness against Kennard; Jess Brown, Kennard's attorney; William D. McCain, president of then Mississippi Southern College; and other local officials and members of Kennard's family who asked that their anonymity be preserved, a request I continue to honor 43 years later. In addition, I had the benefit of lengthy visits with several of those leaders martyred in the struggle for civil rights, including Medgar Evers and Vernon Dahmer, who knew Kennard and the intimate details of the case from an insider's perspective. I also had access to the actual transcripts of the trial that had occurred only two years previous.

As my *Reporter* article showed what I believe is conclusively at the time—and as subsequent events have only confirmed (including Johnny Lee Roberts's recent recanting of his testimony secured under pressure if not outright intimidation in those tense days of the early 1960s)—Kennard was framed to prevent MSC's being forced to accept his legitimate and totally qualified application, as Governor J. P. Coleman described it then. As a professor, myself, at a state university in New Jersey, I have some sense of the pressures facing MSC in that situation.

However, Kennard being found guilty in that legally dubious trial was only exceeded in outrageousness by the heart-breakingly unjust sentence he received: Seven years in Parchman

for being an alleged accessory in the theft of \$25 worth of chicken feed, or one year for each \$3.57 in stolen goods! As you know, the sentence surely had a deleterious effect on his health, and perhaps contributed to his premature death.

In the intervening years since my Kennard reporting, I have had the warm pleasure of making several trips to Mississippi, including one to do a lengthy article on the legendary and most hospitable families of the Delta for Hearst's flagship Town & Country magazine, to which I was a contributing editor. At that time, I was impressed with how far the state had come in achieving acceptance between Mississippians of different colors and histories. I particularly recall an Ole Miss basketball game in which not only was the team integrated, but the cheer leading squad as well, with students of different races and genders exhorting the hometown crowd. I was so struck by the progress in equality and racial harmony that upon my return to the North, I buttonholed everyone I knew to tell them, becoming a booster for Mississippi.

It is to boost Mississippi now that I urge you to pardon Clyde Kennard. I believe that as Governor and as Parole Board members you have been given a gift many of us wish for, but few ever receive: The chance to right a great wrong, to make amends for something we wish we had done differently. I understand, Governor, that your policy is not to issue pardons. However, may I respectfully suggest that to pardon Clyde Kennard would not only clear his name, but that of the state, as well.

What's past is past, though as Mississippi's great son, William Faulkner suggested, the past is never done. Still, we do not have to be haunted by it, but can learn from it and go on. Mississippi is a successful prime example of that. Pardoning Clyde Kennard would only put the capstone on that progress.

Thank you deeply for considering my thoughts. If I can help in any way, please do feel free to reach me at (973) 667-9337, or at my email at [hollanderr@mail.montclair.edu](mailto:hollanderr@mail.montclair.edu).

Sincerely,

Prof. Ron Hollander  
Fulbright Scholar  
Journalism Coordinator  
Montclair State University  
Montclair, NJ 07043



# JUSTICE DENIED

The Magazine for the  
Wrongly Convicted

**The Justice Institute**  
**PO Box 68911**  
**Seattle, WA 98168**

<http://justicedenied.org>  
[contact@justicedenied.org](mailto:contact@justicedenied.org)

March 24, 2006

Governor Haley Barbour  
501 N. West Street  
Governor's Office 15th Floor  
Jackson, MS 39201

RE: Posthumous pardon for Mr. Clyde Kennard

Dear Governor Barbour,

Clyde Kennard was an advocate for racial equality in Mississippi in the 1950s and early 1960s. That was a time when a progressive attitude toward race relations could be hazardous to a person's health and well being. Mrs. Medger Evers wrote about Mr. Kennard in her 1967 book, *For Us, The Living*:

At 4:40 a.m. on Sunday, September 25, 1960, an illiterate nineteen-year-old Negro, Johnny Lee Roberts, stole five bags of chicken feed worth twenty-five dollars from the Forrest County Cooperative warehouse where he worked. He was seen by the night watchman who made no attempt to stop him.

Roberts drove with the stolen feed to Clyde Kennard's farm and put it in the unlocked egg-house. He was arrested shortly afterward. By eight-thirty, Clyde had been arrested though it was not until noon that police returned to Clyde's farm to search for the stolen feed. They found it....

... If Clyde could be shown to have been an accomplice in the theft, he could be convicted as an accessory to burglary, a felony. For that, the testimony of Johnny Lee Roberts would be necessary. It has rarely been difficult to provide such testimony in Mississippi.

Clyde was charged with being an accessory, and at the trial Roberts testified that the whole thing had been Clyde's idea. He claimed that Clyde had paid him ten dollars for the feed. Yet, on the witness stand, Roberts told a confused story of when and how Clyde had suggested the burglary, a crucial point because it would establish whether or not the idea could possibly have come from Clyde. ...

There was, of course, no doubt in the minds of the twelve white men who made up the jury. In ten minutes they returned a verdict of guilty for both Clyde and the

frightened Roberts. Judge Stanton A. Hall sentenced Clyde to the maximum of seven years. He placed Roberts on probation for five years, leaving him free yet under an obvious restraint against changing his story. The employer from whom he had admitted stealing five bags of chicken feed promptly hired Roberts back.

... Medgar [Evers] publicly condemned the outcome as a mockery of justice. Judge Hall declared Medgar in contempt of court and sentenced him to thirty days in jail and a \$100 fine. (220-221)

Clyde Kennard's case remained out of the public eye for over forty years, until Jackson's *The Clarion-Ledger* published an investigative article on December 31, 2005. The information in that and several follow-up articles revived the public's interest in Mr. Kennard's gross mistreatment by the legal system. The interest generated by the articles also convinced Mr. Roberts to break his decades of silence about his role.

In a three-page sworn affidavit dated January 27, 2006, Mr. Roberts described how he had routinely sold "sacks of the damaged chicken feed" to area farmers for "\$2 a sack" that the co-op "usually gave away" to him or sold to him "at a reduced rate." One of the farmers Mr. Roberts sold damaged feed to was Mr. Kennard. In his affidavit Mr. Roberts recanted his trial testimony: "Kennard did not ask me to steal. Kennard did not ask me to break in to the co-op. Kennard did not ask me to do anything illegal. Kennard is not guilty of burglary or any other crime." Mr. Roberts also stated: "Clyde had nothing to do with stealing the chicken feed. I believe that he was arrested and sent to prison not because of the feed but because he was trying to go to Southern." (See attached Affidavit of Johnny Lee Roberts for all quotes.)

Mr. Robert's testimony was the sole basis of Mr. Kennard's 1960 prosecution and conviction. The case against Mr. Kennard collapsed when Mr. Roberts voluntarily and unequivocally recanted his trial testimony. Without Mr. Roberts as a witness, Mr. Kennard could not have been prosecuted.

Mr. Roberts' recantation confirms what Mrs. Evers (now Evers-Williams) and many others have known for four decades: Clyde Kennard was an innocent man wrongly convicted of a crime he did not commit.

As indicated by Mr. Roberts' affidavit, Mr. Kennard's prosecution is widely ascribed to the racist motivations of people wanting to prevent his enrollment at Mississippi Southern College (now The University of Southern Mississippi). However, irrespective of the motives of those involved, Mr. Kennard's wrongful conviction, seven-year sentence and incarceration is ample evidence that in his case the legal system was used to achieve an unjustifiable result.

One of your predecessors, Governor Ross Barnett, compassionately suspended Mr. Kennard's sentence in January 1963 after more than two years of imprisonment so he could die at home. Even though he was only in his mid-30s, Mr. Kennard's body was being ravaged by cancer. He died on July 4, 1963, three weeks after his most vocal defender, Medgar Evers, was assassinated in Jackson.



Considering Mississippi's volatile political climate in 1963, one has to believe Governor Barnett would not have taken the extraordinary step of ordering Mr. Kennard's early release if he had any mental reservations that Mr. Kennard was anything but innocent. That supposition is supported by *The Clarion-Ledger's* January 29, 2006, report that Governor Barnett's daughter, Ouida Barnett Atkins, claims her father acted as he did because he believed Mr. Kennard was in fact innocent. She said her father "thought he was railroaded."

In 1993, the late United States Supreme Court Chief Justice William Rehnquist wrote that a governor's power of executive clemency is an important bulwark against injustice:

Executive clemency has provided the "fail safe" in our criminal justice system. It is an unalterable fact that our judicial system, like the human beings who administer it, is fallible. But history is replete with examples of wrongfully convicted persons who have been pardoned in the wake of after-discovered evidence establishing their innocence. (*Herrera v. Collins*, 506 U.S. 390 (1993))

Mr. Roberts has provided the "after-discovered evidence establishing [Clyde Kennard's] innocence" that Chief Justice Rehnquist suggested justifies a pardon. There are likely many Mississippians deserving of consideration for executive clemency. However, Mr. Kennard is historically prominent as one of the people who endeavored, at grave personal risk, to create an environment in Mississippi of respect for racial, religious or ethnic differences. Mr. Kennard's good name and legacy have been unjustly stained for 46 years with a wrongful felony conviction. Consequently, the granting of a posthumous pardon to Mr. Kennard on the basis of his actual innocence would be a positive and proper exercise of executive clemency.

Medgar Evers' wife wrote in *For Us, The Living* that he considered Mr. Kennard's case to be one of the most egregious involving a civil rights advocate in Mississippi. You have the power to bring closure to the still open wound of Mr. Kennard's treatment by Mississippi authorities. The Justice Institute is hereby requesting and encouraging that you exercise your authority as governor of the state of Mississippi and grant a full and unconditional posthumous pardon to Mr. Clyde Kennard.

Respectfully submitted,



Hans Sherrer  
President, The Justice Institute  
Publisher, *Justice: Denied* – the magazine for the wrongly convicted  
hsherrer@justicedenied.org  
(206) 335-4254



Dear Attorney General Hood:

I knew Clyde Kennard, was one of the members of the group to visit the Capital on 30 March 06, and appreciate the step taken by the Governor on that day. I believe you and Governor Barbour will work together to expedite this request in a timely manner.

Mississippi is a great state. I chose to return to Hattiesburg after living outside the state for over 21 years. I think we have come a long way and I hope I can continue to help this wonderful place reach its optimal condition and live up to its claim of being a state of Christian believers. Justice for Clyde is a must.

I am writing to ask you to urge Governor Haley Barbour to order a full pardon and expungement of the record for Clyde Kennard.

Thank You for your consideration.

**Lt. Col. Raylawni G. Branch,  
Retired, USAF Reserves,  
Nurse Corp.**



April 7, 2006

The Honorable Haley Barbour  
Governor, State of Mississippi

Dear Governor Barbour:

In my book, Local People: The Struggle for Civil Rights in Mississippi, I wrote that “The case of Clyde Kennard was, in many respects, the most tragic of the decade.” Kennard was the victim not of night-riding Klansmen, but of Mississippi officials, both elected and appointed. In the process of applying for admission to Mississippi Southern College he met with its president, William D. McCain, who pretended to befriend him while Governor J.P. Coleman and the leaders of the State Sovereignty Commission worked behind the scenes to dissuade him. When these efforts failed, Kennard was arrested on a trumped-up charge of illegal possession of alcohol (he did not drink) and a year later—as we all now know—convicted on another false charge and sentenced to seven years in Parchman Penitentiary.

While at Parchman, Kennard was put to work from sunup to sundown on the penitentiary’s cotton plantation. On Sundays he wrote letters for illiterate inmates and set up classes to teach reading and writing. Early in 1962 he was diagnosed with cancer, and operated on by doctors at the University of Mississippi Medical Center, who recommended that he be paroled “because of the extremely poor prognosis in this rather young patient.” Neither the parole board nor Governor Ross Barnett responded. Kennard was returned to Parchman and literally dragged out to work in the fields each day. Prison authorities even canceled an appointment for a medical checkup.

After a national protest initiated by Tougaloo College students Joyce and Dorie Ladner, Governor Barnett ordered Kennard’s release, well aware that unfavorable national publicity would accompany news that Kennard had died in Parchman. Kennard immediately went to Chicago, where he underwent emergency surgery for his malignancy. It was too late. When his friend John Howard Griffin visited him in the hospital he was shocked to see that Kennard had wasted away. Kennard told Griffin that he was not bitter over what had happened to him and that it all would have been worthwhile “if only it would show this country where racism leads.” Then he sadly concluded, “But the people aren’t going to know it, are they?” Clyde Kennard died in Chicago at age 36 on the Fourth of July, 1963.

Governor Barbour, I urge you to issue an order of executive clemency for Clyde Kennard. Such action will not right the wrong, for nothing we can do or say now can erase that stain on our history. But in so doing you will send a clear message that the state of Mississippi is officially recognizing that a great injustice was done to this good and courageous man nearly a half century ago.

Sincerely,

John Dittmer  
Professor Emeritus of History  
DePauw University



Dr. Gwendolyn M. Patton, Archivist  
H. Council State Technical  
College  
1225 Air Base Boulevard  
Montgomery, Alabama 36108  
(334) 420-4475/420-4476 (FAX)  
email: [gwendolyn@sttc.edu](mailto:gwendolyn@sttc.edu)  
[ppatton@sttc.edu](mailto:ppatton@sttc.edu)

H. Council

STATE TECHNICAL  
COLLEGE

April 10, 2006

Dear Mr. Barry Bradford,

Thank you so much for your laudable work in lifting up  
Clyde, a freedom fighter,

I did not know Clyde, but we come from the same cloth. My  
Movement activities during the 1960s were in Alabama.

However, I wish to lend my voice to the call for a pardon for  
Clyde Kennard.

It is the only human and decent thing to do to clear his name.  
The state should not only extend the pardon, but the state should  
also beg the pardons of Clyde Kennard's family for falsely incar-  
cerating him which led to his untimely death.

Sincerely yours,

Gwendolyn M. Patton

N.B.: Please feel free to add this letter to the letters you are  
sending to Governor Haley Barbour





## Open Letter to Governor Haley Barbour

Dear Governor Barbour:

As a now retired nonagenarian physician whom Clyde Kennard consulted when he came to Hattiesburg seeking admission to graduate school at the University of Southern Mississippi, I was impressed by his intelligence, pleasant demeanor and reasonable desire to enroll at USM, enabling him to continue tending his small chicken farm and caring for his elderly mother while furthering his education.

He spoke of his hope that he, with love for Mississippi might become the first of his race to join the student body, with peace and good will all around.

Time has proved his innocence of all charges against him, and he has long since died – leaving his family and friends in a morass of emotions, few of which could be pleasant.

I feel impelled to speak to this sad contretemps:

When, if not now should the State of Mississippi expunge all court records of charges against this law-abiding and promising young citizen who suffered such great wrong at our hands?

When, if not now should we apologize to his family and friends for the years of pain they have endured?

When, if not now should we examine our own hearts for traces of intolerance that might yet impede the upward course of Authentic Humanity and eschew them forever?

Shalom!

Glen Pearson

11 Waverly Walk  
Hattiesburg, MS 39402  
1-601-268-6346 (home)  
1-601-310-3320 (cell)



# THE INNOCENCE NETWORK

BILL MOUSHEY, CO-PRESIDENT  
THERESA NEWMAN, CO-PRESIDENT  
(910) 813-7241

SHAWN ARMBRUST, SECRETARY  
MADDY DELONE, TREASURER  
I-NETWORKBOARD@INNOCENCENETWORK.ORG

April 6, 2006

The Honorable Haley Barbour  
Governor, State of Mississippi  
Governor's Office, 15th Floor  
501 N. West Street  
Jackson, Mississippi 39201

Dear Governor Barbour:

We, the Innocence Network, a collection of 33 organizations from around the United States, Australia, and Canada who represent individuals who have been wrongfully convicted of crimes, are writing to urge you to grant posthumously a full pardon based on actual innocence to Clyde Kennard, a man whose only "crime" was that he wanted to become the first black man to enroll in the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg

It is our understanding that the Mississippi Supreme Court has ruled that the state's post conviction remedies, even for claims based upon actual innocence, are not available to persons who are deceased. In a related context, the United States Supreme Court, in *Herrera v. Collins*, 506 U.S. 390 (1993), in an opinion written by the late Supreme Court Chief Justice William Rehnquist, described the governor's power of executive clemency as the "fail safe" option in our criminal justice system and noted that "history is replete with examples of wrongfully convicted persons who have been pardoned in the wake of after-discovered evidence establishing their innocence." Based on our extensive experience studying wrongful conviction cases and representing innocent persons who have been wrongfully convicted, we believe that you, as Governor, should use this "fail safe" option to pardon Kennard.

Clyde Kennard was convicted of the burglary of \$25 worth of chicken feed taken from the Forrest County, Mississippi Co-op based almost exclusively on the testimony of a young man named Johnny Lee Roberts. Roberts testified in 1960 that Kennard met with him prior to the burglary and told him how to leave the door open at the Co-op so as to steal the chicken feed without having to break into the building. According to Roberts, he delivered the feed to Kennard and was paid \$10 for five bags of feed. An all-white jury convicted Kennard as an accessory to burglary and the trial judge gave Kennard the maximum seven-year sentence at hard labor in state prison. Roberts pled guilty and was given a suspended sentence

While in prison, Kennard contracted intestinal cancer. He was misdiagnosed with sickle cell anemia and forced to return to work, picking cotton from sunup to sundown. As Kennard's condition worsened, Governor Ross Barnett relented to public pressure to grant Kennard an emergency medical clemency in January 1963. Efforts to stop the spread of cancer failed and Kennard ultimately died on July 4, 1963.

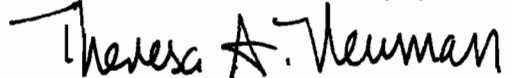
Now 45 years later, in conversation with Jerry Mitchell, a reporter for the Clarion Ledger, and in an affidavit provided to attorneys at the Center on Wrongful Convictions, Roberts has recanted his trial testimony. According to the affidavit, Roberts now states that "Kennard did not ask me to steal. Kennard did not ask me to break into the co-op. Kennard did not ask me to do

anything illegal. Kennard is not guilty of burglary or any other crime." The truth, according to Roberts, is that he has decided on his own to take some damaged feed, which the owners of the co-op gave to him for free, to sell to Kennard because the co-op was cutting off Kennard and he was in danger of losing his farm.

In many of our wrongful convictions cases, we see recantations given by accomplices or others who erroneously fingered innocent defendants. Invariably, like Roberts, these witnesses are pressured into testifying with the very real threat of a prison sentence. It often takes years for these witnesses to come to terms with what they did and to make amends. Roberts should be commended for having the courage to try to rectify this miscarriage of justice, even if it took him 45 years to do so. The simple truth is that it would have been dangerous to him and his family to have come forward in the days and years after Kennard's conviction as Mississippi continued to strongly resist efforts at desegregation.

Governor Barbour -- you have already shown that Mississippi is open to making amends for its role in the Clyde Kennard tragedy. Your proclamation naming March 30 "Clyde Kennard Day" and your statement that "if [Clyde] were living, he would be entitled to have his rights restored" have gone a long way toward cleansing the state's sins in this case and restoring Kennard to his rightful place as a hero of Mississippi's struggle for racial equality. But full justice should not be denied to Clyde Kennard simply because he is no longer alive. And I hope you agree that justice in this case demands nothing less than an absolute and unconditional pardon based on actual innocence. Other governors have pardoned innocents posthumously and we call upon you to do so for Mr. Kennard.

On behalf of the Innocence Network,



Theresa Newman  
Co-President  
Innocence Network  
919/613-7133

#### Member Organizations of the Innocence Network

#### ARIZONA

##### ARIZONA JUSTICE PROJECT

Larry Hammond  
Chair  
Arizona Attorneys for Criminal Justice  
2929 North Central Avenue, Suite 2100  
Phoenix, AZ 85012

##### NORTHERN ARIZONA JUSTICE PROJECT

Robert Schehr  
Director  
Northern Arizona University  
Department of Criminal Justice  
P.O. Box 15005  
Flagstaff, AZ 86011-5005

## AUSTRALIA

### GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY INNOCENCE PROJECT

Lynne Weathered  
Executive Director  
Griffith Law School  
Parklands Drive GU PMB 50  
Gold Coast Mail Centre, QLD 9726

### UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE INNOCENCE PROJECT

Vanessa Stafford  
Director  
University of Melbourne Law School  
185 Pelham Street  
Carlton, Melbourne VIC 3040

## CALIFORNIA

### CALIFORNIA & HAWAI'I INNOCENCE PROJECT

Justin Brooks  
Professor and Project Director  
Institute for Criminal Defense Advocacy  
California Western School of Law  
225 Cedar Street  
San Diego, CA 92101

### NORTHERN CALIFORNIA INNOCENCE PROJECT

Kathleen Ridolfi  
Executive Director  
Santa Clara University Law School  
500 El Camino Real  
Santa Clara, CA 95053-0422

## CANADA

### ASSOCIATION IN DEFENSE OF THE WRONGLY CONVICTED (AIDWYC)

Lon Rose  
85 King Street East, Suite 318  
Toronto, Ontario M5C 1G3

## DELAWARE

### OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER, STATE OF DELAWARE

Lisa Schwind  
Forensic Services and Education Coordinator  
Carvel State Building  
820 French Street, 3rd Floor  
Wilmington, DE 19801

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

**MID-ATLANTIC INNOCENCE PROJECT**

Shawn Armbrust  
Executive Director  
4801 Massachusetts Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20016

**FLORIDA**

**FLORIDA INNOCENCE INITIATIVE**

Jennifer Greenberg  
Executive Director  
1720 S. Gadsen Street Suite 207  
Tallahassee, FL 32301

**GEORGIA**

**GEORGIA INNOCENCE PROJECT**

Aimee Maxwell  
Executive Director  
730 Peachtree Street, NE, Suite 705  
Atlanta, GA 30308

**IDAHO**

**IDAHO INNOCENCE PROJECT**

Greg Hampikian  
Executive Director  
Boise State University  
Mail Stop 1500  
1910 University Drive  
Boise, ID 83725-1500

**ILLINOIS**

**CENTER ON WRONGFUL CONVICTIONS**

Rob Warden  
Executive Director  
Northwestern University School of Law  
357 East Chicago Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60611

**DOWNSTATE ILLINOIS INNOCENCE PROJECT**

Larry Golden  
Co-Director  
University of Illinois at Springfield  
Center for Legal Studies  
P.O. Box 19243  
Springfield, IL 62794

**MEDILL INNOCENCE PROJECT**

David Protes  
Executive Director  
Medill School of Journalism  
Northwestern University  
1845 Sheridan Road  
Evanston, IL 60208

**INDIANA**

**I.U. SCHOOL OF LAW CLINIC, WRONGFUL CONVICTION COMPONENT**

Fran Hardy  
Executive Director  
Indiana University School of Law  
530 West New York Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46202

**IOWA**

**IOWA/NEBRASKA INNOCENCE PROJECT**

Tom Lustgraaf  
P.O. Box 24183  
Omaha, NE 68124-0183

**KENTUCKY**

**KENTUCKY INNOCENCE PROJECT**

Gordon Rahn  
Director  
Department of Public Advocacy  
P.O. Box 555  
Eddyville, KY 42038

**LOUISIANA**

**INNOCENCE PROJECT NEW ORLEANS**

Emily Maw  
Director  
636 Baronne Street  
New Orleans, LA 70113

**MASSACHUSETTS**

**NEW ENGLAND INNOCENCE PROJECT**

Jennifer Chunias  
NEIP Board member and Executive Coordinator  
Partner, Goodwin Procter LLP  
Exchange Pl, 53 State Street  
Boston, MA 02109

**MICHIGAN**

**COOLEY INNOCENCE PROJECT**

Norman Fell  
Director  
300 S. Capitol Ave. P.O. Box 13038  
Lansing, MI 48901

**MINNESOTA**

**INNOCENCE PROJECT OF MINNESOTA**

Erika Applebaum  
Executive Director  
1536 Hewitt Avenue  
St. Paul, MN 55104

**MISSOURI**

**MIDWESTERN INNOCENCE PROJECT**

Ken Miller  
Executive Director  
6320 Brookside Plaza, #1500  
Kansas City, MO 64113

**NEW YORK**

**BARBARA C. SALKEN CRIMINAL JUSTICE CLINIC**

Adele Bernhard  
Associate Professor of Law  
Pace University Law School  
78 North Broadway  
White Plains, NY 10603

**SECOND LOOK PROGRAM**

William Hellerstein  
Professor of Law  
Brooklyn Law School  
250 Joralemon Street, Room 901  
Brooklyn, NY 11201

**THE INNOCENCE PROJECT**

Maddy deLone  
Executive Director  
Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law at Yeshiva University  
100 Fifth Avenue, 3rd Floor  
New York, NY 10011-6903



**NORTH CAROLINA**

**NORTH CAROLINA CENTER ON ACTUAL INNOCENCE**

Theresa Newman  
President  
PO Box 52446  
Shannon Plaza Station  
Durham, NC 27717-2446

**OHIO**

**LOIS AND RICHARD ROSENTHAL INSTITUTE FOR JUSTICE/OHIO INNOCENCE PROJECT**

Mark Godsey  
Faculty Director and Associate Professor of Law  
University of Cincinnati  
College of Law  
PO Box 210040  
Cincinnati, OH 45221-0040

**PENNSYLVANIA**

**INNOCENCE INSTITUTE AT POINT PARK UNIVERSITY**

Bill Moushey  
Executive Director  
Point Park University  
Innocence Institute of Point Park University  
201 Wood Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

**TEXAS**

**TEXAS CENTER FOR ACTUAL INNOCENCE**

Bill Allison  
Director  
University of Texas School of Law  
727 East Dean Keeton Street  
Austin, TX 78705

**TEXAS INNOCENCE NETWORK**

David Dow  
Director  
University of Houston Law Center  
100 Law Center  
Houston, TX 77204-6060

**UTAH**

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN INNOCENCE CENTER**

Katie Monroe  
Executive Director (as of July 06)  
358 South 700 East, B235

Salt Lake City, UT 84102

**WASHINGTON**

**INNOCENCE PROJECT NORTHWEST CLINIC**

Jackie McMurtrie

Director

University of Washington School of Law

William H. Gates Hall, Suite 265

P.O. Box 85110

Seattle, WA 98145-1110

**WISCONSIN**

**WISCONSIN INNOCENCE PROJECT**

Keith Findley

Director

University of Wisconsin-Madison

975 Bascom Mall

Madison, WI 53706

# EXHIBIT J



1119

We, the undersigned, request Attorney General Jim Hood to do everything in his power to exonerate Clyde Kennard, who was wrongfully convicted of burglary in 1960 as a result of attempting to become the first African American student at The University of Southern Mississippi.

Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
2/13/06	Elizabeth Cluff	417 S. 21st Ave	Elizabeth Cluff
2-13-06	Kate Greene	317 Beverly Lane Hattiesburg	Kate Greene
2/13/06	Naomi Hurkienne	224 2nd Ave, H'burg	Naomi Hurkienne
2/13/06	Jeanne Gillespie	419 S. 22nd Ave	Jeanne Gillespie
02/13/06	Laura Hosman	119 Wildwood Trace H'burg, MS	Laura Hosman
02/13/06	Heba Kennedy	118 College Dr #226 Hattiesburg, MS 39400	Heba Kennedy
2/13/06	Meagan Goss	118 College Dr #128 Hattiesburg, MS	Meagan Goss
2/13/06	Shan Lott	118 College Dr #6545 Hattiesburg, MS	Shan Lott
2-13-06	Shelton Pittman	Box # 6860	Shelton Pittman
2-13-06	Rashemia Barnett	116 College Dr #4593	Rashemia Barnett
2/13/06	Brittany Carter	USM-Box 5767	Brittany Carter
2-13-06	MEKELA PUGH	P.O. Box 175 Louisa	MEKELA PUGH
2-13-06	Jessica Cassell	118 College Dr #6724	Jessica N. Cassell
2/13/06	Grant McKay	614 Woodbine Ln	Grant McKay
2/13/06	Trista McInnis	209 Oak Grove R.d.	Trista McInnis
2/13/06	Ryan Rush	#4162	Ryan Rush
2/13/06	Andrea West	118 College Dr #4962	Andrea West
2/13/06	David Thomas	#4289	David Thomas
2/13/06	Ricky Molsbee	180481	Ricky Molsbee

Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
2/13/06	Brynn Olsson	520 N. 38th Ave APT # 00 Hattiesburg, MS 39402	Brynn Olsson
13-Feb-06	Rufus Hill, Jr.	118 College Dr. #5782	Rufus Hill, Jr.
2/13/06	Mary Zitnik	118 College Dr #7453	Mary E. Zitnik
2/13/06	Sabah Obaudullah	203 Raybridge Dr Hattiesburg, MS 39402	Sabah Obaudullah
2/13/06	Marius L. Ward	Richton Ms 12 Campbell Rd	Marius L. Ward
2/13/06	Jewonie Harness	Jayess, Ms. 39641 301 E 4th Ave	Jewonie Harness
2/13/06	Courtney Colman	Petal, MS 39405	Courtney Colman
2/15/06	Tiaurat Harris	118 College Drive USM BOX 10011	Tiaurat Harris
2/16/06	Stephanie Golden	Hattiesburg	Stephanie Golden
2/13/06	Don Allen	3814 Hardy St	Don Allen
2-13-06	Maryel Thompson	34181 Hardy St	Maryel Thompson
2/13/06	Candice Hampton	118 College Drive A 5944	Candice Hampton
2-13-06	Nathan Lee	118 College Dr #18647 Hattiesburg, MS 39406	Nathan Lee
2/13/06	Shannon Gandy	USM 5748	Shannon Gandy
2-13-06	Chris Johnson	PO Box 6733	Chris Johnson
2-13-06	Picky Clark Jr	Box 8531	Picky Clark Jr
2-13-06	LaShanya Robinson	Box 8288	LaShanya Robinson
2-13-06	MAREK STEEDMAN	118 College Dr. DEPT OF POLITICAL SC.	Marek Steedman
2-13-06	Sheneka Jones	104 Hardwood CHAPT#1	Sheneka Jones
2-13-06	PJ Underwood	72 #2 Hickory Knoll	PJ Underwood
2-13-06	TYLER PERKINS	304 N. 25th Ave	Tyler Perkins

Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
2-13-06	Math Farman	Lumbert, MS 2108 N 6th Ave	Math Farman
2/13/06	Shannon Pearson	Apt. 1 1605 Edwards St.	Shannon Pearson
2/13/06	ERIN MIKULEC	51 RIFLE RD SLUMP ALZON MS	ERIN MIKULEC
2/13/06	Amelia Steadman	4 Fair Lake Drive Hattiesburg, MS 39402	Amelia Steadman
2/13/06	JOSEPH B. PARKER	605 S. 34th AV. Hburg 39402	Joseph B. Parker
2/13/06	Cathy Ventura	100 Tanglewood Dr	Cathy Ventura
2/13/06	Glen Duggin	Hburg MS 210 N. 3rd Ave 39401	Glen Duggin
2/17/06	Ken Watson	708 Wilcox	Ken Watson
2/13/06	Don Capper	103 Holly W. Petal	Don Capper
2/13/06	Sinclair Jackson	Hattiesburg 78 Wisteria Dr.	Sinclair Jackson
2/13/06	RICHARD BENTLEY	300 S. 20th Ave.	Richard Bentley
2/13/06	Malachi Thompson	3106 Gableby Rd	Malachi Thompson
02/13/06	KE ARNARHART	4 Lakewood CV Uxh, MS 39213	KE ARNARHART
2/13/06	Essilyn Parks	USM Box 4055	Essilyn Parks
2/13/06	Jake Winter	108 Northwest Circle Hburg MS, 39401	Jake Winter
2/13/06	Lattisa Smith	354 Line Rd. Laurel, MS 39443	Lattisa Smith
2/13/06	Karenne Flowers		Karenne Flowers
2/13/06	Genji Harris	USM Box 9082	Genji Harris
2/13/06	Jevette Holt	USM Box 7977	Jevette Holt
2/13/06	Marnet Fairley	USM Box 4912	Marnet Fairley
2-13-06	Tonia Chatman	USM Box 8341	Tonia Chatman
2/13/06	Annie Newton	408 6th Ave.	Annie Newton

Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
2-11-06	Gabe Giovannitti	1015 S 2nd Th Ave Hattiesburg MS	
2-13-06	Wesley French	86 Poplar Dr Hattiesburg	
2-13-06	Chris Miles	328 Em. 1544	
2-13-06	Antwan Payne	108 primrose ave	
2-13-06	Kareem Nash	118 College Dr. Box 8880 Hattiesburg	
2-13-06	CHARLES D. REDMOND	508 WALNUT ST H'burg MS 39401	
2-13-06	JAMES N. WALKER	2304 W 7th ST APT #07 H'burg MS	
2-13-06	William R. Yard	207 S 24th Ave 39401 H'burg MS 39401	
2-13-06	Christina Eblert	215 Woodland Hills Dr Hattiesburg MS 39402	Christina Eblert
2/13/06	Jason Dickworth	36 Winding Brook Dr Summit MS	
2/13/06	Ethan Fuchs	6490 Hwy 49 North Hattiesburg MS	
2/13/06	Amber Gorch	102 N. 33rd Ave Apt 14 Hattiesburg MS	
2/13/06	Frank <sup>CRUZ</sup> Jaworski Baker	P.O. Box 9640	
2/13/06	Shannon Packnett	Box 8059	Shannon Packnett
2/13/06	Jeffery M Keyser	104 Rustic Ln 39406 Carriere	
2/13/06	Jesse Shepherd	106 NW Circle Petal	
2/13/06	Wanda S. Stinson	103 Skyland Terr.	
2/13/06	William W. Powell	12 Cone Lane H'burg	
2/13/06	Amanda Rice	1132 Capital St.	Amanda C. Rice
2/13/06	Dorian Randall	118 College Dr #7399 Hattiesburg MS 39406	Dorian C. Randall
2/13/06	Michael A Brad	51 Redcliff Rd Summit 39487	
2/13/06	Phie <del>of</del> <sup>of</sup> Jones	118 College Dr Hattiesburg MS 39406	



Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
2-13-06	Alicia Bridges	118 COLLEGE DR. #100 HATTIESBURG, MS 39401	Alicia Bridges
2-13-06	Christie McAuster	2501 W. 7TH ST. HATTIESBURG, MS 39401	Christie McAuster
2-13-06	Laura Ingram	Box 5964	Laura Ingram
2-13-06	Kimberly Hopson	Box 6007	Kimberly Hopson
2-13-06	Asia Speights	4402 DAK FOREST DR. HATTIESBURG, MS	Asia Speights
2-13-06	Larry Rockette	Box 5090	Larry Rockette
2/13/06	Petru JUMR	Box 6525	Petru JUMR
2/13/06	LAUREN RIZZUTO	211 N. 35th Ave. HATTIESBURG, MS 39406	Lauren Rizzuto
	Paul Woodall		Paul Woodall
2/13/06	Matthew Roy	6623 Ahoon St Diamondhead, MS 39625	Matthew Roy
2/13/06	Terranny Street	Box 4131	Terranny Street
2/13/06	Monesca Smith	USM Box 6952	Monesca Smith
2/13/06	Bob Press	USM Box 5108	Bob Press
2/13/06	Margaret Craft	137 Selma Ave	Margaret Craft
2/13/06	<del>Angie</del> Craig	101 Maxwell Court	Angie Craig
2/13/06	Dehanyer Fre	202 Pinewood	Dehanyer Fre
2/13/06	Cathy Mohr	116 Meadow Ln Laurel, MS	Cathy Mohr
2/13/06	Amanda Huley	1004 Heritage Dr. Bilzoni's 39402	Amanda Huley
2/13/06	Sarah Young	118 College Dr. 4226	Sarah Young
2/17/06	Kevin Fabb	114 College Dr. 39401	Kevin Fabb
2/13/06	Shaundraya Pride	118 College Dr 4565	Shaundraya Pride
02/13/06	Jareco L Davis Tarelo L. Davis	USM #5910	Jareco L. Davis

Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
2/13	Betty Richards	1533 Ord Zenton eod	Betty Richards
2/13	Sherry Cline	103 Brigham Glen	Sherry Cline
2/13	Samantha Black	107 Dessiree Dr.	Samantha Black
2/13	Romania Harry	118 College Dr 9442	Romania Harry
2/13	FACHERY DIXON	118 College Dr # 7679	Fachery Dixon
2/13	Joshua Phipps	118 college Dr. #7193	Joshua Phipps
2/13	Jonathan Luy	118 College Dr 5200	Jonathan Luy
2/13	John Leck	118 college Dr. 4897	John Leck
2/13	Chad Loufroy	118 college Dr 5887	Chad Loufroy
2/13	Felipe Kerschbaum	" " " 4062	Felipe Kerschbaum
2/13	Patrick Lowery	" " " 6156	Patrick Lowery
2/13	Sheree Youngblood	118 College Dr #6718	Sheree Youngblood
2/13	Corey Giles	118 College Dr.	Corey Giles
2/13	Kiel May	118 College Dr. 6006	Kiel May
2/13	Michael French	205 S25. Ave.	Michael French
2/13	Rafael Sanchez	102 Briarcliff Dr.	Rafael Sanchez
2/13	Elizabeth Anglin	240 Hillendale Dr	Elizabeth Anglin
2/13	Douglas Chambers	1201 Abeline St	Douglas Chambers
2/13	Charles Edmunds	12 Ditch place 1672 <sup>HAT</sup> <sub>NS</sub>	Charles Edmunds
2/13	Chris Blaine	105 DOLEAC #122 <sup>HAT</sup> <sub>NS</sub>	Chris Blaine
2/13	JAMES MACKABEE	316 W 7th St.	James M. Mackabee
2/13	Denise Richardson	1107 cherry St	Denise Richardson

Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
2-13-06	Tiffany Murphy	Box 7398 USM Hattiesburg, MS 39406	Tiffany Murphy
2/13/06	SILVIA PUSCAR	118 College Dr #8631 Hattiesburg, MS 39406-0001	
13 Feb 06	Chris Meyers	307 N 18th Ave Hattiesburg, MS 39401 50 Bond St	Chris Meyers
2-13-06	Sansurage Liblka	sumrall, ms 39482	Sansurage Liblka
2-13-06	Amanda Lovelace	65 Dolac Drive 1B Hattiesburg, MS 39401	Amanda Lovelace
2/13	Toria Simmons	7998 Hattiesburg MS 39402	
2/13	Ashley Brown	Box 8265 118 College Drive	Ashley Brown
2/13	Kelly Blane	209 Little Rd Apt 1205 Greentree Columbia Rd, H'burg 39402	Kelly Blane
2/13	Frederic Under	51 Rainbow Rd Sumrall, MS 39482	Frederic Under
2/13	Cole Deilmann		
2/13	LaTonya Hamell		LaTonya Hamell
2/13	Ayesha Fountain	P.O. Box 4236 Hattiesburg, MS	Ayesha Fountain
2/13	Daphne Littleton	P.O. Box 1243 Hattiesburg, MS	Daphne Littleton
2/13	John Green	P.O. Box 8165	
2/13	Justin Harris	P.O. Box 6598	Justin Harris
2/13	Nathaniel Henson	P.O. Box 8309	Nathaniel Henson
2/13	Melvin Banks	5918 SCR 101 Loring, MS	Melvin Banks
2/13	Jillian Harper	Box #8368 USM	Jillian Harper
2/13	Jamaal Keyes	Box #604E	Jamaal Keyes
2/13	Marcy Lawrence	#6775	Marcy Lawrence
2/13	Laurie Johnston	#4300	Laurie Johnston
2/13	Kim Nobles	6490 Hwy 49W Apt 270	Kim Nobles

# Exoneration - Hood

We, the undersigned, request Attorney General Jim Hood to do everything in his power to exonerate Clyde Kennard, who was wrongfully convicted of burglary in 1960 as a result of attempting to become the first African American student at The University of Southern Mississippi.

Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
2-17-2006	Eyler Coates	9112 Barnacle, Ocean Springs	Eyler Coates
2/17/2006	Donald G. Redalje	226 Cane Village, Diamondhead	Donald G. Redalje
2/17/2006	Antonio Rodriguez-B	3403 Morning Side Dr. Hattiesburg	Antonio Rodriguez-B
2/17/2006	Lawrence R. Mead	914 S. 34 <sup>th</sup> Ave H'burg MS	Lawrence R. Mead
2/17/2006	Mary F. Lux	616 S 19 <sup>th</sup> Ave Hattiesburg, MS	Mary F. Lux
2/17/2006	JAMES S MAYRUDER	734 BERKSHIRE DR, MS	James Mayruder
2/17/2006	Arita Davis	107 Sun Circle Petal, MS	Arita Davis
2/17/06	Gail Russell	133 E. Lakeside Dr., H'burg	Gail Russell
2/17/06	B.L. Middlebrooks	373 Buccaneer Dr, Hattiesburg	B.L. Middlebrooks
2/17/06	Wendy Bounds	22 Fleur de Lis Blvd. Hattiesburg	Wendy Bounds
2/17/06	Cheryl Goggin	402 Mandalay Dr, Hattiesburg	Cheryl Goggin
2/17/06	Paula J. Smithka	1073 Lake Estates Dr., Hattiesburg	Paula J. Smithka
2-17-06	JANICE F. THOMPSON Janice F. Thompson	102 So. 34 AVE. B Hattiesburg, MS	Janice F. Thompson
2-17-06	ALLISA BECK	319 LYNWOOD CIR, LONG BEACH, MS	Allisa Beck
2-17-06	RANDY BETHAWAN	6068 HWY 98W #294 HATTIESBURG MS	Randy Bethawan
2/17/06	STEPHEN JUOD	714 CAMP ST. HATTIESBURG, MS	Stephen Juod
-17-06	Teralyn Hartzell	303 7 <sup>th</sup> Ave Hattiesburg	Teralyn Hartzell
-17-06	William W. Powell	12 Cane Cove H'burg 39402	William W. Powell
-17-06	Myron Henry	77 St. Andrews, H'burg 3940	Myron Henry
2-17-06	Mary E. APPLIN	3203 Hillside Dr. Hattiesburg 39401	Mary E. Applin
-12-06	Bonnie Harbaugh	19 Hillside Rd Petalms 39465	Bonnie Harbaugh

To Attn:  
General  
Jim Hoop

Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
2/16	PAUL SAPUTO	6755 M. Inc Blvd NGA	<i>[Signature]</i>
2/16	Mary Villeponteaux	903 Corinne St Hburg	<i>[Signature]</i>
2/16	Laura P ROGERS	#136 B H'burg 12 PARKWEST MS Purvis	<i>[Signature]</i>
2/16	Kenneth Thomas	633 M.L. King Dr.	<i>[Signature]</i>
2/16	Sabrina Ches	PO Box 4025 118 College Dr.	<i>[Signature]</i>
2/17	Tawanda Barber	118 College Dr. Box #10450	<i>[Signature]</i>
2/16	Kelly Nims	2nd Foxgate Ave hphlet Hattiesburg, MS 39402	<i>[Signature]</i>
2/16	Daniel James Goodman	210 S. 3rd Ave. 39401	<i>[Signature]</i>
2/16	Meredith Todd	Hattiesburg, MS	<i>[Signature]</i>
2/16	Sam Leake	H'burg MS	<i>[Signature]</i>
2/16	Kim Walker	1909 Evergreen Lane H'burg	<i>[Signature]</i>
2/16	Susan Mallon Ross	4402 Sycamore Bay St. Louis MS	<i>[Signature]</i>
2/16	Alex Cooley	118 College Dr.	<i>[Signature]</i>
2/16	Joanne Burnett	108 Sherwood Dr.	<i>[Signature]</i>
2/16	Jamison Roane	116 N. 32nd Ave Hattiesburg, MS 39401	<i>[Signature]</i>
2/16	Matt Tatum	3500 Hady Street	<i>[Signature]</i>
2/16	ERIN D BATES	118 COLLEGE DR.	<i>[Signature]</i>
2/16	James Oliver	703 N 31st	<i>[Signature]</i>
2/16	Cashema Mitchell	118 College Dr. PO Box 4024	<i>[Signature]</i>
2/16	Lindsey Osterman	Nicholson, MS 39463 78 WISERIA Dr Hattiesburg 39401	<i>[Signature]</i>
2/16	Triguna Miller	118 College Dr #6513 Hattiesburg 39401	<i>[Signature]</i>
2/16	B. J. Chaney	118 College Dr #6513 Hattiesburg 39401	<i>[Signature]</i>

To Attome  
General  
Hood

Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
2/16	Andrew P. Hasey	708 Camp St. Harrison	Andrew P. Hasey
2/16	Jo'Nae Howard	PO BOX 5668	Jo'Nae Howard
2/16	Matthew Rook	#4193	Matthew Rook
2/16	Melissa Lang	#6710	Melissa Lang
2/16	Stephanie Foreman	#6477	Stephanie Foreman
2/16	Brian William	#9374	Brian William
2/16	LUCILYA WHITE	#8434	Lucilya P. White
2/16	Sherida Paige	#8101	Sherida Paige
2/16	Erica Goldsmith	#7803	Erica Goldsmith
2/16	Angela Adams	587 Shady Oak 2nd Col + 1st Lt. MS	Angela Adams
2/16	Ana Overstreet	3422 W 7th St #115 USM 39/68	Ana Overstreet
2/16	Ananne Reel	USM 6880	Ananne Reel
2/16	Renetta Smith		Renetta Smith
2/16	Wren Ward	#4640	Wren Ward
2/16	Jo Claire Yeter	130 Smith Farms	Jo Claire Yeter
2/16	Mary Guo	#7354	Mary Guo
2/16	Jarvis Robinson	USM P.O. Box #4360	Jarvis Robinson
2/16	Brandon Ball		Brandon
2/16	Darcil Coffey	300 N. 58th Ave Apt 13	Darcil Coffey
2/16	Quinta Anderson	#89164	Quinta Anderson
2/16	Amy Miller	3004 Navajo Cir	Amy Miller
2/16	Jennifer Cloud	2312 W. 7th St	Jennifer Cloud

# To Attorney General Jim Hood

Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
2/15	Darriane Douglas	29 Park Place	
2/15	Tyrone Lockwood	29 Park Place	
2/15/06	Joshua Bird	29 Park Place	
2/16/06	Miana Johnson	1011 Kabeerette	
2/16/06	<del>Rebecca</del> Latoya Mitchell	USM Box 5567	
2/16/06	Theresa Moffett	374 Backwoodcreek	
2/16/06	Eris Simpson	USM Box 830	
2/16/06	Rachael Manly	USM BOX 5715	
2-16-06	<del>Ashley Boehmel</del>	USM Box 2412	
2/16/06	Ashley Rayford	USM Box #9192	
2/16/06	Candrese Jones	USM Box 6669	
2/16/06	JESSICA STEPHENS	USM BOX 7546	
2/16/06	Sarah Middle	USM box 9573	
2/16/06	Elizabeth Biland	USM BOX #5404	
2/16/06	Enica Alston	USM # 60254	
2/16/06	Antiyah Shareef	USM #7761	
2-16-06	Nicole Fontenot	USM #8084	
2/16/06	LACEY GROS	USM #9244	
2/16/06	HOLLY COX	USM #368	
2/16/06	Kristin Pilgrim	USM #5654	
2/16/06	SAMANTHA DAVIS	USM #9506	
2/16/06		USM #5935	

We, the undersigned, request Attorney General Jim Hood to do everything in his power to exonerate Clyde Kennard, who was wrongfully convicted of burglary in 1960 as a result of attempting to become the first African American student at The University of Southern Mississippi.

Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
2/14	Geoffrey Harris	305 Harvest Dr Ridgeland, MS 39157	<i>Geoffrey Harris</i>
2/14	William Odum	Box 5038	<i>W. Odum</i>
2/14	Andy Johnson	119 N. 35 <sup>th</sup> Ave, Hattiesburg, MS	<i>Andy Johnson</i>
2/14	Beth Williams	118 College Drive #4128	<i>Beth Williams</i>
2/14	Sarah Himebrook	118 College Dr #5957	<i>Sarah Himebrook</i>
2/14	Nicholas Lewis	206 B'n'og St	<i>Nicholas Lewis</i>
2/14	Jeannette Johnson	305 Ormond Blvd. <sup>Destrehan, LA 70047</sup>	<i>Jeannette Johnson</i>
2/14	Donna Bovastro	209 S. 29 Ave, Apt 215	<i>Donna Bovastro</i>
2/14	Don Mitchell	109 N. 34 <sup>th</sup> Ave, B2	<i>Don Mitchell</i>
2/14/06	Sean Cox	300 N 39 <sup>th</sup> St	<i>Sean Cox</i>
2/14/06	Angela Wisely	3422 West 7 <sup>th</sup> St	<i>Angela Wisely</i>
2/14	Don C.		<i>Don C.</i>
2/14/06	Kyle Schenkowitz	1807 Maple St	<i>Kyle Schenkowitz</i>
2/14/06	Anthony Friday	29 Park Place Apt 912	<i>Anthony Friday</i>
2/14	William L. BARR	30X XAVIER ST. 1506 Concert St.	<i>William L. Barr</i>
2/14	Elizabeth Drummond	Hattiesburg, MS 39401	<i>Elizabeth Drummond</i>
2/14	Zach Leonard	118 College Drive #9101	<i>Zach Leonard</i>
2/14	Kevin Holmes	3318 Pearl St.	<i>Kevin Holmes</i>
2/14	Mrs. Megan Blackwelder	# 200 Foxgate Ave. FD	<i>Megan Blackwelder</i>
2/14	Keri Morgan	442 Pep's Point Rd	<i>Keri Morgan</i>
2/14	Katarina Dearman	2304 W 7 <sup>th</sup> St Apt 109	<i>Katarina Dearman</i>



# Kennard Petition

Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
2/14	Patricia Buzard	111 North 33rd Ave E2 Hattiesburg, MS 39401	<i>Patricia Buzard</i>
2/14	Anjivie Price	36 Watkins Rd Haselle	<i>Anjivie Price</i>
2/14	Madalena Limberakis	Hattiesburg	<i>M Limberakis</i>
2/14	Tammy Duckworth	Taylorville, MS	<i>Tammy Duckworth</i>
2/14	Matt Arnold	Hattiesburg, MS	<i>Matthew Arnold</i>
2/14	Donald Perkins, Jr.	Laurel, MS	<i>Donald Perkins, Jr.</i>
2/14	Ashley Nicholson	Newton, MS	<i>Ashley Nicholson</i>
2/14	Daniel L. Baker	Hattiesburg, MS	<i>Daniel L. Baker</i>
2/14	Michael DeAmey	Hattiesburg, MS	<i>Michael DeAmey</i>
2/14	Cindy Ponder	1288 N Windyfield Ln Rayvis MS 39475	<i>Cindy Ponder</i>
2/14	Patty M. Beach		<i>Patty M. Beach</i>
2/14	Rachel Clay	1000 E. 10th Ave 2100a MS 39463	<i>Rachel Clay</i>
2-14	Caitlin Wagner	Hattiesburg MS	<i>Caitlin Wagner</i>
2-14	Terril Johnson	118 College Dr #9376 Hattiesburg, MS 39406	<i>Terril L. Johnson</i>
2-14	Michayla Jones	118 College Dr #15796 Hattiesburg, MS 39406	<i>Michayla Jones</i>
2-14	Jamillah Meredith	Phila., MS	<i>Jamillah Meredith</i>
2-14	Avery Darby	498 North Street Hattiesburg, MS 39401	<i>Avery Darby</i>
2-14	GREGG LARSEN	5 ST MANU Road	<i>Gregg Larsen</i>
2-14	Rebecca Woodnik	905 N. 34th Ave. Hattiesburg, MS 39402	<i>Rebecca Woodnik</i>
2-14	Kelby Johnson	312 N 39th Ave Hattiesburg, MS 39401	<i>Kelby Johnson</i>
2-14	Jill Childress	P.O. Box 323 Summit, MS	<i>Jill Childress</i>
2-14	Shalonda Silliman	118 College Drive #4 39402 Hattiesburg, MS	<i>Shalonda Silliman</i>

Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
2-14-06	Kory HAGGARD	417 Helveston Rd Apt 104	<i>Kory Haggard</i>
2/14/06	Venese Barber Nelson	2025 29th Ave Apt 205	<i>Venese Nelson</i>
2-14-06	ERIN ROUSER	118 College Dr #9171	<i>Erin Rouser</i>
2/14/06	DeVita King	347 Boling St.	<i>DeVita R. King</i>
2/14/06	Brandon Davis	USM Box 78211	<i>Brandon Davis</i>
2/14/06	Stacey Ready	2014 Mamie St	<i>Stacey Ready</i>
2-14-06	Jason Kell	Elam Dr ms	<i>Jason Kell</i>
2-14-06	Lakeinidric Scurry	3415 Hancock St. Apt 101	<i>Lakeinidric Scurry</i>
2/14/06	Leah Schultze	#4491	<i>Leah Schultze</i>
2/14/06	India Backstrom	#4166	<i>India Backstrom</i>
2/14/06	Kamario Granger	<del>3007</del> 3416 Windridge apt Hattiesburg, MS 39406	<i>Kamario Granger</i>
2/14/06	Juwel Davis	#7990	<i>Juwel Davis</i>
2/14/06	Jessica Davis	300 North 38th Ave	<i>Jessica Davis</i>
2/14/06	Johnathon Goff	118 Colley Dr 5578	<i>Johnathon Goff</i>
2/14/06	Marie Wash	118 Colley St. 8377	<i>Marie Wash</i>
2/14/06	Grace Allen	#4533	<i>Grace Allen</i>
2/14/06	Monshica Matthews	3500 Hancock St Apt. 28 Hattiesburg, MS	<i>Monshica Matthews</i>
2/14/06	Tom Johnson	118 College Dr. P.O. Box 6616 Hattiesburg MS 39406	<i>Tom Johnson</i>
2-14-06	George Batista	(6338)	
2-14-06	Martavious Prince	Box 9285 Hattiesburg	<i>Martavious Prince</i>
2-14-06	Bobby Weakley	Box 9350 Hattiesburg	<i>Bobby Weakley</i>
2/14/06	Jeremy Young	Box 9150 Hattiesburg	<i>Jeremy Young</i>

Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
2/14/06	Jessica Lamb	USM 4577	Jessica Lamb
2/14/06	Katherine Smith	USM 5609	Katherine Smith
2/14/06	SonQuita Adams	USM 6399	SonQuita Adams
2/14/06	Myan Harris	USM <del>5034</del> 5034	Myan Harris
2/14/06	Latoya Keal	USM 4512	Latoya S. Keal
2/14/06	Cheree Albritton	USM 9632	Cheree Albritton
2/14/06	Mrs. Beth Walker	USM Box 5048	Beth Walker
2/14/06	Barbara Ross	USM Box 5067	Barbara Ross
2/14/06	Jamara Laster	2611 West 7th Street 6490 US Hwy 49	Jamara Laster
2/14/06	Valencia Walls	#424 H'burg 39401	Valencia Walls
2/14/06	Senika Moody	46m Box 8190 Hattiesburg, MS 39401	Senika Moody
2/14/06	Fossie Alue	13402 W Adeline St Hattiesburg, MS 39401	Fossie Alue
2-14-06	Margueta Green	8304 W 7th St Apt 707 Hattiesburg 39401	Margueta Green
2/14/06	Permelia Lee	USM Box #9312 Hattiesburg, MS	Permelia Lee
2/14/06	Samal A. Jones	105 Daker Dr, 232 Hattiesburg, MS 39401	Samal A. Jones
2/14/06	Mary Bradley	4016 Ganges St Gulfport, MS 39501	Mary Bradley
2/14/06	Rosealyn Under	USM 9087 441525	Rosealyn Under
2/14/06	Shakelia Benson	USM 7540	Shakelia Benson
2/14/06	Shaquita Evans	USM 6739	Shaquita Evans
2/14/06	John Cochran	7836 Hwy 49 Hattiesburg, MS 39401	John Cochran
2/14/06	Louise Richardson	129 Pine Drive Moss Bluff, MS 39116	Louise Richardson
2/14/06	Barnes		Barnes

Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
2/14/06	Cordell Kinn	118 College Drive #7203	Cordell Kinn
2/14/06	Jennifer Bush	172 Mullican Rd LAWREN, MS 39443	Jennifer Bush
	Brittany Johnson	211 Cherry Chase Dr #1	Brittany Johnson
2/14/06	Kimberly Payne	520 N. 38th Ave Apt 7 Hattiesburg, MS 39401	Kimberly Payne
2/14/06	Brena Ward	118 college Dr #8711	Brena Ward
2/14/06	Monique Springer	111 South 23rd Avenue Hattiesburg, MS 39401	Monique Springer
2/14/06	Jonathan Comer	3310 W. 7th St Hattiesburg, MS 39402	Jonathan Comer
2/14/06	Leslie Adah	USM po Box 7321 314 N E 37th	Leslie Adah
2/14/06	JONATHAN KREBS	H'burg 39402	Jonathan Krebs
2/14/06	Keith Morris	USM box 7077	Keith Morris
2/14/06	Staci Cox	4003 N 39th Ave #15	Staci Cox
2/14/06	Vashann	USM 6920	Vashann
2/14/06	Margaret Packard	USM 8204	Margaret Packard
2/14/06	Elizabeth Keenan	USM 6989	Elizabeth Keenan
2/14/06	Willie Chestang	1715 main st A#12	Willie Chestang
2/14/06	Lorenzo King	702 Dame St. 37CR 4113	Lorenzo King
2/14/06	Isaac Taylor	Pachuta MS 39347	Isaac Taylor
2/14/06	Andre Taylor	118 College Dr #6471	Andre Taylor
2/14/06	Amber Williams	P.O. Box 7190	Amber Williams
2/14/06	Cory Phillips	442 Wilaway Rd	Cory Phillips
2/14/06	Michelle Mitelsztet	118 College Dr.	Michelle Mitelsztet
2/14/06	Tiffany McDowell	118 College Dr	Tiffany McDowell

Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
2/14/06	Dee Anna Purnell	6011 Lilly Rd Hazelhurst, MS 39083	Dee Anna Purnell
2/14/06	Courtney Coleman	USM #8109	Courtney Coleman
2/14/06	Angel Robison	USM #8600	Angel Robison
2/14/06	Felicia Ballard	USM #798	Felicia Ballard
2/14/06	Lakisha Paddy	USM #9570	Lakisha Paddy
2/14/06	Amanda Jenkins	USM #1047	Amanda Jenkins
2/14/06	Nakisha Ellis	USM 7568	Nakisha Ellis
2/14/06	Fred King	USM 4228	Fred King
2/14/06	Latahra Harvey	box 7843	Latahra Harvey
2/14/06	Thurmond Rogers	box 4877	Thurmond Rogers
2/14/06	Christina Gaines	3422 W. 7th St. Apt 25 Hattiesburg, MS 39401	Christina Gaines
2/14/06	Comerio Barrett	usm #9480	Comerio Barrett
2/14/06	Laticia Johnson	USM #8936	Laticia Johnson
2/14/06	Labonna Brown	# 7954	Labonna Brown
2/14/06	Christopher Boothe	111 Montague St	Christopher Boothe
02/14/06	Shereé Montgomery	usm BOX 5695	Shereé Montgomery
02/14/06	Tangela Brown	Box 4770	Tangela Brown
2/14/06	Rodney T. Lyons	#9123	Rodney T. Lyons
2/14/06	Jerwaski S. Coleman	#8658	Jerwaski S. Coleman
2/14/06	Pamela Robinson	#5398	Pamela Robinson
2/14/06	Hollis C. Vaughn	#6153	Hollis C. Vaughn
2/14/06	Marcus Dillon	402 Sam Ransom DOME	Marcus Dillon

Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
2/14	Joni Anshby	#6045 USM Box	Joni Anshby
2/14	Stephen R. McCay	USM Box #5946	Stephen R. McCay
2/14	Rogerie Singletta	USM Box # 2525	Rogerie Singletta
2/14	Danyelle Davis	3422 W. 7th St	Danyelle Davis
2/14	Richard Ryan Jr	#5579 USM	Richard Ryan Jr
2/14	Denny Hilton	2900 Tillery Drive	Denny Hilton
2/14	Katie MARS	USM BOX #840E	Katie Mars
2/14	Cary Horton	29 Park Pl 39902	Cary Horton
2/14	Derrick Jones	Box 7487	Derrick Jones
2/14	Abonie Boyd	Box 9281	Abonie Boyd
2/14	Laura Messer	#6683	Laura Messer
2/14	Cris Carrin	3810 Pearl St	Cris Carrin
2/14	V. Jeffers	USM BOX #182	V. Jeffers
2/14	Janatha Rogers	41044	Janatha Rogers
2/14	Corinne Katterzell	BOX 8000	Corinne Katterzell
2/14	Olenka Woodley	118 College Dr.	Olenka Woodley
	Kenya Adams	#6685 118 College Pr.	Kenya Adams
2/14	Michael Morris	118 College Drive #6688	Michael Morris
2/14	Vaughn Gray	#6062	Vaughn Gray
2/14	Robert Jr		Robert Jr
2/14	Anna DeFauw	#5918	Anna DeFauw
2/14	Romanovius Young	1026 Cecil Ln Crystal Springs	Romanovius Young

We, the undersigned, request Attorney General Jim Hood to do everything in his power to exonerate Clyde Kennard, who was wrongfully convicted of burglary in 1960 as a result of attempting to become the first African American student at The University of Southern Mississippi.

Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
02-15	Diego Perez	118 college drive # 781B	Diego A. Perez
2-15	Sam Bruton	708 S. 18th Ave., 39401	<del>Sam Bruton</del>
2-15	Lesley Harrison	200 Blue Gable Rd #402	Lesley Harrison
2-15	Victoria Smith-Butler	29 Park Place #111 39402	<del>Victoria Smith-Butler</del>
2-15	Jack Lawrence	3121 Old Brookhaven rd Summit MS	Jack Lawrence
2-15	Eboni Garrett	1246 Beverly Hills Rd #42	Eboni Garrett
2-15	Nyha Bugarie	848 Richburg Rd # L	Nyha Bugarie
2-15	AKIRA DIXON	116 College drive #9212	Akira Dixon
2-15	Lashanya Franks	2304 West 7th Apt 709, 39401	Lashanya Franks
2-15	Dr. Sherita Johnson	118 college Drive	Dr. Sherita Johnson
2-15	Elberna Martin	3470 W. 7th St Apt 2 Hburg MS 39409	Elberna Martin
2-15	Aaron Watkins	125 Norman Drive, Petal	Aaron Watkins
2-15	Christina Pennin	100 N. 32nd Ave, Apt 42	Christina Pennin
2-15	Sabrina N. Byrd	211 N. 35th Ave. Apt. #17	Sabrina N. Byrd
2/15	Amy L. Young	3002 Laramie Circle Hburg	Amy L. Young
2/15	Juliana Njah-Abbeyi	515 Mamie St., H'burg	Juliana Njah-Abbeyi
2/15	John C. Meyer	2315 McAnnis St. H'burg	John C. Meyer
2/15	Gisela Rodriguez	201 N 34th ave Apt 9	Gisela Rodriguez
2/15	Jackie Lee	105 Daleac Dr. apt 611	Jackie Lee
2/15	Coralie Rose	116 N. 32nd Ave A14 39401	Coralie Rose
2/15	KIM DANCZUK	118 college drive # 8867	Kim Danczuk

Petition  
 Jim Hove  
 Attorney  
 General

Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
2/15	Casey Holcombe	6940 Hwy 49 W H'burg, MS 39401	Casey Holcombe
2/15	Jakoda Dauner	118 College Dr #6977	Jakoda Dauner
2/15	Jodie Haggard	201 Blue Cable Rd #415 H'burg MS	Jodie Haggard
2/15	Phini Smur	118 College Dr. Hattiesburg, MS 39401	Phini Smur
2/15	Heather Davis	2115 Broadway Dr #11 118 College Dr. #7597	Heather Davis
2/15	Meredith Breckenridge	#7597	Meredith Breckenridge
2/15	Clare Taylor	115 Doleac Dr Apt 125 Hattiesburg MS 39401	Clare Taylor
2/15	Renita Milton	118 College Drive #4247 Hattiesburg, MS 39401	Renita Milton
2/15	Liz Worden	3500 Hattiesburg MS 39402	Liz Worden
2-15	Brittney Taylor	124 Kelli Ln Jackson, MS 39212	Brittney Taylor
2-15	Sherri Mitchell	109 N. 36th Ave Hattiesburg MS	Sherri Mitchell
2/15	Arie Hemm	131 Fox Run Dr H'burg, 39402	Arie Hemm
2/15	Derrick Leonard	Dox 8135 Hattiesburg, MS 39406	Derrick Leonard
2/15	Sam Parks	510 N 38th Ave Apt 57 H'burg	Sam Parks
2/15	Raven Wilke	38 Robertson Rd Petal, MS 39448	Raven Wilke
2/15	Daniel Malone	307 Se moia Lane Piedg., MS	Daniel Malone
2/15	Aquila Kline	11 MS Swain Comm Rd Bichon, MS 39476	Aquila Kline
2/15	Annika Sterling	P.O. Box 18745 Hattiesburg MS	Annika Sterling
2/15	Brooke Roberts	301 Xavier St. Hattiesburg, MS 39401	Brooke Roberts
2/15	Erin Royal	105 Ross Blvd Apt. C3 H'burg, MS 39401	Erin Royal
2/15	Colter Cruthiel	301 Xavier St. Hattiesburg, MS 39401	Colter Cruthiel
2/15	Geoffrey Philabaum	2324 W 7th St #206 H'burg, MS 39401	Geoffrey Philabaum



# Petition to Governor Barbour

Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
2-15	Vietona Smith-Butler	29 Park Place #111	<del>Vietona Smith-Butler</del>
2-15	Jack Lawrence	3121 old Brookhaven <sup>RD</sup> Sumner MS	Jack Lawrence
2-15	Eboni Garrett	1246 Beverly Hills Rd #42	Eboni Hannett
2-15	Nyka Barganwe	848 Richburg Rd #1	Nyka Barganwe
2-15	AKIRA DIXON	118 College Dr #9212	Akura Dixon
2-15	Janay Clark	118 College Dr. #7783	Janay Clark
2-15	La Sonya Frantz	2304 West 7 <sup>th</sup> St #3704	La Sonya Frantz
2-15	Sherrita Jones	118 College Dr	Sherrita Jones
2-15	Elberta Martin	3420 W. 7 <sup>th</sup> St #2	Elberta Martin
2-15	John Cook	118 College Dr #4897	John Cook
2-15	Aaron Watkins	125 Norma D. Petal	Aaron Watkins
2-15	Christina Pennis	100 N. 32nd Ave Apt #2	Christina Pennis
2-15	Salvina Boyd	211 N. 35 <sup>th</sup> Ave #17	Salvina N. Boyd
2/15	Amy L. Young	3002 Lawrence Cir #167	Amy L. Young
2/15	John C. Meyer	2315 McInnis St. #107	John C. Meyer
2/15	Isela Rodriguez	201 N 347 hanc apt 9	Isela Rodriguez
2/15	Jackie Lee	105 Daleac Dr. apt 611	Jackie Lee
2/15	Coralie Rose	116 N. 32nd Ave #14	Coralie Rose
2/15	Kim Danczuk	118 College Dr #8862	Kim Danczuk
2/15	Casey Holcombe	6190 Hwy 409 W Apt 67 #1 Burg MS 39401	Casey Holcombe
2/15	Dakoda Danner	118 College Dr #9212	Dakoda Danner
2/15	Jodie Haggard	201 Blue Gable Rd #415 Hattiesburg MS 39401	Jodie Haggard

# Petition to Cover nor Barbours

Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
2/15	Olivia Smith	118 College Dr	Olivia Smith
2/15	April L. Hinton	205 Hamilton Dr Petals, MS	April L. Hinton
2/15	Heather Davis	2115 Broadway Dr #11 Hattiesburg, MS 39402	Heather Davis
2/15	Renee Milton	118 College Drive 4227 Hattiesburg, MS 39402	Renee E. Milton
2/15	Meradith Breckenridge	118 College Dr. #7597	Meradith Breckenridge
2/15	Brittney Taylor	124 Kelly Dr Apleson MS 39212	Brittney Taylor
2-15	Alice Neuman	131 Fox Run Dr H'burg, MS 39402	Alice Neuman Arietten
2-15	Sherri Mitchell	109 N. 56th Ave Hattiesburg MS	Sherri Mitchell
2-15	Raven Wilke	38 Robertson Rd Petals, MS 39402	Raven Wilke
2/15	Sam Parks	510 N 3872 Ave Apt 57 H'burg 39401	Sam Parks
2/15	Patrick Leonard	Box 8135 Hattiesburg, MS 39402	Patrick Leonard
2/15	Daniel Malone	307 Semour Lane Ridge, MS	Daniel John Malone
2/15	Aquib Kline	7115 Swain Pkwy. Rd Bickton, MS 39476	Aquib Kline
2/15	Amika Staley	18745 Hattiesburg MS 39404	A Staley
2/15	Erin Royal	105 Ross Blvd Apt. C3 Hattiesburg, MS 39401	Erin Royal
2/15	Brooke Roberts	301 Xavier St. Hattiesburg MS 39401	Brooke Roberts
2/15	Colter Cruthirds	301 Xavier St. Hattiesburg, MS 39401 2304 W 7th St # 206	Colter Cruthirds
2/15	Geoffrey Philabaum	H'burg MS 39401	Geoffrey Philabaum
2/15	Samantha Guinan	2085 South 15th Avenue Hattiesburg, MS 39402	Samantha Guinan
2/15	Justin McNamee	3210 Campbell Dr.	Justin McNamee
2/15	Nate McRae	401 W 1st Ave	Nate McRae
2/15	Jennifer Beaver	P.O. Box 8183 H'burg, MS 39402	Jennifer Beaver

We, the undersigned, request Governor Haley Barbour to pardon Clyde Kennard, who was wrongfully convicted of burglary in 1960 as a result of attempting to become the first African American student at The University of Southern Mississippi.

Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
2-14-06	Maria Randall	2802 Prince George Rd. Hattiesburg, MS 39402	Maria Randall
2-14-06	Gabriel Dean	5017 Comstock Rd H-burg MS 39402	Gabriel Dean
2-13-06	Lakecia Williams	118 College Dr. #7430 Hattiesburg, MS 39406	Lakecia Williams
2-13-06	Casper Grant	USM BOX 7609 H-burg MS 39406	Casper Grant
2-13-06	Sylvia Cover	USM BOX 6643 H-burg MS 39406	Sylvia Cover
2/13/06	TORAK. JONES	118 College Dr. Bldg 96001 H-burg, MS	TORAK. JONES
2/13/06	Toni Brasher	118 College Dr #1072	Toni Brasher
2/13/06	Mary Gwin	#10001	Mary Gwin
2/13/06	Natalie Schexnayder	# 609568	Natalie Schexnayder
2/13/06	April Duplessis	<del># 4367</del> #4367	April Duplessis
2/13/06	Douglas A. HURSON	# 8369	Douglas A. Hurson
2/13/06	Anthony Nelson	5933	Anthony Nelson
2-13-06	Joseph Rankin		Joseph Rankin
2/13/06	Courtney Davenport		Courtney Davenport
2/13/06	Kourtney Price	4244	Kourtney Price
2/13/06	Alan Wheeler	9520	Alan Wheeler
2/13/06	Angela White	Hattiesburg P.O. 7017	Angela White
2/13/06	Porsha Jackson	4511 Hattiesburg	Porsha Jackson
2/13/06	Ethan Bratten	12 Park Pl Apt. 102 Hattiesburg 39402	Ethan Bratten
2/13/06	Sankera Mone	<del># 743</del> #743	Sankera Mone

Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
2/13/06	Josh Barton	#118 College Dr. 86750	Josh Barton
2/13/06	Demathy Lacey	116 College Dr. 8331	Demathy Lacey
2/13/06	Ashley Lacey	118 College Dr. 8043	Ashley Lacey
2/13/06	Dossie Greyer	P.O. Box #8505	Dossie Greyer
2/13/06	Channing Robinson	118 College Dr. #9322	Channing Robinson
2/13/06	Sarah L. M. Murtry	DSM Box #4829	Sarah L. M. Murtry
2/13/06	Kawaski Livens	DSM Box #8786	Kawaski Livens
2/13/06	Michael Richardson	118 College Drive, Box 9470	Michael Richardson
2/13/06	Jasmine Williams	210 Magnolia Rd	Jasmine Williams
2/13/06	Zachary Martz	105 Dole Dr. apt. 824	Zachary Martz
2/13/06	Kala Moak	112 Briarwood	Kala Moak
2/13/06	Mary Jones	PO Box #4557	Mary Jones
2/13/06	Richard McGill III	118 College Dr. 7643	Richard McGill III
2/13/06	Rayshun Hagan	118 College Dr. 9453	Rayshun Hagan
2/13/06	Kristal Lawlf		Kristal Lawlf
2/13/06	Jennifer Tolon	118 College Dr	Jennifer Tolon
2/13/06	Jessica Davis	118 College Dr. Box 1136	Jessica Davis
2/13/06	Lacey Whitehead	118 College Dr 9653	Lacey Whitehead
2/13/06	Rochelle Hutson	118 College Dr 7145	Rochelle Hutson
2/13/06	NINA DAVIS	118 College Dr #8559	Nina Davis
2/13/06	Aa'Keela Hudnall	118 College Dr #7197	Aa'Keela Hudnall
2/13/06	Carolyn J. Brooks	118 College Dr #8651	Carolyn J. Brooks

Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
2/13	Brian Burns	118 College Dr #9604	Brian Burns
2/13	Kristen Cangiamilla		Kristen Cangiamilla
2/13	Victoria Torres		Victoria Torres
2/13	Ariel Williams	118 College Dr. #9154	Ariel Williams
2/13	Karrie Leggett	118 College Dr #9454	Karrie Leggett
2/13	Carol Manning	118 College Dr #8307	Carol Manning
2/13	Emily McCleskey	118 College Dr.	Emily McCleskey
2/13	Kaithea S. Fitch	118 College Dr	Kaithea S. Fitch
2/13/06	Nicholas Trotter	118 College Dr. Box 7547	Nicholas Trotter
2/13/06	Madison Dams	118 College Dr. #6816	Madison Dams
2/13/06	Brooke Owens	118 College Drive	Brooke Owens
2/13/06	Christopher Reed	118 College Dr. #7263	Christopher Reed
2/13/06	Caleb Gaines	118 College Dr. #9318	Caleb Gaines
2/13/06	Erica Lynette Lewis	118 College Dr. #4222	Erica Lynette Lewis
2/13/06	Tockey Smith	118 College Dr. #9345	Tockey Smith
2/13/06	Michael P. Thornton	18 Shadow Ridge	Michael P. Thornton
2/13/04	Suzanne Smith	Box 7799	Suzanne Smith
2/13/04	CINDY BROWN	5121	Cindy Brown
2/13/04	Russell Welch	708 Main St	Russell Welch
2/13/1	Daniel K. Hankins	118 College Dr. #8717	Daniel K. Hankins
2/13/1	Brian Carter	Hattiesburg	Brian Carter
2/13/06	Jerry Roster	118 College Dr	Jerry Roster

Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
2/13/06	Kristen Lowe	105 Delpac Dr.	Kristen Lowe
2/13/06	Jennifer Petcher	710 S. 2 <sup>nd</sup> St. Ave.	Jennifer Petcher
2/13/06	Shawnee Rest	Harrisburg, PA	Shawnee Rest
2/13/06	Stacy Smith	Harrisburg	Stacy Smith
2-13-06	Jeremy Brooke	H'burg	Jeremy Brooke
2-13-06	Djuan Smith	888 Hiram Drive	Djuan Smith
2/13/06	Latoria Cooper	H'burg	Latoria Cooper
2/13/06	Steven Inby	183 Ross Blvd #14	Steven Inby
2/13/06	Megan Savell	H'burg, Pa	Megan Savell
2/13/06	Jamie Baker	Box 8914 H'burg	Jamie Baker
2/13/06	Jessie Ellis	118 College Dr. #9573	Jessie Ellis
2/13/06	Lynée Burleigh	116 W 3 <sup>rd</sup> Ave Apt A8	Lynée Burleigh
2/13/06	Kimyetta Smith	118 Catherine Dr.	Kimyetta Smith
2/13/06	Derek Davis	118 College Dr	Derek Davis
2/13/06	Santara Fortenberry	1500 Country Club Rd	Santara Fortenberry
2/13/06	Greg Maurer	Δ T Δ Rm #107	Greg Maurer
2/13/06	K'burg	Gpt	K'burg
2/13/06	Ashley Dear	218 Zema Ln	Ashley Dear
2/13/06	Ryan Broussard	USM Box 5630	Ryan Broussard
2/13/06	Jennifer Mitchell	118 College Dr.	Jennifer Mitchell
2/13/06	Tracie Patric	118 College Drive Box 9481 Harrisburg	Tracie Patric
2/13/06	LaKeisha Bryant	Box 8153 Harrisburg, PA 17106	LaKeisha Bryant

Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
2/13	Laura Sims	1106-F Howell Rd. Purvis, MS 39475	Laura Sims
2/13	Anna Rineheart	Same as above	Anna Rineheart
2/13	Kayla Jones	557 Helveston Rd Apt 101 H'burg, 39401	Kayla Jones
2/13	Zach Schuur	732 Montemore Lane H'burg 39401	Zach Schuur
2/13	David Kline	71 McSwain Community Richton, MS	David Kline
2/13	Eddie Winters	6190 Floral Dr. Richton, MS	Eddie Winters
2/13	Monica Randle	118 College Dr. #1542 H'burg, MS 39406	Monica Randle
2/13	Jennifer Rosebur	118 College Dr. #6597	Jennifer Rosebur
2/13	LeeAnn Eisenhardt	299 Park Ave. Hattiesburg 7292	LeeAnn Eisenhardt
	Christiana Powers	118 College Drive	Christiana Powers
2/13	Junfen Gu	118 College Drive #4468	Junfen Gu
2/13	DANIELLE HOBBS	118 COLLEGE DRIVE #9222	Danielle Hobbs
2/13	Kimberly Hilton	118 College Dr. #2442	Kimberly Hilton
2/13	Rachel Thompson	118 College Dr. #6983	Rachel Thompson
2/13	Gabriel A. Regan	211 N. 35th Ave. #15 Hattiesburg, MS 39401 P.O. Box 1412 Laurel, MS 39444	Gabriel A. Regan
2/13	Lucas Windham	118 College Dr Box 9081 Hattiesburg, MS 39406	Lucas Windham
2/13	Benodra Burrage	320 N 38th Ave Apt 35 H'burg	Benodra Burrage
2/13	Lorenzo McNulty	6158 Lakewood Circle	Lorenzo McNulty
2/13	Pittman, Omari	118 College drive	Pittman, Omari
2/13	ARDICE COTTER	118 College Drive	ARDICE COTTER
2/13	NICK HART	4 Ocean Apartments 2422 W 4th Street	NICK HART
2/13	Ednali Serratta	4 Ocean Apartments 2422 W 4th Street	Ednali Serratta

Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
2/16	Karen Waldrop	118 College Dr. #7408	Karen Waldrop
2/13	Elijah McSwain	2500 McSwain Loop	Elijah McSwain
2/13	Mark Bell	118 College Dr. #5572	Mark Bell
2/13	Justin Smith	118 College Dr 7745	Justin Smith
2/13	Courtney McClellan	118 college Dr 5529	Courtney McClellan
2/13	Lashcka Dinkins	118 College #591	Lashcka Dinkins
2/13	Rodney Simmons	#5711	Rodney Simmons
2/13	Jeffery P. Walker	2910 W. Evans Loop Apt. 36	Jeffery P. Walker
	Carrie Wymington		Carrie Wymington
2/13	Alegra Brown	17 Park Place Apt #139C	Alegra Brown
2/13	STEVEN TADLOCK	118 COLLEGE DR #945	Steven Tadlock
2/13	Kiet Le	118 college Dr #7659	Kiet Le
2/13	Jimmy Barr	118 college Dr. #6444	Jimmy Barr
2/13	Tyongola Bracey	BOX 15101	Tyongola Bracey
2/13	OLIVIA LAMY	# 8765	Olivia Lamy
2/13	Tekedra Allen	#9592	Tekedra P. Allen
2/13	Sadiquea Garrick	Hittiesburg	Sadiquea Garrick
2/13	Alicia Moffett	Bay Springs	Alicia Moffett
2/13	NICHELE CUPPARIAN	118 college Dr #431	Nichele Cupparian
2/13	Duane Sheari	60490 N Highway 91	Duane Sheari
2/13	Troy Christian		Troy Christian
2/13	Todd Javery		Todd Javery



Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
2/13/06	Jimmy Whetskie	Hattiesburg	<i>Jimmy Whetskie</i>
2/13/06	Tarvarres Williams	Hattiesburg	<i>Tarvarres Williams</i>
2/13/06	John Hurdges	Hattiesburg	<i>John Hurdges</i>
2/13/06	Xavier Gilliam	Hattiesburg	<i>Xavier Gilliam</i>
2/13/06	Learetha Magee	Hattiesburg	<i>Learetha Magee</i>
2/13/06	Alisha Edwards	Florida	<i>Alisha Edwards</i>
2/13/06	Courtney Taylor	Hattiesburg	<i>Courtney Taylor</i>
2/13/06	Ashanti Ishakarah	Hattiesburg	<i>Ashanti Ishakarah</i>
2/13/06	Parrish Wright	Bond	<i>Parrish Wright</i>
2/13/06	Brendan Sewell	Hattiesburg	<i>Brendan Sewell</i>
2/13/06	Miranda Mount	Hattiesburg	<i>Miranda Mount</i>
2/13/06	Frederica Brown	Pine Haven	<i>Frederica Brown</i>
2/13/06	Austin Collins	Hattiesburg	<i>Austin Collins</i>
2/13/06	Preston Harris	Hattiesburg	<i>Preston Harris</i>
2/13/06	Ericck Cain	Hattiesburg	<i>Ericck Cain</i>
2/13/06	Antonio Mince	Jackson	<i>Antonio Mince</i>
2/13/06	Robert Bellard	Hattiesburg	<i>Robert Bellard</i>
2/13/06	Kimberly Smith	Miss Hall	<i>Kimberly Smith</i>
2/13/06	Rashad Smith	Hattiesburg	<i>Rashad Smith</i>
2/13/06	Jermaine Banks	Hattiesburg	<i>Jermaine Banks</i>
2/13/06	Brandon Benson	Hattiesburg	<i>Brandon Benson</i>
2/13/06	Marhitta Brady	Hattiesburg	<i>Marhitta Brady</i>

Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
2/13/06	Sera Charesken	Hattiesburg	Sera Charesken
2/13/06	Jessica Amoregie	Hattiesburg	Jessica Amoregie
2/13/06	Tangee Carter	112 College Dr., Box 4378	Tangee Carter
2-13-06	Phillips Hawley	Hattiesburg	Phillips Hawley
2-13-06	Ashley S. Bender	Hattiesburg	Ashley S. Bender
2-13-06	Brandon Surus	Hattiesburg	Brandon Surus
2/13/06	Christy Del Santo	Long Beach	Christy Del Santo
2-13	Aaron Redd	Hattiesburg	Aaron Redd
2-13	Montarius Knight	Hattiesburg	Montarius Knight
2/13	Dee Dee Fewell	H'burg	Dee Dee Fewell
2/13	Megan Smith	H'burg	Megan Smith
2/13	Marcus Johnson	H'burg	Marcus Johnson
2/13	Robert Orestis	Hattiesburg	Robert Orestis
2/12	Rodney Wells	Hattiesburg	Rodney Wells
2/13	Marquita Jones Marquita Jones	Hattiesburg, MS	Marquita Jones
2/13	Monica Martin	Hattiesburg, MS	Monica Martin
2/13	Crystal Peters	Hattiesburg, MS	Crystal Peters
2/13	Luis Crafton	Hattiesburg, MS	Luis Crafton
2/13	Megan Holmes	Pascagoula, MS	Megan Holmes
2/13	Adrienne Godde	Hattiesburg, MS	Adrienne Godde
	Peay Magee II	Burch	Peay Magee II
2/13	Christina Nichols	H'burg	Christina Nichols

2/22/06 Ladrina Lopez 10 Gov. Barbour

Date	Printed Name	Address	PO Box	Signature
2/22/06	Jazmyr Smith	111 Pinewood Dr		Jazmyr Smith
2/22/06	Lataura Wilson	123 PINEWOOD DR BRANDON MS		Lataura Wilson
2/22/06	Lindsey Kirk	152 PINE TRAIL RD. BRANDON MS 39047		Lindsey Kirk
2/22/06	Vanessa Wilson	2019 O'Bannon		Vanessa Wilson
2/22/06	Anita D. Griffin	118 College Dr. 4225 Hattiesburg, MS 39406		Anita D. Griffin
02-22-06	Ke'Annarantart	4 LAKE WINDY CV JACKSON, MS 39203		Ke'Annarantart
2/22/06	Pamela McGowan	1120 GONIA RD. UTICA, MS 39175		Pamela McGowan
2/22/06	Rosalyn Rayford	416 Hwy 68 SANDY HOOK, MS 39248		Rosalyn Rayford
2/22/06	Katrina Kirby	118 COLLEGE DR #29641 HATTIESBURG		Katrina Kirby
2/22/06	Alexis Turner	118 COLLEGE DR #2048 HATTIESBURG, MS		Alexis Turner
2/22/06	Kristin Chaney	118 COLLEGE DR #9005 HATTIESBURG, MS		Kristin Chaney
2/22/06	Lana Shook	118 COLLEGE DR #4055		Lana Shook
2/22/06	Jessica Peebles	118 COLLEGE DR USM 4455		Jessica Peebles
2/22/06	Robin Botten	118 COLLEGE DR USM 4458		Robin Botten
2/22/06	Tracy Thomas	118 COLLEGE DR USM 9129		Tracy Thomas
2/22/06	Luke Turner	118 COLLEGE DR #5534		Luke Turner
2/22/06	Pauline Love	118 COLLEGE DR #2146		Pauline Love
2/22/06	Katie Miller	118 COLLEGE DR #7516		Katie Miller
2/22/06	Erica Gibson	836 Riverview Dr.		Erica Gibson
2/22/06	Glacia Cook	118 COLLEGE DR #92009		Glacia Cook
2/22/06	JACARIELLE	118 COLLEGE DR #8931		JACARIELLE
2/22/06	Helena Bondreau	118 COLLEGE DR #8910		Helena Bondreau
2-22-06	Lorzo Walker	118 COLLEGE DR #7453		Lorzo Walker
2-22-06	Schkarla Kelly	118 COLLEGE DR #8874		Schkarla Kelly
2.22.06	Morick. Carter	118 COLLEGE DR #7507		Morick. Carter
2/22/06	May Molina	118 COLLEGE DR #7521		May Molina

To Gov. ...

Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
02/17/06	Travis Cooley	604 North 31 <sup>st</sup> Ave B6	Travis Cooley
2/17/06	Chris Gleason	33 Fuller Trail	Chris Gleason
17 Feb 06	Rosalyn Sims	700 Adeline St Apt 7	Rosalyn B. Sims
2/17/06	Kenneth Boley	700 Adeline St Apt 7	Kenneth Boley
2/17/06	Hunter Graybeard	3500 Hardy St. #67	Hunter Graybeard
2-17-06	LYDIA OWENS	306 S 12 <sup>th</sup> Ave	Lydia Owens
2-17-06	Dusty Jones	118 College Drive #703	Dusty Jones
2/17/06	Valerie Hart	1025 Hart Lane MS <sup>(Summit)</sup>	Valerie Hart
2/17/06	Heath Benson	95 Sonny Rd. MS <sup>(Summit)</sup>	Heath Benson
2/20/06	Shannon Stuber	118 College Dr. #4866	Shannon Stuber
2/22/06	Sitaniel Johnson	118 College Dr. #4452	Sitaniel Johnson
2/22/06	Lindsay Deller	" " #4412	Lindsay Deller
2/22/06	Erin Foley	118 College Dr. #5583	Erin Foley
2/22/06	Carmen Pitts	118 College Dr. Box 7548	Carmen Pitts
2/22/06	Natalie Thompson	USM Box 7240	Natalie Thompson
2/22/06	Latrina Hughes	USM Box 8458	Latrina Hughes
2/22/06	Felicia Pittman	118 College Dr. #5400 Hattiesburg, MS 39400	Felicia Pittman
2/22/06	Mistia Moore	118 Hattiesburg #4908	Mistia Moore
2/22/06	Sarah Fleming	118 College Dr. #1600	Sarah Fleming
2/22/06	Sandra C. McLawren	118 College Dr. #5159	Sandra C. McLawren
2/22/06	Denelope M. Johnson	118 College Dr. #9464	Denelope M. Johnson
2/22/06	Ulpanda D. Sabon	" " " #6511	Ulpanda D. Sabon
2/22/06	ASA BRADSHAW	" " " #1305	ASA BRADSHAW
2/22/06	Ashtey Chatlani	118 college Dr. #7744	Ashtey Chatlani
2/22/06	Sharon Barnes	118 college Dr. #8577	Sharon Barnes

We, the undersigned, request Governor Haley Barbour to pardon Clyde Kennard, who was wrongfully convicted of burglary in 1960 as a result of attempting to become the first African American student at The University of Southern Mississippi.

Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
2/14	Anjie Price	anjieprice@ <del>anjieprice</del> hotmail.com	
2/14	Nathan Walker	dancingnancie@myway.com	
2/14	Clyde Grant	Clyde.Grant@usm.edu	
2/14	Justin Sowder	230 Commonwealth Ave	
2/14	Michael White	316 S. 12th Ave	
2/14	Emily Hunter	emily.f.hunter@gmail.com	
2/14	Simon Collins	312 <del>39th Ave Apt 20</del> <del>Simon Collins@usm.edu</del>	
2/14	Geoffrey Hannah	305 Harvest Dr.	
2/14	CHRIS ICEY	Ridgeland, MS 39157 227 Bragg Dr. Monticello, MS 39654	
2/14	Mary Jo McKay	614 Woodbine Lane Hattiesburg 39402	
2/14	Kyle F. Zehner	512 MAMIE ST, HATTIESBURG MS 39401	
2/14	Penny R. White	211 S. 21st Ave; H'burg MS 39402	
2/14	Lalvana Richardson	2817 Hillside Dr. H'burg	
2/14	Kierdi Gibson	118 (Mg 1) Box 8263	
2/14	Tuana Anderson	118 College Drive Box 6388	
2/14	Sam Adams	801 N. 28th Ave #65	
2/14	Kamekia Adams	118 college Dr. Box #6238	
2/14	Margaret Sifuentes	118 College Drive #4704	
2/14	LANE RUSSELL	3501 MORRYSIDE DRIVE	
2/14	Joshua A. Baker	9943 Hwy 493 Bailey MS 39628	
2/14	GEOR TIBBS	118 college Drive, #4455	

Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
2/14/06	Sarah Rayburn	Box 8519 USM	
2/14/06	David Turner	Box 8481	
2/14/06	Madison Moore	9322 Halliedale	
2/14/06	Regina Gray	Box 8524 <sup>MS 89406</sup>	
2/14/06	Karen Cornwell	Box 9561	
02/14/06	Augustus Griffin	3422 West 7th St	
2/14/06	<del>E. J. Clemens</del> John Clemens	USM Box 9293	
2/14/06	Jay Robinson	78 Wisteria Dr.	
2/14/06	<del>Steven Bush</del> Steven Bush	105 Hardwood Ct	
2/14/06	Pashia Muhammad	#8526	
2/14/06	Latorya Smith	#7468	
2/14/06	Latorya Johnson	Box 6072	
2/14/06	Lauren Wozniak	#9066	
2/14/06	Portia Collins	#10931	
2/14/06	Marcus Martin	#8898	
2/14/06	Tamara Bactad	Box 5803	
2/14/06	Melissa Stanford	#8726	
2/14/06	Jessamy South	Box 6572	
2/14/06	Bryan Wesley	#8290	
2/14/06	Barrington Montgomery	#8404	
2/14/06	Ta-Ron Sims	#6741	
2/14/06	Chelsey Smith	#7663	

Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
2-14-06	D'Andre Hughes	5742	D'Andre Hughes
2-14-06	Courtney Gates	5728	Courtney Gates
2-14-06	Arneko Brown	7740	Arneko Brown
2-14-06	Trinity McKinney	414 N. 19th Ave Hattiesburg, MS 39401	Trinity McKinney
2-14-06	Jane Boggett	P.O. Box 18521	Jane Boggett
2-14-06	Maria Williams	370 Juniper	Maria Williams
2-14-06	Beth Giroir	302 Venetian Way	Beth Giroir
2-14-06	Amanda King	212 W Ray Dr	Amanda King
2-14-06	Brian Egwell		Brian Egwell
2-14-06	Mike Davis	406 N. 39th Ave	Mike Davis
2-14-06	Corrie McCre - Weeks	3926 oak hill drive Jackson, ms	Corrie P. McCreWeeks
2/14/06	La'Terrance Simmons	2617 West 7th Street	La'Terrance Simmons
2/14/06	David Johnson	214 N 19th Ave	David Johnson
2/14/06	Anthony Hobbs	49 northtown Dr Apt 302	Anthony Hobbs
2/14/06	Lincoln Coulter	105 Foxglove Ave APT 202	Lincoln Coulter
2/14/06	Mouya Mahamou	3409 N. 4th St	Mouya Mahamou
2/14/06	Kellie Bishop	3954 Monroe rd	Kellie Bishop
02/14/06	Cassidy A. Dittus	1406 W 5th St. H'burg	Cassidy A. Dittus
02/14/06	Morgan Little	4205 W 1st Ave Magee	Morgan Little
2/14/06	Wayne Garrick	119 Huntington Dr	Wayne Garrick
2-14-06	Sonjee McKay	Usm box 9155	Sonjee McKay
2/14/06	Rekeshia Carter	118 College Dr. #16092	Rekeshia Carter

Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
02-14-06	Amber Hampton	USM #8513	Amber Hampton
2/14	Zolanda Stewart	Box 6437	Zolanda Stewart
♥ 2/14/06	EVAN COFFEY	7965	Evan Coffey
2/14	Marcus Rivas	8191	Marcus Rivas
2-14	Josh Wagner	9226	Josh Wagner
2/14	Joy Jade	8443	Joy Jade
2/14	Michelle Canithers	USM #7057	Michelle Canithers
2/14	Scott Corey	<del>9226</del>	Scott Corey
2/14	Ray Saunders		Ray Saunders
2/14	Miriam James	USM 8830	Miriam James
2/14	Melvin Foster	# 6073	Melvin Foster
2/14	Crystal Butler	USM #8405	Crystal Butler
2/14	Taylor Cannon	USM # 2791	Taylor Cannon
2/14	Asia Shumpert	USM #4336	Asia Shumpert
2/14	Roianna Davis	USM #4080	Roianna Davis
2/14	Janetra Dotson	USM #4304	Janetra Dotson
2/14	Joseph Van Trahan II	216 Westover Dr.	Joseph Van Trahan II
2/14	Jonathan L. O'Rourke	USM #6538	Jonathan L. O'Rourke
2/14	Lestie Lawrence	USM #4047	Lestie Lawrence
2/14	Patrick Darby	USM #4958	Patrick Darby
2/14	Christian Sweat	Box 8618	Christian Sweat
2/14	Preston Hervey	Box 4057	Preston Hervey



Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
2/14	April Jackson	118 College Dr #7222	April Jackson
2/14	Crystal Scretwings	118 College Dr #5827	<del>Crystal Scretwings</del>
2/14	Andrea Bradley	118 College Dr #9089	<del>Andrea Bradley</del>
2/14	Kurt B	#922 118 College Dr	<del>Kurt B</del>
2/14	Kelley Mutual	118 College Dr 5555	<del>Kelley Mutual</del>
2/14	Beth Williamson	118 College Dr. 9256	Beth Williamson
2/14	Edward Wozzly	118 College Dr. 6003	Edward Wozzly
2/14	<del>Joshua B</del>	118 College Dr. 6050	<del>Joshua B</del>
2/14	Shenika Ivy	520 N. 38th Ave #11	Shenika Ivy
2/14	Janel Ward	3670	Janel Ward
"	BETTY PRESS	AAT	Betty Press
2/14	Karin Smith	118 College Dr #6577	Karin Smith
2/14	Arcenio Cooke	P.O. Box 5971	Arcenio Cooke
2/14	Tremayne Dickens	No. Box 5843	Tremayne Dickens
2/14	Derrick Willis	P.O. Box 7333	Derrick Willis
2/14	Seth Hester	415 S. 31 St	Seth Hester
2/14	Brant Rathe	118 College Drive #347	<del>Brant Rathe</del>
2/14	<del>Jan Jackson</del>	118 College Dr. 6478	<del>Jan Jackson</del>
2/14	Nadirah Owens <sup>Sabit</sup>	p.o. box 5213	Nadirah Owens
2/14	Alice Walker	Box 5220	Alice Walker
2/14	Michelle McCall	P.O. Box 155	Michelle McCall
2/14	Rosalind Richards	PO Box 7849	Rosalind Richards

Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
2/14/06	Samantha White	Box #8759	Samantha White
2/14/06	Joshua Cable	Box # 8126	Joshua Cable
2/14/06	Bradley Willis	128 Brookwood Ln.	Bradley Willis
2/14/06	LaShonda Collins	29 Parkview #109	LaShonda Collins
2/14/06	Lyndsey Valera	Box #7350	Lyndsey Valera
2/14/06	Talitha Mack	Box # 9335	Talitha Mack
2/14/06	Shantell Jenkins	Box #5757	Shantell Jenkins
2/14/06	Char-mel	Box #4329	Char-mel Brown
2/14/06	Denise Dickerson	Box # 6606	Denise Dickerson
2/14/06	Zaronda Watson	Box # 6140	Zaronda Watson
2/14/06	Omika Creed		Omika Creed
2/14/06	Antwan Martin	125 City Park	Antwan Martin
2/14/06	Charles L. Sims Jr	Box #7009	Charles L. Sims Jr.
2/14/06	Demetrius Jordan	Box # 9598	Demetrius Jordan
2/14/06	Mabulle Olivier	# 8279	Mabulle Olivier
2/14/06	Amy Calderera	109 Doleac Drive Apt. 721	Amy Calderera
2/14/06	Lashana Sorrell	1013 Dewey St	Lashana Sorrell
2/14/06	Arlichia Richardson	6264 US Highway 49 Apt. A 102 Hattiesburg, MS 39401	Arlichia Richardson
2/14/06	Ty Ford	PO Box #5366	Ty Ford
2/14/06	Chad Hutcherson	136 C N. Windridge	Chad Hutcherson
2/14/06	Courtney McCoy	Box 6087	Courtney McCoy
2/14/06	Kacey Morgan	105 Doleac Dr. 214	Kacey Morgan

Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
2/14/06	Mallorie Davis	USM Box #5476	Mallorie Davis
2/14/06	Shawanya Hartson	USM Box #7984	Shawanya Hartson
2/14/06	Terrance Tarcod		
2/14/06	Robert Hargrave	203 N. 40th Apt. 16	Robert L. Hargrave
2/14/06	Sophia Robinson	USM Box #9428	Sophia Robinson
2/14/06	Keisha Y. Hatheer	USM Box #8837	Keisha Y. Hatheer
2/14/06	Jasmine Bradley	USM Box 7884	Jasmine Bradley
2/14/06	Brittany Jones	USM BOX 6228	Brittany Jones
2/14/06	Samuel Zeanah	USM Box #6829	Samuel Zeanah
2/14/06	Jama Lewis	USM Box #9107	Jama Lewis
2/14/06	Bertha Grates	USM Box #7230	Bertha Grates
2/14/06	Jelina Callahan		Jelina Callahan
2/14/06	Keisha Johnson		Keisha Johnson
2/14/06	Kristi Young	#9432	Kristi Young
2/14/06	Bridget Ragan	#9143	Bridget Ragan
2/14/06	M. Nor	6490 Hwy 49 N Apt 76 Hwy 39401	M. Nor
2/14/06	Ayana Hudson	23 6717 COURSE RD. Apt #21	Ayana Hudson
2/14/06	Chris Johnson	USM P.O. Box 10733	Chris Johnson
2/14/06	Brent Burge	USM P.O. Box 4429	Brent Burge
2/14/06	Lavell Washington	USM P.O. Box 6357	Lavell Washington
2/14/06	Thurston Wright	USM PO Box 7059	Thurston Wright
2/14/06	Robert Johnson	10001	Robert Johnson

We, the undersigned, request Governor Haley Barbour to pardon Clyde Kennard, who was wrongfully convicted of burglary in 1960 as a result of attempting to become the first African American student at The University of Southern Mississippi.

Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
2/15	JABART MAPP	P.O. Box 483	<i>Jabart Mapp</i>
2/15	John Williams	PO Box 2101 N'burg	<i>John Williams</i>
2/15	Alexis Roby	P.O. Box 453 Brooksville, MS 39729	<i>Alexis Roby</i>
2/15	Stephanie Paige	18 College Dr. #5705 H'burg, MS	<i>Stephanie Paige</i>
2/15	Dwanna Brown	118 college dr #7145	<i>Dwanna Brown</i>
2/15	Marlon Adair	118 college Dr. # 8072	<i>Marlon Adair</i>
2/15	La'Tasha Sumner	118 college Dr. # 8889	<i>La'Tasha Sumner</i>
2/15	Larry Miller	118 college Dr. # 7968	<i>Larry Miller</i>
2/15	Katrina Reed	118 College Dr. #5552 Hattiesburg, MS 39406 3500 Hardy St. Apt. 16 H'burg, MS 39402	<i>Katrina Reed</i>
2/15	Richard Johnson	H'burg, MS 39402	<i>Richard Johnson</i>
2/15	Joycelyn Walker	118 College Dr. #4281	<i>Joycelyn Walker</i>
2/15	Courtney Craft	118 College Dr. #8081	<i>Courtney Craft</i>
2/15	O. Kate Norris	302 Carter Rd / H'burg	<i>O. Kate Norris</i>
2-15	Kevin D. Roark	118 College Dr # 5466	<i>Kevin D. Roark</i>
2/15	Dandrea Walker	114 Plantation Pl Dr Apt 12	<i>Dandrea Walker</i>
2/15	Veronica Smith	118 college Dr 5558 Hattiesburg MS	<i>Veronica Smith</i>
2/15	Joyce Sartin	4447 Helveston Rd Apt 108	<i>Joyce Sartin</i>
2/15	Sophia Benn	4499 Hwy 29 Richton MS 39416	<i>Sophia Benn</i>
2-15	Ashkege Brooks	118 College Dr # 9577 MS 39402	<i>Ashkege Brooks</i>
2/15	Takymmea Clayton	118 College Drive #8637	<i>Takymmea Clayton</i>
2/15	Gennifer Hicks	118 College dr.	<i>Gennifer Hicks</i>

Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
2/15	W. Lloyd Luncford	201 San Barbara Dr Harrisburg, MS 39402	W. Lloyd Luncford
2/15	LAZARUS TAYLOR	105 DOLEAL DR.	Lazarus Taylor
2/15	Dia Kelly	118 College Pr. 9393	Dia Kelly
2/15	Kashonya Hennis	116 Holly Drive	Kashonya Hennis
2/15	Angela Agnelly	1801 Hwy. 11 South Lot 76 #4154	Angela Agnelly
2/15	Melissa Fowler	118 College Dr.	Melissa Fowler
2/15	Roderick Edwards	2410 McTennis Loop, Apt #117	Roderick Edwards
2/15	Rachel McDowell	#7050	Rachel McDowell
2/15	Eric Kittrell	#7778	Eric Kittrell
2/15	Laketha Williams	#8349	Laketha Williams
2/15	Victoria Darrings	#5778	Victoria Darrings
2/15	Brandon Austin	#7321	Brandon Austin
2/15	Chloe Hall	#5611	Chloe Hall
2/15	Jeremy Bennett	#7092	Jeremy Bennett
2/15	Gerald Baptiste Jr	#546883	Gerald Baptiste Jr
2/15	Ashley Horn	#6534	Ashley Horn
2/15	Timothy Dixon	#8459	Timothy Dixon
2/15	Latoya Weatherly Latoya Weatherly	119 Magnolia Drive Apt 93	Latoya Weatherly
2/15	Bruce Tupper	304 Williams St.	Bruce Tupper
2/15	MARK MILLER	304 NAVAJO VIA PRCS 506	Mark Miller
2/15	Robert Cater	2406 O'Form St.	Robert Cater
02/15	Fallon A. Flowers	USM Bx 3580	Fallon A. Flowers

Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
2/15	Tomara Harrison	118 College Dr	
2/15	Camellia Thompson	118 College Dr	
2/15	Daniel Dussler	# 7363	Daniel Dussler
2/15	Kristen Panter	318 N 36th Ave	Kristen Panter
2/15	Colby Jones	149 Kirkley's Rd	
2/15	Cedric Martin	377 N. 25th Ave.	Cedric Martin
2/15	Ruth Finkelsen	801 N. 28th Ave	Ruth Finkelsen
2/15	Edward Pearce	118 College Dr	
2/15	Chris Coleman	13 Essie McGill Dr.	Chris Coleman
2/15	Phillip Carter	37 Larry Tucker Rd	Phillip Carter
2/15	Crescen Hughes	118 College Dr <sup>Box</sup> 6550	Crescen Hughes
2/15	Ben Funches	167 Reece Powell Rd <sup>Wagon</sup>	Ben Funches
2/15	Jason Williams	3202 Paul St <sup>Appt</sup> <del>W. H. H. H.</del>	Jason Williams
2/15	Randi Shamp	118 College Dr.	Randi Shamp
2/15	Whitney Morris	#5722 ↑	Whitney Morris
2/15	Jamal Clinchy	Clinton	Jamal Clinchy
2/15	Maressa Huff	24 Swanandean #1	Maressa Huff
2/15	Evette Taylor	118 College Dr <sup>#5510</sup>	Evette Taylor
2/15	Troy Durr	112 Rose Ln <sup>Maple</sup> <del>2009</del>	Troy Durr
2/15	Alisa Corley	118 College Dr	Alisa Corley
2/15	Ronald Woods	118 College Dr	Ronald Woods
2/15	Ron Robert	118 College Dr	Ron Robert

# Pardon - Barbour

We, the undersigned, request Governor Haley Barbour to pardon Clyde Kennard, who was wrongfully convicted of burglary in 1960 as a result of attempting to become the first African American student at The University of Southern Mississippi.

Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
2-17-2006	Eyler Coates	9112 Barnacke, Ocean Springs	Eyler Coates
2/17/2006	Donald G. Redafo	226 Lant Village, Diamondhead	Donald G. Redafo
2/17/06	Lanene R. Moad	914 S. 34 <sup>th</sup> Ave H'burg	Lanene R. Moad
2/17/06	Antonio Rodriguez-B	3403 Morningstar H'burg	Antonio Rodriguez-B
2/17/06	Gail Russell	133 E. Lakeside Dr., H'burg	Gail Russell
2/17/06	Aime Davis	107 Sun Circle Petal, MS	Aime Davis
2-17-06	<del>JANICE P. THOMPSON</del> Janice J. Thompson	102 So. 34 Ave. B H'burg, MS	Janice J. Thompson
2/17/06	Paula J. Smithka	1073 Lake Estates Dr., H'burg	Paula J. Smithka
2/17/06	Cheryl Goggin	402 Mandalay Dr, H'burg	Cheryl Goggin
2/17/06	Wendy Bounds	22. Fleur de Lis Blvd. Hattiesburg	Wendy Bounds
2-17-06	Teralynn Hestell	305 7 <sup>th</sup> Ave Hattiesburg	Teralynn Hestell
2-17-06	Stephen Judd (STEPHEN JUDD)	714 CAMP ST., HATTIESBURG, MS	Stephen Judd
2-17-06	RANDY BUCHAFAN	6008 HWY 90W #294 HATTIESBURG MS	Randy Buchafan
2-17-06	ALLISA BECK	319 LYNWOOD CIRCLE, LONG BEACH	Allisa Beck
2/17/06	BARTON SPENCER	101 JEFF DAVIS CIRCLE, HATTIESBURG	Barton Spencer
2/17/06	Jeffrey Evans	112 Briarcliff Dr. Hattiesburg	Jeffrey Evans
2/17/06	David McRaney	704 Southeast Circle-39402	David McRaney
2/17/06	Steven Levin	105 Daleac Dr #1024 Hattiesburg	Steven Levin
2/17/06	William W. Powell	12 Cane Cove H'burg, 39402	William W. Powell
2/17/06	Myron Harry	77 St. Andrews, H'burg 39401	Myron Harry
2/17/06	Bonnie Harbaugh	19 Hillsdale Rd Petal, MS 39465	Bonnie Harbaugh

# Petition to exonerate Clyde Kennard

* Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
21 Feb 06	Tommy Adams	Box 10066 Hb	Tommy Adams
	Otojareri Andrew	Box 4229 Hburg	Andrew Otojareri
	Jessie Pigott	1855 HWY 550 NW	Jessie Pigott
	Samantha Boutwell	630 Lakewood Dr. NE Brookhaven, MS 39601	Samantha Boutwell
	James Wood	3422 Hardy St.	James Wood
21 Feb 06	Richard Franks	Box 8380 Hburg Hall	Richard Franks
20 Feb 06	Alex Crosby	2167 SCRT Tomball, TX 77375	Alex Crosby
	Matt Shaded	29188 # 9095	Matt Shaded
	Brian Guidez	# 8013	Brian Guidez
	Henry Preswood	6265 US 49	Henry Preswood
	Linda Martin	USM BOX 6391	Linda Martin
	Katie Christiansen	USM BOX 4475	Katie Christiansen
	Taylor Bama	9557	Taylor Bama
	Ear Labraize	4546 (USM)	Ear Labraize
	Kiyomoto Banks	8548 (USM)	Kiyomoto Banks
	KHANDEWAL KEERTI	39401 USM	Kirti Khandewal
	Jeremy Anderson	5373 USM	Jeremy Anderson
	<del>Harriet Tanzone</del>	1215 W. Capital Jackson, MS 39203	Harriet Tanzone
	Lindsey Shaffelt	P.O. Box 17656 Petal, MS 39465	Lindsey Shaffelt
	Gwen Bugg	P.O. Box 234	Gwendolyn H. Bugg
	Eric Shelton	101 Westward Rd. Ward, MS	Eric Shelton
	Candace Nath	200 Foxgate Ave APT. 16	Candace Nath
	Kayo Fukuda	100N. 22ND AVE #15 Hattiesburg, MS 39401	Kayo Fukuda



# Petition to exonerate Clyde Kennard

Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
2-22-06	ROBERT LOU	30 CINCINNATI	[Signature]
2/2/06	Sarah Fayard	21 Penny Rd.	Sarah Fayard
2/2/06	Hayley Bryant	1 Mandeville	Hayley Bryant
2/21/06	Benjamin J. Bryan	110 Howard Dr., H'burg	[Signature]
2/21/06	RYAN JETT	105 Dolead Dr	[Signature]
2/21/06	Corey Cotton	109 Pine Knoll Dr	[Signature]
2/21/06	Herman Wilson	344 Pine Ridge Rd	Herman Wilson
2/21/06	Kimberly Lyles	423 512 <sup>th</sup> Ave	Kimberly Lyles
2/21/06	Tracena Cole	118 College Dr. #8192	[Signature]
2/21/06	Alma Malore	3125 Spudwick rd	Alma Malore
21 Feb 06	Matthew Mock	<del>102</del> P.O. Box 548	Matthew F. Mock
21 Feb 06	Raylawni Branch	853 N. Main St	Raylawni Branch
21 Feb 06	Kallie Shaffett	429-Dubet Road	Kallie Shaffett
2/21/06	Lisa Carpenter	73 Franklin Pl.	Lisa Carpenter
2/21	Adam Rasmussen	Adam Rasmussen #18 College Dr #9016	[Signature]
2/21	Mamie Beckum	520 West 7 <sup>th</sup> St	Mamie Beckum
2/21	SUSAN PERKINS	714 Hood Road	SUSAN PERKINS
2/21	Laticia Miups	3200 Central Ave tower rd	Laticia Miups
2/21	Alyssa (McKoy)	118 College Dr. 7509	Alyssa (McKoy)
2/21	Linda Braine	218 N. 21, Hwy	Linda Braine
2/21	Linda VanZandt	2805 Jefferson Dr.	Linda VanZandt
2/21	Coke Ash	115 Court St. 18 <sup>th</sup> St. H'burg, MS 38901	Coke Ash
2-21	Stephanie Millif	819 East Laurel Ave. H'burg, MS 38901	Stephanie Millif

# Petition to Governor Barbour

Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
2/16	PAUL SAPURO	6755 Milne Rd	<i>Paul Sapuro</i>
2/16	Mary Villeponteaux	903 Corinne St H'burg	<i>Mary Villeponteaux</i>
2/16	Lana P Rogers	#136 B 12 Parkwest Apt	<i>Lana P. Rogers</i>
2/16	Kenneth Thomas Jr	633 M.L. King Dr. PO Box 6025	<i>Kenneth Thomas Jr</i>
2/16	Sabrina Chess	118 College Dr	<i>Sabrina Chess</i>
2/17	Tawanda Barker	118 College Dr. Box #10450	<i>Tawanda N. Barker</i>
2/16	Daniel James Goodman	210 S. 31st Ave. 39401	<i>Daniel James Goodman</i>
2/16	Kelly Noms	300 Foxglove Ave Apt 111 Hattiesburg, MS	<i>Kelly Noms</i>
2/16	Meredith Todd	Hattiesburg, MS	<i>Meredith Todd</i>
2/16	Sam Lake	H'burg, MS	<i>Sam Lake</i>
2/16	Kim Walker	1904 Evergreen H'burg	<i>Kim Walker</i>
2/16	Susan Mallon Ross	402 Sycamore Buy St Louis MS	<i>Susan Mallon Ross</i>
2/16	Alex Cooley	118 College Dr.	<i>Alex Cooley</i>
2/16	Joanne Barrett	108 Sherwood Dr	<i>Joanne Barrett</i>
	Jamison Roark	116 N. 32nd Ave. Apt. 116	<i>Jamison Roark</i>
2/16	Matt Tatum	3500 Hardy Street	<i>Matt Tatum</i>
2/16	RASHAD BATES	118 COLLEGE DR.	<i>Rashad Bates</i>
2/16	JAMES BLAIR	763 N 314 Ave	<i>James Blair</i>
2/16	Cashennia Mitchell	118 College Drive	<i>Cashennia P. Mitchell</i>
2/16	Shalonda Sillman	5874 Selmah Rd Lumberton, MS 39455	<i>Shalonda Sillman</i>
2/16	Tiniqua Miller	78 Wisteria Dr Apt 54 PO Box 474 39401	<i>Tiniqua Miller</i>
2/16	Lindsey Osterman	Nicholson, MS 39465	<i>Lindsey Osterman</i>

Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
2/13	Lisa Foster	404 Walnut Dr. <sup>Rehol 39605</sup>	<i>Lisa Foster</i>
2/13	Eddie Johnson Jr.	3225 W. 4th St	<i>Eddie Johnson Jr.</i>
13 FEB	Amarna Sigler	118 College Dr #6530	<i>Amarna Sigler</i>
2/13	<del>Jennifer Patters</del>	<del>118 College Dr #7897</del>	<del><i>Jennifer Patters</i></del>
13 Feb	James Rothery	201 N 34 <sup>th</sup> Ave 118 College Drive Box 2878	<i>James Rothery</i>
13 Feb	Erin Vaughn	118 College Drive Box 2878	<i>Erin Vaughn</i>
2/13	Jonathan Smith	118 College Drive Box 2872	<i>Jonathan Smith</i>
2/13	Greg O'Brien	27 Crestwick Cir 700 Texas Street	<i>Ward CB</i>
2/13	Adrienne Preston	Sumrall, MS 39482	<i>Adrienne Preston</i>
2/13	<del>Eugene O. Hoem</del>	USA Box 6189	<i>Eugene O. Hoem</i>
2/13	<del>Shaw Hoem</del>	711 Adelina St Hills, MS	<i>Shaw Hoem</i>
2/13	<del>Megan Trotter</del>	118 College Dr.	<i>Megan Trotter</i>
2/13	J. Ashley Case	118 College Dr	<i>J. Ashley Case</i>









Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
2/13	Coiya Williams	500 Lamar Ave	Coiya W
2/13	Brandon Nabors	118 College Dr. Box 7275	Brandon Nabors
2/13	Lashena Hayes	118 College Dr. #5798	Lashena Hayes
2/13	Kenata Morgan	105 Ddmc Dr. Hattiesburg MS 5139 W. 24th St	Kenata Morgan
2/13	Jennifer Barrett	14011 2920 Flora St	Jennifer Barrett
2/13	Keirmaris Champion	Jackson, MS 809 Barwood Dr.	Keirmaris Champion
2/13	Cory J. Poe	Jackson, MS	Cory J. Poe
2/13	Lauren Payne	218 Westover Dr.	Lauren Payne
2/13	Ashley Martin	2706 Sunset Dr.	Ashley Martin
2/13	Tiffany Lezama	321 Davis Ave Pass Christian, MS	Tiffany Lezama
2/13	Maketa Dozier	1253 Lyess Bridge Rd. Waynesboro MS 3917	Maketa Dozier
2/13	Jameika Blakely	118 College Dr. 5491 Hattiesburg, MS 39406	Jameika Blakely
2/13	Emily Gadilke	118 College Dr. 8058 Hattiesburg, MS 39406	Emily Gadilke
2/13	Tyler Quinn	3317 Wistful Ln Hattiesburg, MS	Tyler Quinn
2/13	Nicole Petty	118 College Dr #8301 Hattiesburg, MS 39406	Nicole Petty
2/13	Will Ratchiff	118 College Dr #4983 Hattiesburg	Will Ratchiff
2/13	Christine Singletor	118 College Dr #4534 Hattiesburg	Christine Singletor
2/13	Suesanna Williams	118 College Dr #1892 Hattiesburg	Suesanna Williams
2/13	Cassy Medecine	Hattiesburg	Cassy Medecine







Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
2/15	Chauncey Webster	118 College Dr	Chauncey Webster
2/15	Veronica Shetton	118 College Dr #5163	Veronica Shetton
2/15	Tiffany Baddy	118 College Dr.	Tiffany Baddy
2/15	Kandell Cefenne	118 College Ave	Kandell Cefenne
2/15	Brodric Hall	785 East Kingston St	Brodric Hall
2/15	Latricia Taylor	118 College 6813	Latricia Taylor
2/15	Jacob Morgan	20228 Hayes Rd	Jacob Morgan
2/15	Tatesha Robinson	105 Duke Dr.	Tatesha Robinson
2/15	Jerry Bourne	6490 US Hwy 49 North	Jerry Bourne
2/15	Chaquan Atkins	118 Hattisburg	Chaquan Atkins
2/15	Joh'netta Palmer	118 College Dr.	Joh'netta Palmer
2/15	Dipali Patel	118 College Dr	Dipali Patel
2/15	Nicole Twilbeck	118 College Dr.	Nicole Twilbeck
2/15	Hannah Sells	118 College Dr	Hannah Sells
2/15	Shadler Manning	P.O. box 7792 Pitt. Ms. 39406	Shadler Manning



Date	Printed Name	Address	Signature
2-15-06	Brandon Hill		Brandon Hill
2-15-06	Don Lockhart		Don Lockhart
2-15-06	Glenca Hickey		Glenca Hickey
2-15-06	Quentin Green		Quentin M. Green
2-15-06	Cleveland Wells		Cleveland Wells
2-15-06	Channing Robertson		Channing Robertson
2-15-06	Brederrick Coleman		Brederrick Coleman
2-15-06	Robert Pollard		Robert Pollard
2-15-06	CAREY J Mays		Carey J Mays
2-15-06	Devin's M. Sully		Devin M. Sully
2-15-06	Cashanta Horton		Cashanta Horton
2-15-06	Erika Anderson		Erika Anderson
2-15-06	Artisa Felder		Artisa Felder
2/15/06	Jazmya Gray	9531 118 College	Jazmya Gray
2/15/06	Rachel Jordan	9132 118 College	Rachel Jordan
2/15/06	Lacharles Green	8091 - 118 College Dr.	Lacharles Green
2/15/06	Robert Hough		Robert Hough
2/15/06	Dominick R. San	205678 118 College Dr	Dominick R. San
2-15-06	Demetra Bates	3137 Barnett Rd Summit MS	Demetra Bates
2-15-06	SHEENA BRANTON	5747 118 College Dr.	Sheena Branton
2-15-06	Monika Hogan		Monika Hogan
2/15/06	Shannon Davis		Shannon Davis



Date

Printed Name

Address

Signature

2/15

Adrienne Mullins  
29 Park Pl. Apt. 801  
Hattiesburg

Adrienne Mullins

2/15

Melissa Freyler #7318

Melissa Freyler

2/15

Vincent Fabra #6303

Vincent Fabra

3/7

COURTNEY LEWIS #10191

Courtney Lewis

# EXHIBIT K



Customer Service | Su

Clarionledger.com / Weather / Jobs / Cars / Real Estate / Apartments / Shopping / Classifieds



# Opinion

 clar  
The Cl

Local News / Nation / World / Sports / Business / Entertainment / Features / Opinion / Obitu

ADVERTISEMENT

April 1, 2006

## Kennard: A measure of justice in tragic case

It's far too little and it's certainly far too late. But it was a good first step.

The family of Clyde Kennard was given a small measure of justice by the Mississippi Legislature and by Gov. Haley Barbour as the 2006 regular session drew to a close this week.

The Mississippi Senate on Thursday passed a resolution honoring Kennard's legacy and his role in the Mississippi civil rights movement. In the House, where a similar resolution had already passed, lawmakers on Thursday circulated a petition that supports the legal exoneration of Kennard.

Barbour issued a proclamation on Thursday declaring March 31 as "Clyde Kennard Day" in Mississippi, a proclamation that read in part: "There is . . . compelling evidence that Clyde Kennard was not guilty of the crime for which he was convicted; and if he were living, would be entitled to have his rights restored, and, were he still living (Kennard's) rights would have been restored during this Administration."

Kennard first tried to enroll at then-segregated Mississippi Southern College in 1956, but was repeatedly denied.

Kennard attempted to enroll at USM after serving four years in the Army. He was immediately arrested on reckless driving and possession of whiskey charges. Those charges were later thrown out by the Mississippi Supreme Court, but he was in 1959 convicted of purchasing chicken feed he allegedly knew to be stolen.

A year into his seven-year prison sentence, he was diagnosed with intestinal cancer. Then-Gov. Ross Barnett, in recognition of Kennard's illness, gave him an early release in 1963. Kennard later died in 1963 in Chicago on his way to emergency surgery.

Clarion-Ledger investigative reporter Jerry Mitchell reported in 2005 that Johnny Lee Roberts, the key witness against Kennard in his 1960 burglary conviction, confirmed that Kennard was not involved in the burglary upon which the conviction was based.

Clyde Kennard's tragic death - directly related to his attempts to integrate a public university in Mississippi - is a disgrace. Resolutions and proclamations don't erase the stain of Kennard's death, but these recent gestures of honor prove that he ultimately did not die in vain.

He changed this state for the better.

ADVERTISEMENT

Miss a day. Miss a lot.

Welcome to Hattiesburg American - Hattiesburg, Miss.

Customer Service

[hattiesburgamerican.com](#) [Weather](#) [Jobs](#) [Cars](#) [Real Estate](#) [Apartments](#) [Shopping](#) [Classifieds](#)



7 days  Archive [STORYS](#)

[Home](#)

[News](#)

[Local News](#)

[Sports](#)

[Southern Miss](#)

[Obituaries](#)

[Nation/World](#)

[Opinion](#)

[Moms on the Run](#)

[Our Kids](#)

[Photo Galleries](#)

[Forums](#)

[Weather](#)

[Travel](#)

[Technology](#)

[Entertainment](#)

[Communities](#)

[Customer Service](#)



ADVERTISEMENT



ADVERTISEMENT

ADVERTISEMENT

## Time has come to exonerate innocent man

The state Parole Board may soon have an opportunity to accomplish what other Mississippians have long demanded: Pardon Clyde Kennard.

By next week the board is expected to receive a petition sponsored by a coalition of individuals and organizations. The name of the petitioner is not yet known.

These sponsors, who are fighting a long battle, have the opportunity to testify on Kennard's behalf.

If the parole board is persuaded by their testimony of his innocence, it may recommend that Kennard receive a pardon based on actual innocence.

Based on the evidence we've seen, it's time to exonerate this man.

Kennard, an African-American, was attempting to enroll at the University of Mississippi Southern College - in 1956 - when he was subsequently convicted on a trumped-up charge of murder in 1963 after serving three years of a penitentiary at Parchman.

The time has come to formally exonerate this man.

Originally published April 8, 2006

Print this article Email this article

ADVERTISEMENT

**TOP JOBS** POWERED BY careerbuilder  
@hattiesburgamerican.com

---

Now Hiring Office Assistant/Delivery Personnel  
Now Hiring Office Assistant/ Delivery Pe...

---

**Drivers**  
AAA Cooper Transport

---

**Fleet Technician**  
Butler International

---

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**  
Pine Belt Mental

---

All Top Jobs [About Top Jobs](#)



Contact Us | Subscribe | Place an ad  
Copyright ©2006 Hattiesburg American.  
All rights reserved.  
Users of this site agree to the  
Terms of Service and Privacy Policy  
(Terms updated 7/20/05)





Published: March 19, 2006 10:51 pm



## Would-be trailblazer should be pardoned

U.S. Rep. Chip Pickering, R-Miss., has joined the chorus of voices calling for belated justice in the case of Clyde Kennard, whose efforts to integrate the University of Southern Mississippi resulted in his false imprisonment.

The case for a posthumous pardon of Kennard, who died of cancer in 1963, is "clear-cut," according to Pickering. The congressman is right, and we commend his willingness to speak out. Now, if only Gov. Haley Barbour will listen.

Kennard, after refusing to abandon his quest to become the first black student at USM, was railroaded by a corrupt Mississippi power structure and sent to Parchman for a crime he didn't commit. Johnny Roberts, the man on whose testimony Kennard's conviction was entirely based, now admits that he lied when he told a jury that Kennard put him up to stealing \$25 in chicken feed.

Kennard, a decorated Korean War veteran, spent his last years on this earth picking cotton on a Delta prison farm — clearly the victim of a morally bankrupt judicial system that was a willing participant in the state's effort to preserve segregation at all costs. That same judicial system — which, like the rest of Mississippi, has been much enlightened over the past four decades — now has a chance to right a wrong.

"He was an innocent man, wrongly convicted," Pickering said of Kennard.

Under the state Constitution, pardon powers rest solely with the governor, whose staff has said he has no plans to exonerate Kennard. Barbour's proposed alternative — to recognize Kennard's family in some way — is insufficient.

Nothing short of a full pardon will clear Kennard's name and correct a gross miscarriage of justice.



- [Click to discuss this story with other readers on our forums.](#)

### Resources

- Print this story
- E-mail this story
- Discuss this story

### More from the Editorials section

[Take a break from tuition hikes](#)

[It's time to fill the information vacuum](#)

[Adoption incentive](#)

[Inaction marks legislative session](#)

[Enough crawfishing on juvenile center](#)

## Clarion-Ledger

Estimated printed pages: 2

February 26, 2006

**Section:** Local

**Page:** 1B

**Column:**Stringfellow Eric

**Eric Stringfellow**  
*Staff*

Justice must finally be served in Miss. by clearing Clyde Kennard's name

Clyde Kennard, a young man who tried to integrate Mississippi Southern College, now known as the University of Southern Mississippi, has been dead for nearly 43 years. His burglary conviction for alleged involvement in the theft of some chicken feed goes all the way back to 1960.

Why are Kennard and his criminal record still making headlines more than four decades later?

Because Mississippi still hasn't figured out an easy way to correct what was a blatant miscarriage of justice, a fraud designed to keep Mississippi Southern's student body lily white.

The state's star witness has changed his story, saying Kennard had no role in the crime.

But that hasn't been enough to move the state Supreme Court or Gov. Haley Barbour.

The high court last week declined to overturn Kennard's conviction, largely on procedural grounds.

And Barbour's office said the governor has no plans to pardon Kennard, who served with distinction in the Korean War.

It's time to move on.

Governor should step in

Kennard's bogus conviction was largely because of Johnny Lee Roberts' testimony. Roberts, then 19, testified that Kennard, 33, put him up to breaking into the Forrest County Co-op to steal \$25 in feed. Roberts, in sworn statements, now says that Kennard never asked him to steal or do anything illegal.

The easiest way to put this behind us lies with Barbour. If anyone was ever worthy of a pardon, it is Kennard.

Barbour, unfortunately, doesn't seem to be interested in justice - at least in Kennard's case.

It was former Hinds County Chancery Judge Chet Dillard who filed the motion to vacate Kennard's conviction. Dillard said he plans to appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court, which would likely be a waste of time.

Mississippi's high court, in an 8-0 ruling, said Dillard lacked standing, based his motion on civil instead of criminal rules and that post conviction relief applies only to prisoners currently in jail.

Heed Smith's direction

There was, however, some encouraging language in the Supreme Court's order, signed by Chief Justice Jim Smith.

"Finally, the court finds that although there may be alternative remedies available, the law affords no relief through the instant motion," said the order dated Feb. 17. "Accordingly, the court finds that this motion is not properly before this court, and that the motion should therefore be dismissed."

There may be alternative remedies available? This motion is not properly before this court?

Reading between the lines, it sounds as if the court may be interested in considering an appeal in the Kennard case, as long as it is the appropriate motion and it gets to justices in the proper manner.

This should be an invitation to everyone remotely interested in clearing Kennard's name, justice in general or Mississippi's reputation.

It would be nice and simple if Barbour just did the right thing by Kennard and his family.

But since that seems unlikely, let's heed Smith's direction from the court.

To contact metro columnist Eric Stringfellow, call (601) 961-7236 or e-mail [estringfellow@clarionledger.com](mailto:estringfellow@clarionledger.com).

---

Copyright (c) The Clarion-Ledger. All rights reserved. Reproduced with the permission of Gannett Co., Inc. by NewsBank, inc.