

James Meredith



Image from <https://www.biography.com/activists/james-meredith>

James Meredith led the 1966 "March Against Fear" in Mississippi. During the march, Meredith was shot and killed on June 7th.

The "March Against Fear" was created to encourage African Americans to vote.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

and beyond the Negro community. One day last week a group of Mississippians joined the line of march carrying a sign reading "Moderates also need freedom from fear".

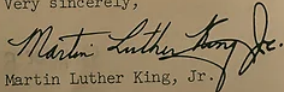
Unfortunately, this emergency found SCLC unprepared financially and organizationally. Our forces are widely deployed in major cities in Chicago, Georgia and Alabama. We decided to sacrifice for these vitally important activities and yet to meet our obligations in Mississippi.

We urgently need funds to carry on our nonviolent resistance on these far-flung fronts. I am certain I need not assure you that our appeal for financial aid is not an end in itself. Every dollar is used to sustain the vital struggle for democracy in the South of our nation where its light only flickers.

I trust that people of good will, Negro and white, will want to be part of this noble effort and ask that you act today when the need is most powerfully pressing.

With my warmest appreciation for all expressions of support I am,

Very sincerely,


Martin Luther King, Jr.

Please make check payable to SCLC.

language

Voice

MLK approaches Russell in a very professional tone. There is not an element of indignity in MLK's writing for he is forward yet approachable and kind.

Argument

MLK is urging Russell to write a check to the SCLC to aid in the ongoing, positive effects of the "March Against Fear."

Georgia Senator Richard B. Russell to address the need for emergency funding for the "March Against Fear" following Meredith's murder.

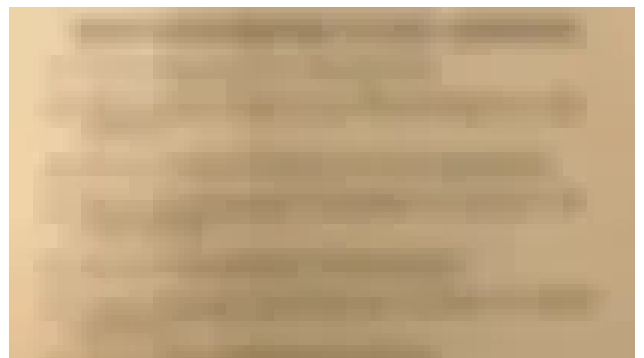


Image from
<https://www.senate.gov/artandhistory/history/common/image/Russell-Richard-ga.htm>

The Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) is dedicated to "helping the American Negro attain first class citizenship by NON-VIOLENT direct action and education."

MLK did not want to lose sight of freedom movements occurring in other states and

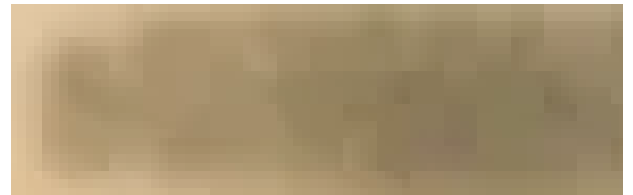
Goals of the SCLC



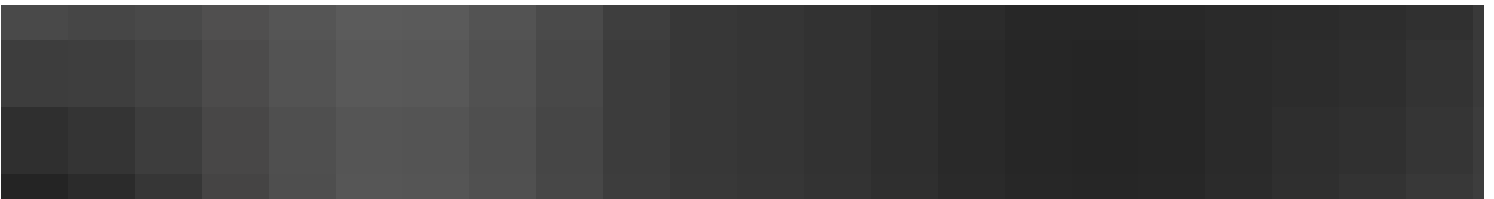
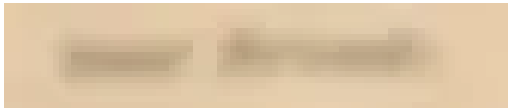
money to complete the "March Against Fear."

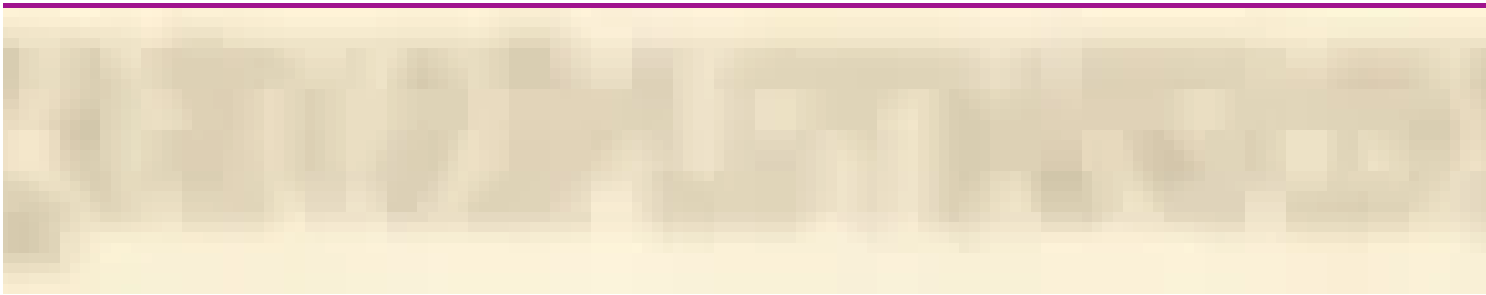


It is ironic that MLK is asking Senator Russell for money because he was never known to be a pro-civil rights. MLK even addressed the letter to Russell as "Friend."



Russell's response to a civilian addressing equality for African Americans. His "morals" did not support the "March Against Fear."





The Result:

Meredith's valiant efforts in the "March Against Fear" proved to be successful. Many African Americans registered to vote.

"March Against Fear" route from
<https://mississippitoday.org/2023/06/26/on-this-day-in-1966-meredith-march-ends-at-mississippi-capitol/>