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The White House
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THE PRESIDENT

THE WHITE HOUSE

DEAR MR PRESIDENT I SHUDDER TO THINK WHAT OUR NATION HAS BECOME
WHEN SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN AND THEIR TEACHERS ARE KILLED IN
CHURCH BY RACIST BOMBS. THE SAVAGE BOMBING OF THE 16TH STREET
BAPTIST CHURCH THIS MORNING IS ANOTHER CLEAR INDICATION OF
THE MORAL DEGENERATION OF THE STATE OF ALABAMA AND GOVERNOR
GEORGE WALLACE. MR PRESIDENT YOU MUST CALL FOR LEGISLATION

RECORDED
SEP 23 1963
GENERAL FILES

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-Page OFFER

EMPOWERING THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TO ENTER CASES WHERE ANY CIVIL RIGHTS VIOLATION OCCURS THE LIVES OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN ARE FAR MORE PRECIOUS THAN THE OFFENSE CREATED BY THE ELIMINATION OF OUTMODED CUSTOMS AND TRADITIONS. IN A FEW HOURS I WILL BE GOING TO BIRMINGHAM. I WILL SINCERELY PLEAD WITH MY PEOPLE TO REMAIN NON VIOLENT IN THE FACE OF THIS TERRIBLE PROVOCATION HOWEVER I AM CONVINCED THAT UNLESS SOME STEPS ARE TAKEN BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO RESTORE A SENSE OF CONFIDENCE IN THE PROTECTION OF LIFE, LIMB AND PROPERTY MY PLEAS SHALL FALL ON DEAF EARS AND WE SHALL SEE THE WORST RACIAL HOLOCAUST THIS

NATION HAS EVER SEEN AFTER TODAY'S TRAGEDY, INVESTIGATION WILL NOT SUFFICE. THE NATION AND BIRMINGHAM NEEDS YOUR COMMITMENT TO USE EVERYTHING WITHIN YOUR CONSTITUTIONAL POWER TO ENFORCE THE DESEGREGATION ORDERS OF THE COURTS

DR MARTIN LUTHER KING JR PRES SOUTHERN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE.