July 3, 1972

Dear Dolores,

This is to inform you that due to personal commitments, I will be unable to attend the Democratic Convention in Florida, as an alternate delegate. I would very strongly urge that Mr. Richard Gibbs be appointed in my place. Dick has been a very strong McGovern supporter all through the primary campaigns, and has given a tremendous amount of energy, time and money. I would be very grateful if you would give him very serious consideration for the spot.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

LEONARD NIMOY

CC: Assemblyman Willy Brown
    Assemblyman John Burton
    Mr. Richard Gibbs
Mr. Bill Chandler  
715 S. Beach Street  
Ft. Worth, Texas  76105

Dear Mr. Chandler:

You were so very kind to write about my son Teddy.  

Mrs. Kennedy and I are deeply touched by the thoughtfulness of so many people who have shared their experiences with us, and offered advice for Teddy. Your words of inspiration have given us all courage and hope, and for this, we are most grateful.

With our appreciation and best wishes for the Holiday Season,

Sincerely,

Edward M. Kennedy
Mr. Cesar E. Chavez, Director  
P. O. Box 460  
Delano, California 93215

January 30, 1968

Dear Mr. Chavez:

Thank you for your letter requesting my assistance with your doctor's military problem.

I can sympathize with your concern for your doctor. However, I hope you can understand that it is necessary that a serviceman himself initiate application for whatever action he desires through regular channels. I suggest that he discuss this situation with his commanding officer.

If he decides to submit an application, he should send a copy of it to my office so that I can express my interest in his case to the appropriate military authorities.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Robert F. Kennedy
June 29, 1966

Mr. Larry Itliong  
AWOC Strike Chairman  
Delano, California  

Dear Mr. Itliong:

Thank you for your telegram of June 28, with respect to the situation in Delano. You can be sure that I will continue to take an active interest in this matter, particularly in light of the charges that you and others have recently made.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

Robert F. Kennedy
January 14, 1971

Dear Mr. Chandler:

I have enclosed a copy of a letter announcing my candidacy for the Democratic Presidential nomination. I am mailing it to a large number of friends and potential supporters around the country, and would appreciate having your thoughts and comments.

With every good wish,

George McGovern

Mr. Bill Chandler
UFWOC
2103 Chicago
McAllen, Texas 78501
October 29, 1965

Mr. Larry Alliong
P. O. Box 475, De Lano
California, U.S.A.

Dear Friend & Compatriot:

Through Dr. Leonilo Malabed, in the name of the MARCOS-LOPEZ CLUB in America, please accept my profoundest personal gratitude and that of my family's for your kind and tangible expression of solicitude and concern for the cause I am now championing for our country and our people. Little as you think such proffer of help may seem, I wish to assure you that it will go a long way towards bringing into full fruition the dreams and hopes of our outraged and neglected people who clamor for a brighter and a more realistic tomorrow.

I cannot express more than in the expediency of language how thankful I am to you and to your family for this generosity, but with God's help, I hope that I will be given the opportunity to express in more tangible ways the gratitude of my family and myself for all these things you have done for me and our people in the days to come.

Again, my sincerest thanks and may God bless you and your family always.

/Mabuhay ken mabiag!
/Ferdinand E. Marcos

S. F. No. 7
April 27, 1977

Mr. Cesar Chavez
United Farmworkers of America
AFL-CIO
P.O. Box 62
Keene, California 93531

Dear Cesar:

In June, construction will begin on the Kennedy Library in Boston. The Museum will attract over one million visitors a year. In assembling its exhibits, we are trying to do the best we can to portray the lives and times of President Kennedy and Robert Kennedy in a vivid and meaningful manner.

A suitable portion of the exhibits will be devoted to my brother Bob. His role in President Kennedy's early life, political career and Administration will be shown, as well as some of his work as Attorney General. In addition, we plan to have a separate exhibit area devoted to his career after 1963. Our purpose here will be to try to present his own unique qualities, as well as his commitment to the ideals he shared with his brother. We want people who were too young to remember Bob, as well as people of future generations, to understand the kind of man he was and what he meant to the country.

To do this properly, we need more than what is available in the current holdings of the Library. The official government documents are there, but the more informal and personal material is not. We are especially lacking the kind of three-dimensional objects that make an exhibit come alive for the visitor. For this reason, we are conducting a search for material which might be either given or loaned to the Library by people such as yourself, who knew him and worked with him.

The last time I spoke to Ethel about it, she asked if I might write to see if you could help with some things that might reveal Bob's character and concerns. We are looking for items which suggest his commitment and seriousness, his high personal standards, his candidness and informality, his loyalty and compassion, as well as his accomplishments.

It is not absolutely necessary that the material tie in to a particular exhibit. Its most important function will be to personalize Bob for the visitor, and make the experience of visiting the Library more intimate. The items could include such things as biographical items from any point in Bob's life, momentos or
souvenirs of a particular event -- a trip, a speech, a sport activity; letters, notes and cards exchanged, gifts received, material related to issues and objects that reflect Bob's personal interests and activities and strong family commitment. Any photographs or film sequences which you might have would be of great value. They could be copied and the originals returned to you.

I know that the most outstanding objects for exhibit purposes are often the very ones which have the most personal meaning. And I know how much you treasure the sorts of things I have described. So let me repeat that it would be perfectly possible to loan something, for whatever period of time you choose, with the understanding that it would be returned as you stipulate. Appropriate acknowledgement will be made in the exhibit to those whose items are selected for use.

So I would very much appreciate it if you could reflect on what objects you might have, and let me know of any that could be considered for exhibition. And whether you can help us in this way or not, I hope you will consider the Kennedy Library to be an institution in which you will have a continuing and very personal interest.

Yours truly,
Mr. Cesar Chavez  
Box 62  
Keene, California 93531

Dear Cesar,

I appreciate your letting me know of your concern about the increased bombing raids in Indochina.

All of us pray that peace can be retrieved. Yet it is difficult to read about the unprecedented new bombing and all night raids without a deep and despairing sense that it marks a return to the war of old.

Without question, if the war goes on, if the current tragic stalemate in the negotiations continues on into 1973, then many Senators, including myself, will intensify our efforts to end the war through legislation in the new Congress. The dashed hopes of recent weeks will give new strength to our resolve. I am confident now, as never before, that if the President and Dr. Kissinger cannot end America's role in the war themselves, then Congress will end it for them. One way or another, we must be out of Vietnam in early 1973. And when we undertake this battle, we do not expect to be alone.

Again, many thanks for your recent letter and my best wishes for happiness and success in the New Year.

Sincerely,

Edward M. Kennedy
To Cesar Chavez

Thank you for your letter of January 29, 1977, regarding the housing problems facing farmworkers. As you point out, the need for decent housing is a critical area that concerns us all.

I am informed by Secretary Marshall that the Department of Labor operates several programs through their farmworker program funded under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) of 1973. Specifically, a $2.1 million housing assistance program is funded through the Rural Housing Alliance (RHA) and its 30 subgrantees in every major agricultural State to impact on Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) financing. In addition the Department of Labor has funded other farm housing projects in California and Florida.

I briefly point out this activity to identify a few of the current positive efforts to address the farmworker housing problem. However, I share your concerns that "much remains to be done."

Recognizing that farmworkers require special attention because of their employment problems, I have proposed several new initiatives in my economic stimulus message to the Congress. These include residential training for migrant and seasonal farmworkers, training programs coordinated with rural economic development activities, rehabilitation of farm labor housing camps, and publicly assisted home rehabilitation
and weatherization projects. These proposals are currently before the Congress which I hope will act favorably and provide additional appropriations for farmworker programs. These new initiatives will be coupled with the existing $63.2 million farmworker program which funds grantees in 49 States and Puerto Rico to conduct employment and training activities and supportive services for eligible farmworkers.

Any program to impact on housing problems will require a coordinated approach by the Executive Branch including leadership roles by the Departments of Housing and Urban Development and Agriculture. I can assure that the new administration intends to work through all relevant agencies in a combined effort to improve the living conditions of farmworkers. I hope we can work together to reach these goals. If you have specific suggestions I urge you to communicate them to my policy advisor Stu Eizenstat.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Mr. Cesar E. Chavez
President
United Farm Workers of America
La Paz, Keene, California 93531
March 21, 1973

Mr. Cesar Chavez
Box 130
Delano, California

Dear Cesar:

It was good to talk with you the other day. We are moving along with plans for our Fourth Annual Meeting of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center in Boston, April 6-7. As you can see from the schedule which is enclosed, we have listed you as one of our evening speakers, even though I realize that you are not yet certain whether you will be able to be present. If you cannot come, we will be disappointed but will understand and will appreciate your sending a representative to bring the word about what is happening in your movement.

We are not expecting any of the evening speakers to give a major presentation. Rather, we are asking that they limit their remarks to about five minutes. As you can see from the announcement, our theme for this year's sessions is COALITION STRATEGIES FOR NONVIOLENT SOCIAL CHANGE - "Resisting the Storm Together." We need to hear from you, and I hope very much that it will be possible for you to arrange to come.

I look forward to seeing you in Boston. Please let us know when you or your representative will be arriving at the Parker House Hotel so that we may reserve accommodations for you. If there are any questions, please contact me or call Mrs. Bennett in my office: Area 404, 522-2350.

With warm personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Martin Luther King, Jr.

P. S. We are praying for a miracle, but if it doesn't happen, we look forward to hearing from whoever is next best.
January 19, 1972

Mr. Cesar Chavez
Box 130
Delano, California 93215

Dear Mr. Chavez:

A few weeks ago, an article, "The Working Class Majority", was in the enclosed "Nation". The article received unusually favorable notices, including one from the "Washington Report" of the United Auto Workers, which described it as excellent and quoted from it. I am particularly pleased because the article was written by a member of the staff of the Martin Luther King Memorial Center and, as one of the Council members of the Institute for Nonviolent Social Change (an element of the Center) I thought you would be interested in knowing of it and if you have the time, I hope you will read it in the enclosed issue.

New York publishers, Coward-McCann, have asked the author, Andrew Levison, to enlarge the thesis into a book, and "Nation" has asked him to extend it into a series.

I hope you have been well, and that we may meet soon on the matters we are mutually trying to solve.

With warmest personal regards,

Very sincerely,

Mrs. Martin Luther King, Jr.

CSK:b
Encl. - 1
February 10, 1972

Dear Mr. Chavez:

Thank you for your letter of February 4.

Yes, Vivian is right, I do plan to visit you during the latter part of this month.

At this writing, I am unable to give you my exact plans, however, I do think that I will be able to tour your educational facilities, and maybe meet the staff. I would appreciate your having someone on your staff give me the approximate driving time between Bakersfield and Keene. I will be out of my office for the next week, however when I return, I will have my special assistant, Mrs. Bernita Bennette, contact your office to finalize the plans for my visit.

I will be accompanied by Andy Young, whom you know; Dr. Robert Green, a member of the Board of Directors of the King Center, also a member of the Institute for Nonviolent Social Change; Tom Porter, who has recently come on our staff to serve as co-director of the Institute for Nonviolent Social Change; Andy Levison, a staff member of the Institute, and my special assistant.

I am very pleased to know that you are feeling better, but I regret that you have not been able to travel as much as you would have liked because of your back.

The members of my party and I are looking forward to a very rewarding visit with you and your staff at La Paz.

With warmest personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Martin Luther King, Jr.
December 23, 1970

Dear Mr. Chandler:

It was good to see you last week after the Appreciation Dinner for Senator Yarborough. I appreciate the effort you made to participate in what became a rather late meeting.

I hope you will consider seriously some of the things we discussed at the meeting, and that we will have the opportunity to work together in the future.

I would appreciate any thoughts and advice you might have on the course I am about to begin in the next few weeks.

Let us keep in touch.

With warm regards,

George McGovern

Bill Chandler
UFWOC
2103 Chicago
McAllen, Texas 78501
Dear Mr. Chavez:

I have been following with great concern the legal struggle you are having with the National Labor Relations Board and the growers, and I have been trying to think of ways the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Social Change might help.

One possibly vital contribution the Center can offer comes from Mr. Harry Wachtel, Vice President of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Social Change and our legal counsel. He is willing to offer the services of his major law firm, Wachtel and Rubin, without cost to provide any legal services you may need. I think whatever legal counsel you now have will find the free services of this firm immensely valuable in your current struggle.

As background, I must say that this is a unique firm. While it is a major corporate law firm which represents national and international conglomerates, it has been trustworthy and dedicated to the movement, always offering its services in an unselfish and principled basis. When Martin and the leadership of SCLC were sued for millions of dollars by southern segregationists, it was Mr. Wachtel and his colleagues who carried on a two year fight which ultimately led to a Supreme Court decision in our favor. The case wiped out the judgements and established a landmark decision in libel law, protecting citizens when they challenge public officials.

I might add that Mr. Wachtel, in addition to being Vice President of the Center, is a close personal friend and has handled my husband's estate; which should indicate the faith I have in his integrity. It pleases me that through the Martin Luther King Center for Social Change his assistance can be offered to you.

I have also been trying to think of other ways in which we in the Center might be of help. I believe that mass action as well as legal steps might be effective. I would like to share an idea with you for your consideration. I think that national attention could be focused on the issue if a convoy of farmworkers were to set out from California, meeting with blacks from

April 27, 1972
April 27, 1972

Florida on the east coast and moving on to Washington to demonstrate before the Department of Justice. I would be happy to connect up with a contingent from Florida and go to Washington to protest this injustice against farmworkers. All the available resources of the Center would be given to this operation to insure its success. My staff at the Center would be happy to discuss and explore these possibilities with your staff. I hope these thoughts are of use to you in your struggle and I hope you will contact me if there is anything else I can do.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Martin Luther King, Jr.

CSK/dpf

P.S. The Center also has extensive mailing lists and a highly professional operation for direct mailing. Black churches, community groups across the country and hundreds of local unions who have shown their willingness to make contributions to progress can all be reached. If a mailing of several thousand letters could play a part in your tactics at any stage, we would be happy to make them available and handle all the mechanics of the operation, again, free of charge.

Mr. Cesar Chavez, Director
United Farm Workers
P.O. Box 130
Delano, California 93215
Ms. Susan Drake  
United Farm Workers, AFL-CIO  
P. O. Box 62  
Keene, California 93531

Dear Ms. Drake:

Thank you for your kind letter of January 29, 1973

I am sending a copy of the official litany, "LET MY PEOPLE GO," to Rev. Hartmire, Director of the National Farm Workers Ministry in Los Angeles, as you requested.

It is certainly gratifying to know that the film, "King: Montgomery to Memphis...A Filmed Record," is being put to such good use by your office at La Paz. The film's educational value (which you noted in its impressions on the young) serves as a useful and rewarding tool for us all in our mutual struggle toward human dignity, peace and justice for all humanity.

I have enclosed some recent publications from the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Social Change as well as some additional litanies for your office.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Martin Luther King, Jr.

CSK/sb

enclosures

cc: Rev. Wayne "Chris" Hartmire
Dear Friend:

If you travel America's highways and roads at harvest time -- whether it be California or Maine, Florida or Oregon -- you'll see thousands of sub-teen migrant children working in the broiling sun. They are performing backbreaking adult work at a time when they should be in school. Ironically, Congress has appropriated money to provide these children with the education which we take for granted for our own children.

The sad fact is that some 300,000 youngsters in migrant families are deprived of the normal opportunities for physical, emotional and intellectual development because not enough of their fellow Americans seem to care.

Many of these children go to bed each night exhausted by long hours of muscular work in excessive heat. Their undernourished bodies are wracked with pain from crouching, bending or staying in one position for hours, when they should be running and playing in the sun, or attending school to learn to read and write.

The reasons for these abuses are numerous, varied and -- in this enlightened day and age -- inexcusable.

The one organization with a positive program to right these wrongs is the National Committee on the Education of Migrant Children -- an outgrowth of the 60-year-old National Child Labor Committee, which has been responsible for getting most of this century's child labor legislation on the books.

I am writing to urge you to support their work -- for their knowledge of the problem, and its possible solution, is probably greater than that of anybody in the field. They know where enforcement of migrant education laws need strengthening, and how to train teachers to improve the quality of education migrant children get. They are frequently called upon by public school officials to serve as consultants in setting up migrant education programs. Just as important, they know what educational and moral pressures to bring to bear on individuals, communities and state educational systems to see that the lot of migrant children is improved.

Your contribution will be used directly for these ends and is, of course, tax-deductible. Won't you mail it in today?

Sincerely,

Anthony Quinn

P.S. A copy of Wednesday's Children, the Committee's 132-page summary of the findings of a year-long field study of the problem of migrant children, will be sent free to all contributors of $25 or more.
Mr. Larry Itllong  
Assistant Director  
United Farm Workers Organizing Committee of the AFL-CIO  
Post Office Box 130  
Delano, California 93215  

Dear Mr. Itllong:

Enclosed please find your personal invitation to the Congressional Black Caucus Dinner. Because of your unique leadership role we are asking you to assist us in promoting a national non-partisan effort to support and strengthen our national political leadership. Strong leadership in the national political arena will not only enhance the progress of your own goals and those of your community but also will provide much needed representation to minorities and disadvantaged people throughout the nation.

In addition to your own contribution, won't you take a moment to interest others in our cause? This may be done by bringing additional people and contributions in your party through the enclosed RSVP card or enclosing the names and addresses of additional contributors whom you wish to receive invitations at the time you return your RSVP card.

Your assistance is greatly appreciated by the members of Congressional Black Caucus Dinner Committee and the member congressmen. They stand for us, dare we not stand for them.

Sincerely,

Bill Cosby  
Henry G. Parks  
Averill Harriman  
Flaxie Pinkett  

They Stand for Us — Dare We Not Stand for Them
March 25, 1977

Mr. Cesar Chavez
c/o United Farm Workers
Organization Committee
AFL-CIO
102 Albany Street
Delano, California 93215

Dear Mr. Chavez:

The New York Council of the United Negro College Fund is a fund raising arm of UNCF made up of a cross section of business and professional citizens in the New York area. We have a great concern for the goals and programs of UNCF and have spent 11 years raising money to support higher education.

This year, the New York Council is celebrating its 11th Annual Ball by honoring 11 UNCF graduates in the New York area. These heralded 11 are Andrew Young, Judge Oliver Sutton, Ralph Ellison, Betty Allen, Isaiah Robinson, Jr., Wade McRee, Nikki Giovanni, Percy Sutton, Dr. Hobart Jarrett, Dr. June Butts, and James H. Murray, III. They will be honored at the 11th Annual Ball at the Plaza Hotel, Saturday, June 4, 1977. The evening also includes dinner, drinks and dancing.

We are Co-Chairpersons for this event. Our purpose in writing you is to ask if you would join us and many of our friends on the Honorary Ball Committee. Joining, we promise, will not entail any onerous duties. We will note however that your name will appear on the invitations, as one who does not mind being listed as a friend of the New York Council and a supporter of the United Negro College Fund.

Please fill out the enclosed self-addressed card and return it to us at your earliest convenience. We thank you for your consideration and hope that you will agree with us that "A Mind Is A Terrible Thing To Waste."

Sincerely yours,

Eli Wallach

Anne Jackson

EW/AJ:1r
Enclosure
February 22, 1977

Mr. Cesar Chavez
President
United Farm Workers of America
P. O. Box 62
Keene, California 93531

Dear Cesar:

I would like to express to you my sincere thanks and appreciation for your efforts in making the Annual Program of 1977, planned around Martin's 48th birthday celebration, a great success.

The Annual January Program is now history. This Program, the Inaugural activities during the following week and the subsequent confirmation and swearing-in of Andrew Young (my husband's colleague and King Center Board Member) as our Ambassador to the United Nations gave pause for grateful reflection as we took full cognizance of the great strides that have been made since Montgomery, 1955.

We are, however, equally cognizant that there is still much unfinished work and we enlist your continued support of our endeavors and our Programs as we hasten the day that men will live together as brothers and use their creative capacities to overcome the evils that prevent us from improving our quality of life.

Again, my profound gratitude for your participation as an Honorary Co-chairperson for the January Program.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Martin Luther King, Jr.

CSK/bk
League for Industrial Democracy
68th Annual Award Luncheon
IN HONOR OF
Frederick O'Neal

May 16, 1973

Mr. Cesar Chavez, President
United Farm Workers Union
P. O. Box 130
Delano, California 93215

Dear President Chavez:

The League for Industrial Democracy has chosen as the recipient of its 68th Annual Award Frederick O'Neal, a man who has devoted his life to the trade union movement and the cause of racial justice and who represents the very best in the tradition of American liberalism.

As the President of the Associated Actors and Artists of America, Vice President of the AFL-CIO and Chairman of its Civil Rights Committee, Frederick O'Neal has been a forceful spokesman for the struggles of working people and minority groups. His involvement has been as broad as it has been deep. Cultural, educational, and civic organizations, in addition to the labor and civil rights movement, have benefited from his diverse talents and dedicated leadership. He is a distinguished actor and, as everyone who knows him will gladly attest, he is also a wonderful person.

We are writing to invite you to pay tribute to Mr. O'Neal at the LID 68th Annual Award Luncheon. The Award will be presented by Albert Shanker, President, United Federation of Teachers, on Thursday, June 28th at the Essex House in New York City.

A Souvenir Journal will be published and distributed to all luncheon guests. We hope you will want to take an ad in the Journal as your tribute to Mr. O'Neal and also to purchase tickets to the luncheon.

We look forward to your participation in this event. A Journal form and ticket reservation form are enclosed. Please return them to us at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely and fraternally,
Award Committee Co-chairmen

Matthew Guinan
A. Philip Randolph
Louis Stulberg

opelu 153
encl.

112 East 19th Street / New York, New York 10003 / (212) 475-5224