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Goek Full o' Nuts

REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.

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New York 17, N. Y.

May 11, 1960
John
Jackie Robinson

Home
Cascadia Road
Stanford, Conn.

The Honorable Richard Nixon
Vice President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Nixon:

Thank you very much for having me to lunch Tuesday. I was honored to have the opportunity to talk with you, Mr. Rogers and Secretary Mitchell. I have for a long time respected Secretary Mitchell and meeting Mr. Rogers was a real pleasure.

I came away with the feeling what Mr. Rogers had to say went far beyond politics, and I was among three gentlemen whom I felt were sincere and could be trusted. As things stand today, I heartily endorse your candidacy and hope you understand my being so outspoken. It sometimes gets me into difficulty, but at least I walk away knowing my position is clear.

I mentioned also the attitude some people have toward you. While I don't think it is a difficult thing to overcome, I feel you must not hesitate in making your own position as clear to others as it was made to me. There is no question in my mind that you have grown as much as any man in public life and have all the necessary qualifications for leadership. Still, people wonder what control you will have over Dirksen and Halleck and how you can erase the image left by Eisenhower as far as Civil Rights is concerned.

If you wait much longer, it will be hard to convince people that your interest isn't motivated by politics. You must come up with things you did prior to 1955. Go back as far as possible because I am certain Kennedy has sent to others, as he did to me, your record prior to 1950. I, too, need answers to negative questions people constantly put to me. Believe me, it's most difficult to answer people who seem to have documentary evidence of what you said or did. When you withhold positive things, an image isn't easy to erase, but it can be done if you display a warmth or as much sincerity as you can regarding the Negroes status. Laws, as you said, are fine, but the moral issues will do the trick.