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TUFTS UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

DEPARTMENT OF  
PREVENTIVE MEDICINE

25 BENNET STREET  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02111

July 28, 1967

Mr. Frank A. Tredinnick, Jr.  
Vice President for Development  
Tufts University  
Medford, Massachusetts 02155

Dear Sandy:

Just a brief note to say thank you for the various letters of correspondence relating to Mr. Bernard Chill, whose wife is Governor Johnson's secretary. As you may have heard, things are getting tough both in Mississippi and for Mississippi. That is, the State is under enormous pressure and very much on the defensive because of the senate hearings and other publicity about the problems of hunger, starvation, and medical care; on the other hand, Governor Johnson has issued a formal statement and filed it up with an additional speech or two claiming that the entire hunger and starvation issue was raised as a conspiracy because he had "blocked the establishment of the Health Center by Tufts Medical School" by forcing changes in the Mound Bayou Community Hospital Grants and by refusing to sign the necessary papers to give corporate authority to Tufts to function in Mississippi. We had already anticipated that he would not sign a not for profit corporation charter and that of course is why we invented the Tufts Delta Health Center Trust. I think the Governor decided that this was a conspiracy engineered by Tufts (a) for political purposes and (b) because Dr. Archie Gray, his state health commissioner and our old enemy, was questioned about the Tufts Health Center Project during the senate hearings and came off very badly. All of this is of no enormous consequence to us, in the since that if they give us any trouble we can command instant senate hearings to focus attention on it and ask why. If it should ever turn out that Mr. Mugar is heading south, or that Mr. Chill and his wife are coming north, it might be useful to see if I could get together with Mr. Mugar first at least for briefing purposes.

Meanwhile, we certainly have nothing to lose and everything to gain by the existence of this contact with Mr. Chills, and I appreciate your keeping me informed about it.

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It now looks as if the Health Center will be built and opened by November 1, along with somewhere between 14 and 21 houses for faculty and staff that will be ready by September 1 to October 1-- the result of what is without doubt the most complexed real estate deal that has ever been invented by the mind of man! It ends up with me, among others, taking a 30 year mortgage and building my own house in Mississippi, which is just where I always wanted to own real estate! At any rate, I will have a house to offer you hospitality in when you come down to Mound Bayou in November for the opening ceremony of the Health Center!

Sincerely,



H. Jack Geiger, M.D.  
Professor of Preventive Medicine

HJG/dsr