

Ans July 15

1815 Sherry Court
Falls Church, Va.

2 July 57

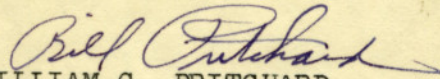
Mr. Buster Bell
Huntsville, Alabama

Dear Mr. Bell:

It was a pleasure indeed to be afforded the opportunity to meet the warm and gracious people of the Huntsville area who rallied so spontaneously and effectively to the aid of my esteemed friend, Colonel John C. Nickerson, Jr. To me, it was an inspiring and memorable experience to hear your brilliant summation of the defense for John's cause. May this great land of ours continue to produce men who have the courage to "stand up and be counted."

Enclosed is a check from the Pritchards that I should like to prevail upon you to administer in the following manner of priority; (a) to be applied to any deduction in pay which might be imposed, and (b) if a deduction is not approved, to be applied to the expenses incident to the defense of my friend.

Sincerely,



WILLIAM C. PRITCHARD
COLONEL USA

July 15, 1957

Colonel William C. Pritchard
1815 Cherry Court
Falls Church, Virginia

Dear Colonel:

I have your letter of 2 July 1957 with the check attached and wish to sincerely thank you for both. I would have acknowledged this earlier except, I believe as I stated in your presence on the Saturday night of the Nickerson sentence, that I was leaving the following morning for two weeks' summer field training at Fort McClellan.

It is the type of friends such as you who sustained John Nickerson and his family during the many trying weeks prior to the trial and during the trial itself. I have turned the check over to Colonel Nickerson, and I know he is deeply appreciative of your generosity and kindness.

It was a genuine pleasure to get to know you and many of John's other fine and loyal friends, and I sincerely hope an opportunity will present itself for us to see more of each other.

Thanking you again and for your kind remarks with reference to my humble contributions to John's defense, I am

Always sincerely yours,

Robert K. Bell

RKB:mfl

CC: Colonel John C. Nickerson