

The White House office is wherever the President may happen to be. To rush back to Washington every time an incident of a serious character arose would be a confession that a change of scenery is truly a "vacation" for the President and is not merely a change of his working locale. This is untrue. I have never been away from Washington when the important problems did not follow me and the necessity for making the decisions remain with me.

Another portion of my thinking involves the idea that I do not want to exaggerate the significance of the admittedly serious situation in Arkansas. I do not want to give a picture of a Cabinet in constant session, of fretting and worrying about the actions of a misguided governor who, in my opinion, has been motivated entirely by what he believes to be political advantage in a particular locality.

The Federal government has ample resources with which to cope with this kind of thing. The great need is to act calmly, deliberately, and giving every offender opportunity to cease his defiance of Federal law and to peaceably obey the proper orders of the Federal court. In this way the actions of the Executive in enforcing the law -- even if it becomes necessary to employ considerable force -- are understood by all, and the individuals who have offended are not falsely transformed into martyrs.

On the other hand, for a number of reasons I wish I were back there. My work would be a lot easier to do.

D. D. E.

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