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To: William R. Anderson

John Allen Chalk

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February 18, 1971

The Honorable William R. Anderson
Member of Congress from Tennessee
House Office Building
Washington D. C.

Dear Congressman Anderson:

I was born and reared in Lexington, Tennessee, married a Springfield, Tennessee girl, and later preached for almost seven years for the Broad Street Church of Christ in Cookeville, Tennessee. I, therefore, was extremely proud to read recently of your remarks concerning the Berrigans.

I realize in a very superficial way the complexity of the charges now being made against them, but at the same time feel strongly that an impending totalitarianism by an elite group in our society is taking shape. Your courageous willingness to speak to this situation is one of the few examples of mature statesmanship to come out of Washington in recent years.

I can appreciate, in a small way, the criticism you must be receiving. I have many friends in the state of Tennessee, some of whom are in your congressional district. I can assure you that I will be saying and doing all that is humanly possible to insure that you remain in Congress. May God richly bless your continued honest effort to be the responsible human being in these irresponsible days. The course that you are attempting to steer between both the right and left extremes is a difficult one, as you have already discovered.

I want to be of any help I can and I want you to know of my deepest admiration.

Your brother,

John Allen Chalk

JAC:lc