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Chock Full o' Nuts

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New York 17, N. Y.

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Reply by
January 29, 1960
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The Honorable Richard Nixon
The Vice President of the United States
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Nixon:

Thank you for your letter of the 16th. It was nice of you to write regarding my column. I am certain you know what a favorable column on Richard Nixon does in the New York Post. I haven't had so much mail since I left baseball.

Mr. Nixon, I have been and am making a pretty thorough investigation on what individual candidate probably would do regarding civil rights. I feel confident of the personal position you would take but am very concerned about the Republican party itself. The question of why only thirty Republicans in the House of Representatives signed a discharge petition to bring a civil rights bill out of the Rules Committee and to the floor compared to 146 Democrats has many people wondering. My critics keep reminding me that you have pledged to continue the Eisenhower administrative policy. They ask, does this include his civil rights policy too? I am reminded that this means patience. Whenever the President is asked about civil rights, he asks the Negro to be patient. We have been the most patient of any group and cannot afford another four years of waiting. All over the world freedom is the cry of oppressed people. How long can one expect the American Negro to be patient?

If one really believes the principles of our democracy and in our constitution, a strong statement can only better qualify him for the position of leadership. It is true as you said back in , I believe, 1953, "Every act of discrimination is like handing a gun to the Communists. Advocating patience or remaining silent gives courage and determination to die-hard segregationist." Firmness now could lead us to the goals we have set for ourselves.

Again my thanks for your letter. Best wishes for continued success.

Sincerely yours,

Jackie
Jackie Robinson

① No quote at all
② This will be a complete Civil Rights bill

Chas. G. ...