

October 15, 1970

Mr. Eldon Janzen
Band Director
University of Arkansas
Fayetteville, Arkansas

Dear Mr. Janzen:

I was amazed and shocked recently when I read an article in a Memphis newspaper telling about you not wanting to play DIXIE at nay more athletic events at the University. I could hardly believe this. Is Arkansas not at Southern State? DIXIE is the true song of the South, it represents us in every way.

I love America and I get goose bumps when I hear AMERICA or THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER or see our wonderful American flag flying. Also, my eyes get all misty and I have this wonderful feeling inside. Mr. Janzen, I also get this feeling when I see a Rebel flag and hear DIXIE. I love America and I also love our South. How can you possibly not want to play it???

If there is someone in your band who does not want to play it, let him quit the band. You don't need kids like this. I assumed you meant that colored students would oppose the song. If they don't like it, let them leave. They should love the song too. All the song does is just represent us. People in the North play YANKEE DOODLE. Nothing is said about that.

I can't imagine anyone from the South not loving DIXIE. There are hippies and yippies in America who oppose our flag and who burn it. Also they hate the song AMERICA too. Should we quit playing those songs just because there are a few in America who oppose it? I don't think so. All I can say is " IF THEY DON'T LIKE IT, LET THEM LEAVE IT".

I'm from Mississippi and we love DIXIE here. You should see our Ole Miss Rebels and all the fans when they wave their Rebel flags and listen when their band plays DIXIE.

Please Mr. Janzen, don't let a few trouble makers at the University of Arkansas affect your clear thinking. If you take a poll about the song on campus, I bet 98 out of 100 will want it played. You must have been born and raised in the North, you couldn't possibly be a Southerner.

Thanks Mr. Jansen, for letting me blow off steam, I feel much better now!

LONG LIVE THE WONDERFUL SOUTH!

Very Sincerely,

A large, dark, irregularly shaped redaction mark covering the signature area of the letter.

bw

cc: Dr. David Mullins
University President