

Handout D: The Mayor and the President — Tuesday, September 24, 1957

9:14 AM, September 24, 1957 – Telegram from Mayor Mann to President Eisenhower

CLASS OF SERVICE
This is a fast message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.

WESTERN UNION
TELEGRAM
W. P. MARSHALL, President

SYMBOLS
DL=Day Letter
NL=Night Letter
LT=International Letter Telegram

The filing time shown in the date line on domestic telegrams is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

1201
1957 SEP 24 AM 10 37

NP328 P LRA006 LONG PRD RX=LITTLEROCK ARK 24 916AMC =
PRESIDENT DWIGHT D EISENHOWER =
THE WHITE HOUSE NEWPORT RI =
THE IMMEDIATE NEED FOR FEDERAL TROOPS IS URGENT. THE MOB IS MUCH LARGER IN NUMBERS AT 8AM THAN AT ANY TIME YESTERDAY PEOPLE ARE CONVERGING ON THE SCENE FROM ALL DIRECTIONS MOB IS ARMED AND ENGAGING IN FISTICUFFS AND OTHER ACTS OF VIOLENCE. SITUATION IS OUT OF CONTROL AND POLICE CANNOT DISPERSE THE MOB I AM PLEADING TO YOU AS PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES IN THE INTEREST OF HUMANITY LAW AND ORDER AND BECAUSE OF DEMOCRACY WORLD

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

1. When was this telegram sent?

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WESTERN UNION
TELEGRAM (30)
W. P. MARSHALL, President

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1201

WIDE TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY FEDERAL TROOPS WITHIN SEVERAL HOURS. ACTION BY YOU WILL RESTORE PEACE AND ORDER AND COMPLIANCE WITH YOUR PROCLAMATION =
WOODROW WILSON MANN MAYOR OF LITTLEROCK ARKANSAS =

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

2. What was the purpose of this telegram? Why do you think Mann reached out to the president?