ADDRESS REPLY TO
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"
AND REFER TO
INITIALS AND NUMBER

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WASHINGTON, D.C.

WB:FC:LID

158260

October 13, 1942

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
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MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR,
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Re: Reported lynching of two Negro boys, Charlie Long and Ernie Green. Meridian, Mississippi, October 12, 1942

DEFERRED RECORDING

Newspapers, including the New York Times this morning, carried a story of the lynching of two 14-year-old Negroes, Charlie Long and Ernie Green, at Meridan, Mississippi, by a mob which, it is reported, forcibly removed them from a jail where they had been lodged on a charge of attempted assault on a 13-year-old white girl.

As you know, there has been received from the President an instruction that lynching cases should be investigated as soon as possible; that the results of the investigation be made public in all instances, and that the persons responsible for such unlawful acts be vigorously prosecuted. Moreover, the reported lynchings above referred to deserve special attention in view of the extreme youth of the victims.

Accordingly, it is requested that this matter be investigated immediately, especially to determine whether or not there was involved any dereliction on the part of any law enforcement officer, local, state, or Federal. I have written this day to the United States Attorney, Toxey Hall, requesting his immediate attention to this matter, and it is suggested, therefore, that you make available to him, as soon as possible, the results of your investigation.

RECORDED 44-674-X

Respectfully,

SE

Wendell Berge

WENDELL BERGE
Assistant Attorney General

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8 OCT 17 1942

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FOR DEFENSE
BUY UNITED STATES SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS