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San Diego Integration Task Force
County Courthouse
220 West Broadway, Room 5005
San Diego, California 92101
July 28, 1980

Harold Keen
c/o KFMB
P. O. Box 80888
San Diego, CA 92138

Dear Harold:

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I have given much thought to my recent appearance on the Telepulse program, and because of the many years we have known each other and the fact that I have valued your concern for the racial issue and your ability to deal fairly with it, I would like to share my thoughts with you.

As you know, I was deeply disturbed about comments you made on the San Diego Newsweek program on KPBS. Your comments were inaccruate, misleading and potentially damaging, not only to the San Diego Integration Task Force but to the cause of race and human relations, as well. In your attempt to rectify your actions on KPBS you asked me to appear on Telepulse. I accepted. On my appearance I stated that you had made inaccruate statements and submitted a correction to you and the television audience. I am deeply disturbed that you did not accept that as an opportunity to acknowledge to the television audience that you had indeed given them inaccurate information and that your statements may have been misleading and damaging. Instead you said nothing. An apology would certainly have been in order and would have represented the fairness and high esteem which I feel you are accorded by many San Diegans. It was obvious to others as well as to myself that your reaction to my statement about your inaccuracy was far from what was needed to make that correction. At this point, I have no choice but to consider that the comments you made were intentional and that your motivation may not have been as honorable as I originally felt.

My experience with retractions in the news media has not been very favorable; however, up to this point, this experience with you has been the worst of all. I hope that you will find the time to give this matter further consideration and that you will take whatever action you feel is necessary to undo the damage that I and others feel has been done.

Sincerely,

Harold K. Brown, Chair
San Diego Integration task Force

Aug. 11, 1980

Harold K. Brown, Chair
San Diego Integration Task Force
County Courthouse
220 West Broadway, Room 5005
San Diego, Calif. 92101

Dear Harold:

Thank you for your comments regarding our recent interview on Telepulse. Frankly, I was perplexed by your dissatisfaction with the program presentation.

You will recall that at the outset of the interview, I repeated the statement I had made on the KPBS broadcast, to which you took exception, and pointed out that its accuracy had been questioned. Then you were given full opportunity to correct the false impression left by my statement.

The fact that I did not challenge your correction would, it seemed to me, indicate to the audience that I was acknowledging I had been in error. You expressed your points very forcefully, so there could have been no question as to the purpose of the interview.

It simply didn't occur to me that I was additionally expected to make an apology. If that was anticipated and you were disappointed, I am truly sorry. But I can assure you that the factual error (about Chief Kolender's leaving the chairmanship) and the interpretation regarding your influence over the critical report by the Integration Task Force were not performed with malice or any intention of harming the relationship of the Task Force and the Board of Education.

I was perhaps too aggressive in attempting to emphasize your past leadership in the civil

rights struggle as a relevant factor in your current leadership position with the task force. If you feel it will help undo any damage you perceive has been done, I would be happy to make the necessary correction when the integration subject is discussed again, as it undoubtedly will be, on resummption of San Diego News Week this fall on KPBS.

Sincerely,

Harold Keen

Harold Keen