

Correspondence - 1947

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HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY
President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
ON
Civil Rights

DARTMOUTH COLLEGE
DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT
HANOVER · NEW HAMPSHIRE

GRISWOLD

December 8, 1947

Dear Philleo:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter which I recently received from Dean Griswold of the Harvard Law School. I have had my fingers crossed as to the reception which might be given the Report by some of the law school people. Here is one top authority, at least, who seems to be pleased.

I plan to be in Washington between Christmas and New Year's to attend the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association. I will give you a call and, if you are in town, perhaps we can have a few minutes together.

Sincerely yours,

Bob Carr

Robert K. Carr

RKC/pd

Mr. Philleo Nash
The White House
Washington, D. C.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

C
O
P
Y

LAW SCHOOL OF HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Cambridge 38, Mass.

Office Of The Dean

December 3, 1947

Professor Robert K. Carr
Dartmouth College
Hanover, New Hampshire

Dear Professor Carr,

I am writing to express my thanks and appreciation for the excellent and important public service which has been done through the Report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights. When such committees are organized, I know that the actual writing is usually done by someone else, and I suspect that you had a large part to do with that part of the work. I am therefore venturing to write to you to express my appreciation.

Although the policies set by the Committee are important, the way the Report is written is, on this sort of a matter, of greatest importance. It could have been a milk and water matter, deploring this, and overlooking that. Or, it could have been a bitter, cynical document which would do no constructive good. The Report as prepared, however, is most effective. It is written with real feeling, and yet without rancor. I do not see how anyone can take exception either to its statements or its tone. Yet, no punches have been pulled.

The breakdown of civil rights into the four classifications adopted by the Report is a real contribution. It helps greatly to show that the problem of civil rights is much broader than the mere question of freedom of conscience and expression which we are likely to think of when we speak of civil liberties. We have done a tolerably good job on free press and free religion, but the Report helps greatly in showing that there are other elements to full civil rights, and that we fail badly in some areas with respect to these.

Of course, the results of your efforts will not be immediate nor very tangible. But I think you have done much to educate the public, and it is, in large measure, only by education, only by bringing about a deep-seated public awareness of the problem, that we can make progress in this field. The contribution of the Report to that progress seems to me to be as great as any which has been made in our time.

Cordially yours,

(Sgd) Erwin N. Griswold

Erwin N. Griswold
Dean

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

HARRIS

February 5, 1947.

Dear Mr. Harris:

I wish to thank you for your recent letter to the President commending his statement on civil rights. The President appreciates your support of his position.

You may be sure of his continued interest in this important problem.

Cordially,

DAVID K. NILES
Administrative Assistant
to the President

Mr. Fred Harris,
President,
The Decatur Branch,
National Association for the
Advancement of Colored People,
854 West King Street,
Decatur, Illinois.

subj

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
On
Civil Rights

DRAFT

January 29, 1947.

Gentlemen:

I wish to thank you for your recent letter to the President commending his statement on civil rights. The President appreciates your support of his position.

You may be sure of his continued interest in this important problem.

Sincerely yours,

WILLIAM D. HASSETT
Secretary to the President

The Decatur Branch,
National Association for the Advancement
of Colored People,
854 West King Street,
Decatur, Illinois.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

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ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

69 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

TELEPHONE: ALGONQUIN 4-3551

Official Organ: *The Crisis*

DECATUR, ILLINOIS
January 20, 1947.

Mr. David ...
DECATUR BRANCH
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President
100 W. F. ...
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THAD SANGSTER
JOE SLAW
P. E. CHINA

Hon. Harry S. Truman,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

We wish to thank you for the appointment of a committee on Civil Rights. It took courage because there are so many who do not want civil rights for anyone outside the majority group.

We were surprised and very much pleased when you included in your message to Congress a request for the creation of a permanent committee to take charge of this work. We shall always be grateful for your effort to help this section of your citizens.

Yours truly,

Fred Harris Pres.
Marie G. Baker Sec.

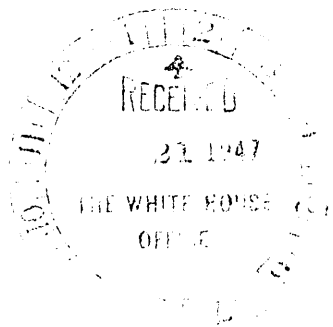
HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

UNITED ELECTRICAL, RADIO & MACHINE WORKERS OF AMERICA

AFFILIATED WITH THE CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATION

LOCAL UNION 1412
PHONE TWINOAKS 2167
160-A GRAND AVENUE
OAKLAND 12, CALIFORNIA
February 15, 1947



The Honorable Harry S. Truman
President of the United States of America
The White House
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

I have been instructed by the membership of this Local Union by unanimous vote at the last general membership meeting to communicate with you in regard to an appointment made by you which, we feel, is an insult to our people.

We refer to your appointment of C. E. Wilson, President of the General Electric Company, to the position of Chairman of the Civil Rights Committee.

We approve of the idea of setting up a civil rights committee but we feel strongly that the appointment of Mr. Wilson as Chairman makes a mockery of the principles for which such a committee is supposedly established.

This Local represents and has under contract, among others, five units of the General Electric Company. Our members well remember Mr. Wilson's attitude on civil liberties both during and after our strike last year.

His record will show that Mr. C. E. Wilson has been one of the leaders in the fight to suppress civil rights and, in our opinion, is not fit to serve as chairman of a committee whose avowed purpose is to protect and extend civil rights.

We sincerely hope and trust, Mr. President, that you will take these facts into consideration in appointing a successor to Mr. Wilson at the earliest possible date.

Very truly yours,

Sandra Martin
Sandra Martin
Business Agent

SM:ag
ue 1412
c i o

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

LATTA

Copy to Philleo Nash ✓

September 15, 1947

The Honorable Maurice C. Latta,
Executive Clerk in Charge,
The White House Executive Offices,
The White House.

Dear Judge Latta:

The President's Committee on Civil Rights met in Washington on September 12th and 13th to approve the report to the President. At this meeting the Committee directed that the present draft of the report be substantially revised. The Committee's staff is already at work on this revision but it appears that our existing schedule for the completion of this undertaking will have to be reconsidered.

In my opinion the following needs exist: (1) It will take three weeks for the staff to rewrite the report, secure the final approval of the Committee and make all arrangements with the Government Printing Office. Accordingly, I would like permission to keep the entire staff at work through the week in which October 1st falls. (2) It will be necessary to keep on a skeleton staff of three or four through the month of October, to close out our files, to dispose of materials now in our possession and to assist in the initial distribution of the report. (3) The report will probably be ready to submit to the President around October 10th, and members of the Committee will want to come to Washington for this purpose. It will be necessary to cover their travel and per diem expenses for that trip.

I feel reasonably certain that our expenses for the period from July 1st to October 1st, including the printing of the report, will be below the amount assigned to us. I think it is quite possible that the additional expenses for the month of October can be met within our present allotment. I would be glad to discuss any phases of this problem with you should you desire to do so.

Sincerely yours,

Robert K. Carr.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

ARDINGER

November 5, 1947.

Dear Mrs. Ardinger:

The President has asked me to say to you that the report of the President's Civil Rights Committee meets all the hopes he had for it.

He regards it as an important document and is confident that it will take its place among the documents on Freedom.

He wants me to express to you his personal appreciation for your service with the Committee and for your share in the preparation of its report.

Cordially,

DAVID K. NILES
Administrative Assistant
to the President

Mrs. Ellen C. Ardinger,
808 Whittier Place N.W.,
Washington 12, D. C.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

JOHNSON

November 10, 1947.

Dear Miss Johnson:

The President has asked me to say to you that the Report of the President's Civil Rights Committee meets all the hopes he had for it.

He regards it as an important document and is confident that it will take its place among the documents on Freedom.

He wants me to express to you his personal appreciation for your service with the Committee and for your share in the preparation of its report.

Cordially,

DAVID M. NILES
Administrative Assistant
to the President

Miss Mahala B. Johnson,
2359 Ontario Road, N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

SULLIVAN

THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE ON CIVIL RIGHTS

734 Fifteenth Street NW., Room 706, Washington 25, D.C.

Telephone: Executive 3300, Extension 459

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BORIS SHISHKIN
MRS. M. E. TILLY
CHANNING H. TOBIAS

570 Lexington Avenue
New York, N. Y.
November 14, 1947

Mr. J. L. Sullivan
Fourth and Market Streets
Oakland, California

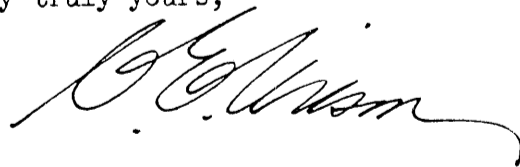
My dear Mr. Sullivan:

Naturally, on such a broad subject as that of civil rights, there are points in your letter of October 29th on which we agree and others where we do not.

The Report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights was the result of exhaustive study and consideration by members of the Committee, which was made up, intentionally, of men and women known to hold definite and greatly diversified views on the various phases of this subject. Of course many compromises were made and a great deal of reconciling of points of view, but in my opinion the Committee did an outstanding job in dealing with the long-standing and perplexing questions which it had to consider.

Action to implement the Report of the Committee can come only with the consent of the people, expressed through their leaders, and we ask only a fair hearing and a serious discussion of our proposals by the people in all sections of the country.

Very truly yours,



CEW:h

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

November 14, 1947.

Dear Mr. Armstrong:

Thank you for your letter of November 11th.

Since the Committee's work terminated on October 30th, I am sorry to tell you that the free supply of the Committee's report is exhausted. However, I am told that the Government Printing Office has asked for a re-run of the document. Copies should be available after November 14th.

In addition, I have been told that Simon and Schuster, 1230 Sixth Avenue, New York, New York, still has a few copies on hand, although their first edition of 25,000 has been exhausted.

Cordially,

CHARLES J. DURHAM

Mr. Robert G. Armstrong,
Chairman, Civil Rights Committee,
Atlanta Chapter,
American Veterans Committee,
Atlanta University,
Box 318;
Atlanta, Georgia.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
On
Civil Rights

ATLANTA CHAPTER
AMERICAN VETERANS COMMITTEE

November 11, 1947

President's Committee on Civil Rights
735 Fifteenth Street, N.W.
Room 706
Washington 25, D. C.

Gentlemen:

As chairman of the Civil ^{Liberties} Committee of the Atlanta Chapter of AVC, I should like to inquire about the possibility of securing at least a half dozen copies of the reports on civil rights. In fact, I can assure you that we can make very good use of a dozen or more copies.

I would greatly appreciate your letting us know if you can assist us in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Robert G. Armstrong

Robert G. Armstrong
Chairman, Civil Rights Committee

RGA:b

Atlanta University
Box 318
Atlanta, Georgia

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

cc
BETHUNE

November 3, 1947.

Dear Mrs. Bethune:

Mr. Nash wanted you to be sure and get a copy of the Civil Rights Report, so I am sending one along to you, since he is out of the city.

Sincerely yours,

KATHLEEN W. POTTS
Secretary to Mr. Philleo Nash

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune,
National Council of Negro Women, Inc.,
1318 Vermont Avenue N.W.,
Washington, D. C.

Subj

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

BICKHAM

December 6, 1946.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE HONORABLE WILLIAM D. HASSETT:

In the absence of Mr. Niles, I have prepared the attached drafts of replies to Doctor Martin H. Bickham, Chairman of the Illinois Inter-Racial Commission, and the Reverend Russell Wharton Lambert, as requested by Mrs. Winegar.

PHILLEG NASH

Attachments

Subject

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

December 6, 1946.

Dear Doctor Bickham:

I am happy to be able to reply, after this long delay, to your letters of August 6 and August 12, addressed to the President.

The proposals contained in those letters were closely similar to plans which have now been brought to completion with the announcement yesterday that the President had created, by Executive Order, a Committee on Civil Rights.

I know you will be interested in the enclosed copy of the Order and the Statement by the President. We all appreciate your interest in this matter and your helpful suggestion.

Sincerely yours,

WILLIAM D. HASSETT
Secretary to the President

Enclosure.

Doctor Martin H. Bickham,
Chairman,
Illinois Inter-Racial Commission,
19 South LaSalle Street,
Chicago 3, Illinois.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

December 6, 1946.

Dear Doctor Bickham:

I am happy to be able to reply, after this long delay, to your letters of August 6 and August 12, addressed to the President.

The proposals contained in those letters were closely similar to plans which have now been brought to completion with the announcement yesterday that the President had created, by Executive Order, a Committee on Civil Rights.

I know you will be interested in the enclosed copy of the Order and the Statement by the President. We all appreciate your interest in this matter and your helpful suggestion.

Sincerely yours,

WILLIAM D. HASSETT
Secretary to the President

Enclosure.

Doctor Martin H. Bickham,
Chairman,
Illinois Inter-Racial Commission,
19 South LaSalle Street,
Chicago 3, Illinois.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

Dr. Martin HL Bickham:

/ September 26th,

~~Your date~~

~~I am happy to be able to reply, after
this long delay, to your letters of August 6th and August 12th,
addressed to the President~~

I am happy to be able to reply, after
this long delay, to your letters of August 6th and August
12th, addressed to the President.

The proposals contained in those letters
were closely similar to plans ~~then being formulated~~ which
have now been brought to completion with the announcement yesterday
~~of the~~ that the President had created, by Executive Order, a Committee
on Civil Rights.

the know you will be interested in the enclosed
I ~~am enclosing a~~ copy of the Order ~~together~~ and
~~with~~ Statement by the President. We all appreciate your interest
in this matter and your helpful suggestion.

Sincerely yours,

WDH

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

Rev. Russel Wharton Lambert

Dear Mr. Lambert:

The President yesterday issued an Executive Order, together with a Statement, creating the President's Committee on Civil Rights. ~~The Committee has been in the process of formation for some time and the President ~~will~~ has been working on it in conjunction with the Attorney General.~~

~~The delay in replying to Dr. Bickham's letters as well as to your own arose from this fact. It would have been difficult to say anything without saying too much.~~

~~As you can see, the Committee, as worked out, closely approximates the wishes of the Illinois Inter-racial Commission.~~

As you can see, the Committee, as worked out, closely approximates the wishes of the Illinois Inter-racial Commission.

We, all appreciate your interest in this matter. It is personally gratifying to me to be able to tell you of the formation of this committee.

Sincerely yours,

WDH

I know you will want to see them and I am enclosing a copy for you with.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

December 3, 1946.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE HONORABLE WILLIAM D. HASSETT:

Dear Bill:

I have all the communications to which your friend the Reverend Russell Wharton Lambert referred.

Since the President's Committee on Civil Rights has been under consideration, it has seemed advisable to withhold an answer until we could tell Doctor Bickham that such a Committee would be created. Final arrangements on this Committee have been postponed from week to week and it now appears that we will have an announcement so shortly that we might well wait another few days.

If anything should delay the publicity on this Committee longer, however, I will prepare a reply for you to Mr. Lambert.

DAVID K. NILES

Attachment.

Subject

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

BOARDLEY

November 10, 1947.

Dear Miss Boardley:

The President has asked me to say to you that the Report of the President's Civil Rights Committee meets all the hopes he had for it.

He regards it as an important document and is confident that it will take its place among the documents on Freedom.

He wants me to express to you his personal appreciation for your service with the Committee and for your share in the preparation of its report.

Cordially,

DAVID K. NILES
Administrative Assistant
to the President

Miss Idamaye C. Boardley,
1223 W Street N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

Re: Civil Rights

September 30, 1947.

Dear Mrs. Brevard:

I have your letter of September 15th, addressed to the President, in which you tell him of the trouble you are having in finding a place to live.

Housing is short for everyone and when discrimination is practiced, it makes it doubly hard.

The President believes very strongly in equal rights and opportunities for everyone. In order to help as many people as possible, he created a Committee on Civil Rights. I am sending you a copy of the order creating that Committee, so that you will know for yourself how he feels.

Cordially,

DAVID K. NILES
Administrative Assistant
to the President

Mrs. Kenneth Brevard,
47 Grace Street,
Pawtucket, Rhode Island.

IV.
What makes me mad is
the constitution says that
everyone is supposed to be equal.
We are not in slavery times,
but to me it is just that,
Maybe I will not live to
see this but my people
will rule this country.
Why did they make my
husband go into service,
if a bullet hit him it
wouldn't have said that
he is colored and I won't
hit him. Even my friends
the bullet didn't say

47 Grace St.
Pawtucket, R.I.
September 15, 1947

William D. Hassett
President

Hear Mr. President:

I am a young war wife.
My husband served in the
service for a year and a
half. Now this is my problem.
We are a refined colored
family and we are supposed
to move from well we
are because my land lord
wants this tenement
for his brother who is
in ill health. Well we

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY
President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

they want ^{III} more than we
can afford. For instance we
could of had a place on Grand
Ave. and when the lady
heard that we were colored
she didn't want to sell
it. And like today my
husband and I went out
to see a place and they
do not want colored in
the vicinity. Even they won't
hire my mother in mills
or any kind of work except
house work. which you
can't make any money.

^{II} we tried to rent a place
but we couldn't get a place
because of our color. My
husband use to live in
Worlington were their friends
lived and they were white.
They had a very nice place
but he lost the house be-
cause his Grandfather died.
who was an Indian and
my husband was to young
to work. Now we are looking
for a place to live. We have
been trying to buy a house
but we can't get any because
we are colored and

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

I.
this to them. It just hit
or killed them, or they come
back injured for life. Be-
side these people want all
Negro people to live in the
woods and we can't do
that. We are just as civil-
ized just as much as any
one. Well Mr. President
this is my trouble so
I hope you can help a
colored war wife &
they think we deserved

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

Bronson

December 2, 1947.

Dear Mrs. Bronson:

Thank you for your letter of November 22, addressed to the President's Committee on Civil Rights, regarding copies of the Report of that Committee.

Unfortunately, the supply of copies for free distribution has been completely exhausted, and we will be unable to forward the copies as you requested.

Copies of the Report may be secured, however, for the price of \$1 by writing the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C.

Sincerely yours,

PHILLEO NASH
Assistant to David K. Niles

Mrs. Ruth M. Bronson,
Secretary,
National Congress of American Indians,
1426 35th Street,
Washington 7, D.C.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

N. B. JOHNSON
PRESIDENT
CLAREMORE, OKLAHOMA

MRS. RUTH MUSKRAT BRONSON
SECRETARY
1426 35TH STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON 7, D. C.

November 22, 1947

JAMES E. CURRY
ATTORNEY
1212 TOWER BUILDING
WASHINGTON 5, D. C.

request by letter

The President's Committee on Civil Rights
734 15th Street, NW., Room 706
Washington 25, D. C.

Gentlemen:

It is my understanding that you are furnishing a number of free copies of the Committee's reports to minority groups who are mentioned in the Report and whose interest are affected by the Report. If this is true, will you please mail a copy of the publication to the following:

Mrs. J. J. Kirk, National Chairman, Indian Welfare Committee
General Federation of Women's Clubs, Gallup, New Mexico.

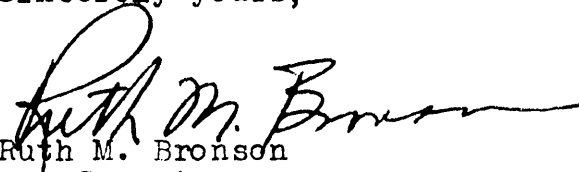
Judge N. B. Johnson, President, National Congress of American Indians, Claremore, Oklahoma

Mr. James E. Curry, General Counsel, National Congress of American Indians, 1016 16th Street, NW, Washington, D. C.

Miss Marian Gridley, Secretary, Indian Council Fire,
30 West Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois

Thank you very much for the copy which you sent me. If you cannot forward these copies without charge, please let me know.

Sincerely yours,


Ruth M. Bronson
Secretary

RMB:ah

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

November 14, 1947.


Dear Mr. Brooks:

Thank you for your fine letter of November 10th.

Since the Committee's work terminated on October 30th, I am sorry to tell you that the free supply of the Committee's report is exhausted. However, I am told that the Government Printing Office has asked for a re-run of the document. Copies should be available after November 14th.

In addition, I have been told that Simon and Schuster, 1230 Sixth Avenue, New York, New York, still has a few copies on hand, although their first edition of 25,000 has been exhausted.

Cordially,


CHARLES J. DOHNEY

The Honorable Jack B. Brooks,
House of Representatives,
Austin, Texas.

S.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights



JACK B BROOKS
DISTRICT 18-1
PLEAUMONT TEXAS

State of Texas
House of Representatives
Austin

November 10, 1947

COMMITTEES:
STATE AFFAIRS
COMMON CARRIERS
BANKS AND BANKING
INSURANCE
RULES

The President's Committee on Civil Rights
724 Fifteenth Street NW., Room 706
Washington 25, D. C.

Gentlemen:

I deeply appreciate your sending me a copy of "The Report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights." I find it packed with easily understood data which are convincing arguments for lay and legislative action.

Not knowing how widely your report will be distributed, I am taking the liberty of requesting that you send me six additional copies of your report.

I am sure that the citizens of my community and my legislative district will be anxious to read this comprehensive study and I wish to provide such an opportunity through my own efforts for as many people as possible.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. B. Brooks".

Jack B. Brooks

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

December 2, 1947.

Dear Mr. Burr:

Your letter of November 14th, addressed to the Government Printing Office, in connection with the report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights, has been referred to this office.

The President's Committee on Civil Rights was created by Executive Order, dated December 5, 1946. I am attaching a copy of the Order for your information and interest. As you will note, Paragraph 5 of this Executive Order calls for the preparation of a written report with recommendations for the protection of civil rights.

The report was printed and distributed under the authority of the Joint Committee on Printing (40 Stat. 1270), and in accordance with the rules and regulations of that Committee. The distribution plan was submitted to and approved by the Publications Clearance Unit of the Bureau of the Budget.

Under this plan, the Committee sought to bring its report to the attention of members of Congress, the Judiciary, Government agencies, state legislatures, municipal officials and others who would be primarily interested in the Committee's recommendations.

The full committee joined in all recommendations, including that with respect to Federal grants-in-aid for education. No dissent was prepared, other than the discussion you have already noted in the report.

Cordially,

DAVID K. NILES
Administrative Assistant
to the President

Mr. Borden Burr,
1038-1052 Brown-Marx Building,
Birmingham 3, Alabama.

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President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

*C Rights
Inquiry*

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November 14, 1947

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United States Government Printing Office
Washington 25, D. C.

Gentlemen:

There has come to my attention through the kindness of a member of our Legislature a very handsome book issued by the United States Government Printing Office entitled "To Secure These Rights." In reading the book I find that on Page 166 there appears the statement that a minority of the committee is not in agreement with certain parts of the recommendation relating to "the elimination of segregation based on race, color, creed or national origin from American life." I would appreciate it if you would advise me, or if you are not in a position to give the advice, kindly direct to whom the inquiry should be made:

1. The names of the minority who so objected.
2. As to whether or not the minority or any of the minority filed a written dissent of any kind, and, if so, where a copy of this dissent may be obtained.
3. As to whether or not this book is being distributed free of charge to the members of all of the legislatures of the various states, or whether Alabama has been especially selected for this outstanding honor.
4. Whether or not the free circulation includes other classes of persons besides members of the state legislatures, and the extent of this inclusion and circulation.
5. On whose direction or under what executive law or statute this circulation is being made.

Yours very truly,

Borden Burr
Borden Burr

BB:EG

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of the President.*

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President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

CARLISLE

November 6, 1947.

Dear Miss Carlisle:

The President has asked me to say to you that the Report of the President's Civil Rights Committee meets all the hopes he had for it.

He regards it as an important document and is confident that it will take its place among the documents on Freedom.

He wants me to express to you his personal appreciation for your service with the Committee and for your share in the preparation of its report.

Cordially,

DAVID K. NILAN
Administrative Assistant
to the President

Miss Jacquelin Carlisle,
1351 Montague Street N.W.,
Washington, D. C.

NOVEMBER 6, 1947

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20 WEST 40TH STREET, NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

LONGACRE 3-6890

Official Organ: *The Crisis*



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5th
November
1947

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Dear Dave:

Madison Jones of our staff has just returned from a meeting called by Roger Baldwin at which were present representatives of five or six organizations to discuss means of implementation of the Report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights. This is the second or third such meeting which has been called. And there may be other organizations which have done the same thing.

We have called no such meeting as yet because we don't want to muddy the waters or to do anything which will prevent the most effective coordination. It is no criticism of the American Civil Liberties Union or any other organization to say that too often attempts are made to capitalize on enthusiasm without effective means of following through.

I sent the enclosed telegram last Saturday to Charles E. Wilson about a luncheon or dinner at the Waldorf-Astoria or a similar place, but have not as yet heard from him. Upon hearing from him, it is our plan to invite a small but responsible group of organizations to join in sponsoring the luncheon and to work out a plan for a sustained campaign to implement the Committee's recommendations.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

Mr. David Niles
November 5th, 1947
Page 2

The organizations we have in mind are the following:

American Federation of Labor
American Bar Association
American Civil Liberties Union
American Jewish Committee
American Jewish Congress
American Legion
American Medical Association
American Veterans Committee
Americans United for World Organization
Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith
Boys' Clubs of America
Boy Scouts of America
Catholic Interracial Council
Congress of Industrial Organizations
Council Against Intolerance in America
Council for Democracy
Federal Council of Churches of Christ
in America
Freedom House
Girl Scouts
International Ladies' Garment Workers
Union
Knights of Columbus
League of Women Shoppers
National Association of Manufacturers
National Association of Real Estate Boards
National Conference of Christians and Jews
National Council of Negro Women
National Education Association
National Federation of Women's Clubs
National Urban League
Union for Democratic Action
United Christian Youth Movement
United Parents Association
United States Chamber of Commerce
National Council YMCA
National Board YWCA

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

Mr. David Niles
November 5, 1947
Page 3

I am not sure that all of these would accept but we are going to invite them anyway.

At the conference today, Roger Baldwin mentioned that there was some talk of either the White House or the Attorney General calling a meeting of national organizations to discuss implementation of the report. Madison Jones didn't get clearly whether the White House had decided to do this or whether it was Roger Baldwin's idea to suggest to the White House that this be done.

So that you and we would not be working at cross purposes I tried to reach you by telephone today but the White House operator told me you would be gone until Monday. If you don't get this until Monday, I would be grateful if you would telephone me collect sometime before 3 PM when our Board meets so that I may be able to intelligently report to the Board.

I am still eager to hear the details of the two or three other startling projects you told me about over the telephone.

Ever sincerely

Walter White
Secretary

Mr. David Niles
The White House
Washington, D.C.

WW: emw

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

WHITE

April 29, 1947.

MEMORANDUM FOR ROBERT K. CARR:

The attached communication from Walter White speaks for itself. I know that the Committee is already at work on this phase of the civil rights problem.

I wonder if you would be good enough to let me have a memorandum stating in a general way what progress you have made in this area.

DAVID K. MILES
Administrative Assistant
to the President

Attachment.

per [unclear] - [unclear]

Subject

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

April 29, 1947.

MEMORANDUM FOR DOCTOR ROBERT K. CARR:

The attached communication from Walter White speaks for itself. I know that the Committee is already at work on this phase of the civil rights problem.

I wonder if you would be good enough to let me have a memorandum stating in a general way what progress you have made in this area.

This letter, I think, ought to become part of your Committee's documents.

DAVID K. NILES
Administrative Assistant
to the President

Attachment.

lte from W. White, dtd Apr 21, 1947.

Subject

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

DRAFT

MEMORANDUM FOR DOCTOR ROBERT K. CAER:

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20 WEST 40TH STREET, NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

LONGACRE 3-6890

Official Organ: *The Crisis*



WHITE

31st
October
1947

Dear Dave:

After you left the office this morning, another idea occurred to me which ties in with both the Virgin Islands and Charles Taussig's problem about preventing discrimination against and insult to distinguished dark-skinned persons passing through Miami and New Orleans. If the Civil Aeronautics Board grants Pan American's application to make St. Croix a major junction point between South and North America, the State Department's headaches in continental United States can be eliminated by routing not only dark-skinned but all VIP's through the Virgin Islands.

This would have a three-fold benefit.

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(3) It would make the Virgin Islands a fertile source of well-considered public relations through these important persons stopping off there, which would not only attract more persons with money to spend to the Islands, but even more be a demonstration on American soil that we can at least in this instance practice the democracy we talk so much about but seldom practice.

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President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

Mr. David Niles
October 31, 1947
Page 2

After you left we discussed also a supplemental memorandum on the public relations program Messrs. Kessler and Robinson and their associates have in mind which, though primarily for the hotel they want to build, will even more be public relations promotion for the Islands themselves. I have just obtained the promise of an expert in that field to give some thought to this and to help draft it which we will talk over with Bill when he comes to New York next week.

It was swell seeing you today and I hope I will be talking to you again soon about several other matters. I want you by all means to come to New York as our guest for the dinner or luncheon which we plan to give for the President's Committee on Civil Rights. I hope you and the President will permit me on that occasion to say a few words about your connection with this and other superb jobs you have done.

Ever sincerely

Walter White
Secretary

Mr. David Niles
The White House
Washington, D. C.

WW:emw

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4th
November
1947

Dear Mr. Niles:

Mr. White asked me to send you the enclosed and ask you to substitute it for the first page of the letter which was sent to you on October 31st. There were several errors on the original first page of the letter.

Very truly yours

Edna M. Waseem
Secretary to Mr. White

Mr. David Niles
The White House
Washington, D. C.

emw

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Richmond, Va.	Dr. J. M. Tinsley
Topeka, Kans.	Hon. Arthur Copper
Washington	William H. Hastie
	Charles H. Houston
	Eric Johnston
	Philip Murray

NATIONAL LEGAL COMMITTEE

Charles H. Houston, Washington, Chairman

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Birmingham, Ala.	Arthur D. Shores
Charleston, W. Va.	T. G. Nutter
Chattanooga, Tenn.	Maurice M. Weaver
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Cincinnati	Theodore M. Berry
Cleveland	William T. McKnight
Dallas, Texas	W. J. Durham
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Houston, Texas	Arthur J. Mandell
Ithaca, N. Y.	Milton R. Konvitz
Los Angeles	Thomas L. Griffith, Jr.
	Robert W. Kenny
	Loren Miller
Louisville	Charles W. Anderson
Madison, Wis.	Lloyd Garrison
Nashville, Tenn.	Z. Alexander Looby
New York	Donald Crichton
	Morris L. Ernst
	Osmond K. Fraenkel
	Arthur Garfield Hays
	Paul Kern
	Karl N. Llewellyn
	James Marshall
	Shed Polier
	Hope Stevens
	Charles H. Studin
	Andrew D. Weinberger
	Homer S. Brown
Pittsburgh	Spottswood W. Robinson, III.
Richmond, Va.	Bartley C. Crum
San Francisco	Amos T. Hall
Tulsa, Okla.	William H. Hastie
Washington	Edward P. Lovett
	Leon A. Ransom
	Ruth Weyand
Wilmington, Del.	Louis L. Redding

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

December 16, 1947.

Dear Doctor Carr:

Mr. Durham suggested that I send along to you the attached Confidential Inquiry Sheet which was received in this office from the Civil Service Commission.

Will you be good enough to fill in the necessary information?

Sincerely yours,

KATHLEEN M. POTTS
Secretary to Philleo Nash

Doctor Robert K. Carr,
Dartmouth College,
Hanover, New Hampshire.

cc:
Michael Johnson

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

CARR

JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE
ANTI-DISCRIMINATION COMMITTEE, INC.

TEL: LINCOLN 5259

WASHINGTON OFFICE
P. O. BOX 1628
WASHINGTON 13, D. C.

MIKE MASAOKA,
NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR

November 13, 1947

Mr. Robert K. Carr, Executive Secretary
The President's Committee on Civil Rights
734 15th Street, N. W., Room 706
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Carr:

May we add our congratulations to all the others you have no doubt received for your excellent Report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights.

"To Secure These Rights" is a forthright recommendation for furthering the practical applications of democratic principles, and as such is of deep significance to us, both as individual citizens and as members of a minority group which will benefit by such action.

We were particularly gratified to note that among the recommendations are four in which our organization has a vital interest and the adoption of which we urged in consultation with your Committee, namely: those dealing with evacuation, evacuee property losses, naturalization laws, and discriminatory statutes.

Legislation covering settlement of evacuation claims, in the form of bill H. R. 3999, was passed by the House of Representatives in July and is ready for consideration by the Senate. The Senate Judiciary Committee has referred this bill to a subcommittee composed of Senator John Sherman Cooper (R) of Kentucky and Senator Warren G. Magnuson (D) of Washington. It is our earnest desire that this legislation will be enacted in the special session of the Congress, since delay in the passage of the bill is tantamount to delay in ameliorating the injustices of evacuation.

Legislation covering modification of federal naturalization laws was introduced in the first session of the 80th Congress and it is hoped will be acted upon in the next session.

In view of the insight gained through your work on the Committee, your active support of this legislation as a private citizen will be greatly appreciated and will do much to further our legislative program.

Cordially,

Mike M. Masaoka
14.

Mike M. Masaoka
National Legislative Director

MM:ly

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

CARR

THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE ON CIVIL RIGHTS
1712 G Street NW., Room 208, Washington 25, D. C.

CHARLES E. WILSON,
CHAIRMAN

JOHN S. DICKEY,
VICE CHAIRMAN

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, Jr.,
VICE CHAIRMAN

MRS. SADIE T. ALEXANDER
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MOST REV. FRANCIS J. HAAS
CHARLES LUCKMAN
FRANCIS P. MATTHEWS
RT. REV. HENRY KNOX SHERRILL
BORIS SHISHKIN
MRS. M. E. TILLY
CHANNING H. TOBIAS

ROBERT K. CARR,
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

February 20, 1947.

Gentlemen:

The secretariat of the President's Committee on Civil Rights has now been organized and offices have been established at the address given above. The Committee hopes to make rapid progress with its studies and would like to report to the President at an early date. At present, the major work is being done by subcommittees. One of these is conducting a study of existing laws for the protection of civil rights, and is considering the desirability of strengthening this legislation. Another subcommittee is concerned with the economic, social and educational aspects of the civil rights problem in America, and hopes to be able to recommend a program of action in this direction.

I am taking the liberty of writing your organization at this early stage in the Committee's work to seek your cooperation. The Committee is interested in hearing from you with respect to such matters as the following:

- (a) What is the nature of your own program of activity in the civil rights field? With what degree of success do you feel your various efforts are meeting?
- (b) What recommendations do you have to offer the Committee concerning the areas it should study, or the methods it should employ in making its investigations?
- (c) Do you have any reports or specific findings that you would like to bring to the Committee's attention?

At a later date we may well wish to call upon you for specific help or suggestions, but at the moment the purpose of this letter is to invite your cooperation and to call for whatever suggestions or offers of help you may care to make at once. No decision has yet been made concerning public hearings. It is quite possible that the Committee will decide at a later date to hold such hearings and to give interested persons and organizations an opportunity to appear. I will be glad to notify you of such a decision when made, if you so desire.

Sincerely yours,

Robert K. Carr.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

November 26, 1947.

Dear Mr. Cervase:

The President's Committee on Civil Rights dissolved itself following the completion of its report to the President, so that I am not able to supply you with the material upon which their recommendations were based.

The best source of help I can think of in connection with your proposal for the State of New Jersey would be one of the several private organizations interested in this area. Among them are the Commission on Law and Social Action of the American Jewish Congress, the American Council on Race Relations, and the Julius Rosenwald Fund, Chicago, Illinois.

Sincerely yours,

PHILLEO NASH
Assistant to David K. Niles

Mr. John Cervase,
24 Commerce Street,
Newark, New Jersey.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

LAW OFFICES
JOHN CERVASE
24 COMMERCE STREET
NEWARK, N. J.
—
MITCHELL 2-6354

November 13, 1947

The
White House
Washington, D. C.

Attention: Secretary to the President

Dear Sir:

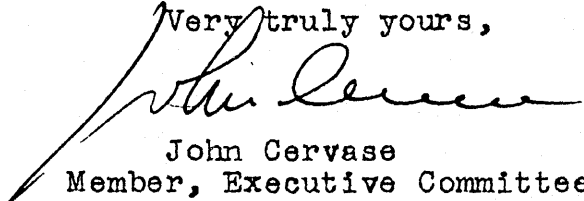
The Essex County Intergroup Council, which is formed of some thirty Jewish, Christian and Negro organizations, has asked me to write to you to obtain information concerning the report of the President's Committee which was published about a week ago. They are particularly interested in restrictive covenants, which were mentioned in the committee's report.

Would you be kind enough to ask the committee to send me any information which it has on the subject of restrictive covenants upon which the recommendation in their report was based.

With this information, we plan to investigate the question of restrictive covenants and obtain concrete evidence and information for presentation to the legislature of the State of New Jersey with a recommendation that legislation be passed outlawing restrictive covenants.

I shall deeply appreciate your courtesy in the matter.

Very truly yours,


John Cervase
Member, Executive Committee,
Essex County Intergroup Council

smm

cc: ~~Newark Evening News~~
~~Newark Star Ledger~~

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

COLEMAN

November 6, 1947.

Dear Mr. Coleman:

The President has asked me to say to you that the Report of the President's Civil Rights Committee meets all the hopes he had for it.

He regards it as an important document and is confident that it will take its place among the documents on Freedom.

He wants me to express to you his personal appreciation for your service with the Committee and for your share in the preparation of its report.

Cordially,

DAVID K. NILES
Administrative Assistant
to the President

Mr. Charles N. Coleman,
2308 - 38th Street N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

ARC

November 17, 1947.

Dear Mr. Cole:

Thank you for your letter of November 10th.

Since the Committee's work ended October 31st, the supply of free copies of the report has been exhausted.

After November 17th, the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C., will be able to supply you. The price is \$1 for a single copy, with 25 per cent discount on quantities over 100.

In addition, a New York publishing firm, Simon and Schuster, 1230 Sixth Avenue, has printed a commercial edition of the document.

Stewart G. Cole
Sincerely yours,
Stewart G. Cole

CHARLES J. DURHAM

Mr. Stewart G. Cole,
Pacific Coast Council on Intercultural Education,
Room 262, Chamber of Commerce Building,
Los Angeles 15, California.

Subject

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

PACIFIC COAST COUNCIL ON INTERCULTURAL EDUCATION
ROOM 262 CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BUILDING
LOS ANGELES 15, CALIFORNIA

Telephone:
RICHMOND 3824

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JOSEPH E. WECKLER

STEWART G. COLE
Executive Director

November 10, 1947

President's Committee on Civil Rights
White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear sirs:

The Pacific Coast Council on Intercultural Education is engaged in helping the public schools and teachers' colleges rethink their responsibilities to children in the area of better human relationships in the American way of life.

The report of your Committee is invaluable source material to us in our work. Will you please advise me if we may secure a considerable number of copies of your report for school instructional purposes.

If possible we should like 500 copies.

Sincerely yours,

Stewart G. Cole

Stewart G. Cole

C/c

To supplant prejudice with understanding, intolerance with appreciation, antagonism with goodwill, and build of many racial, religious, and cultural groups one America.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

CRC

MEMORANDUM

May 29, 1947

TO: Members of the President's Committee on Civil Rights

FROM: Robert K. Carr, Executive Secretary

SUBJECT: South Carolina Lynching Case

In the last week we have received 22 telegrams protesting the outcome of the South Carolina lynching trial. 15 were from N.A.A.C.P. and its Branches, 3 from Protestant Clergymen, 2 from Jewish organizations, and 2 from individuals. All of the wires urge the Committee to recommend the adoption of a new federal anti-lynching law. Some of the wires urge immediate recommendation to this effect; others are less specific with respect to the time factor.

All of the wires have been acknowledged and the senders informed that it is the Committee's policy not to make recommendations or public statements on separate issues. However, the answer states that the Committee is giving very close, careful attention to the lynching problem.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

CARR

THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE ON CIVIL RIGHTS
1712 G Street NW., Room 208, Washington 25, D. C.

CHARLES E. WILSON,
CHAIRMAN
JOHN S. DICKEY,
VICE CHAIRMAN
FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, Jr.,
VICE CHAIRMAN

ROBERT K. CARR,
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

MRS. SADIE T. ALEXANDER
JAMES B. CAREY
MORRIS L. ERNST
RABBI ROLAND B. GITTELSOHN
FRANK P. GRAHAM
MOST REV. FRANCIS J. HAAS
CHARLES LUCKMAN
FRANCIS P. MATTHEWS
RT. REV. HENRY KNOX SHERRILL
BORIS SHISHKIN
MRS. M. E. TILLY
CHANNING H. TOBIAS

February 20, 1947.

Gentlemen:

The secretariat of the President's Committee on Civil Rights has now been organized and offices have been established at the address given above. The Committee hopes to make rapid progress with its studies and would like to report to the President at an early date. At present, the major work is being done by subcommittees. One of these is conducting a study of existing laws for the protection of civil rights, and is considering the desirability of strengthening this legislation. Another subcommittee is concerned with the economic, social and educational aspects of the civil rights problem in America, and hopes to be able to recommend a program of action in this direction.

I am taking the liberty of writing your organization at this early stage in the Committee's work to seek your cooperation. The Committee is interested in hearing from you with respect to such matters as the following:

- (a) What is the nature of your own program of activity in the civil rights field? With what degree of success do you feel your various efforts are meeting?
- (b) What recommendations do you have to offer the Committee concerning the areas it should study, or the methods it should employ in making its investigations?
- (c) Do you have any reports or specific findings that you would like to bring to the Committee's attention?

At a later date we may well wish to call upon you for specific help or suggestions, but at the moment the purpose of this letter is to invite your cooperation and to call for whatever suggestions or offers of help you may care to make at once. No decision has yet been made concerning public hearings. It is quite possible that the Committee will decide at a later date to hold such hearings and to give interested persons and organizations an opportunity to appear. I will be glad to notify you of such a decision when made, if you so desire.

Sincerely yours,

Robert K. Carr.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

March 20, 1948.

MEMORANDUM FOR ROBERT K. CARR:
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
COMMITTEE ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Attached is a copy of the Manifest of Outward-Bound Passengers the Master of every American ship is required to fill out before he leaves port.

As you will notice on the back, the instructions for recording answers make a difference between white Americans and Negroes. This is in accordance with a Bureau of Immigration and Naturalization regulation.

It occurs to me that your staff may want to find out whether this is a purely administrative decision, or whether it is on a statutory basis.

PHILEO NASH

Attachment.

PHILEO NASH

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

UNITED STATES MARITIME COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

February 28, 1947.

Mr. Philleo Nash,
Assistant to Mr. David K. Niles,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Nash:

Attached is a form which each Master of an
outgoing passenger vessel is required to file.

It appears that this question should be
discussed with the Immigration Service.

Yours very truly,

M. K. O'Sullivan

M. K. O'SULLIVAN.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

one

May 20, 1947.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE HONORABLE DAVID K. NILES:

In connection with the removal of the President's Committee on Civil Rights from 1712 "J" Street to the Walker Building, I have had several conversations with Public Buildings Administration people without any real success.

I am afraid that we will have to have pressure from a higher level than I can exert, before we get anywhere with PBA.

The Committee has moved and would not want to move again, and the problem is now one of getting at least four more air conditioners in there right away.

Mr. Mann, Building Management Supervisor for the Walker Building along with some 28 others, tells me that the earliest he can supply conditioners is the first of July, when a building is scheduled to be vacated on "K" Street, from which he hopes to secure some conditioners.

The man who installed two conditioners that are now in the offices (please protect him as a source) says that there are conditioners available that he knows about, but that they need reconditioning, wiring, etc.

I've already assured Mr. Mann that money would be made available for this purpose, if he has conditioners; and he says that he doesn't have any. Before discussing this with Mr. Mann, I had had conversations with the following people in PBA: Mr. J. L. Nagle, Deputy Commissioner in charge of Real Estate Management, his assistant Mr. Zerniecke, his associate Mr. Chandler, and Mr. Galloway, District Supervisor, who is Mr. Mann's immediate superior.

Would it be possible to do the following thing: apply enough pressure on PBA to get four air conditioners right away. If that is done, I can then arrange two details, namely (a) have a requisition prepared, authorizing the expenditure of money to rehabilitate the conditioners and install them; (b) arrange for the Civil Rights Committee to ask PBA, as a tenant, to re-arrange some of the partitions so as to provide for a better flow of air, so as to get the greatest use out of the conditioners.

PHILLO NASH

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

ore

May 20, 1947.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE HONORABLE DAVID K. NILES:

In connection with the removal of the President's Committee on Civil Rights from 1712 "G" Street to the Walker Building, I have had several conversations with Public Buildings Administration people without any real success.

I am afraid that we will have to have pressure from a higher level than I can exert, before we get anywhere with PBA.

The Committee has moved and would not want to move again, and the problem is now one of getting at least four more air conditioners in there right away.

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PHILIP NASH

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE ON CIVIL RIGHTS

1712 G Street NW., Room 208, Washington 25, D. C.

CHARLES E. WILSON,
CHAIRMAN
JOHN S. DICKEY,
VICE CHAIRMAN
FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, Jr.,
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BORIS SHISHKIN
MRS. M. E. TILLY
CHANNING H. TOBIAS

ROBERT K. CARR,
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

CRC

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

To Our Correspondents:

On Monday, May 19, 1947, the offices of the President's Committee on Civil Rights are being moved to Rooms 705-706, Walker Building, 734 Fifteenth Street, N.W., Washington, D. C. To insure prompt delivery of mail to the members and staff of the President's Committee, please take note of this change of address.

Our telephone number will continue as at present, EXecutive 3300, Extension 459.

Sincerely yours,

Robert K. Carr

Robert K. Carr.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

CRC

April 1, 1947.

MEMORANDUM FOR DOCTOR ROBERT K. CARP:

Attached are letters dated March 26 and 28,
from Victor C. Gasper, of the New Harlem Tenant's
League, for your consideration.

PHILIP NASH
Assistant to David K. Miles

Attachments.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

*Civil Rights
Committee*

REAPT

Dear _____:

I am enclosing a copy of the Executive Order creating the President's Committee on Civil Rights, together with a statement ^{to the press} ~~the press~~ issued today.

I want you to know how very much I appreciate your willingness to serve on this Committee and to tell you personally that I feel the task I have assigned you is one of the most important things in this country today. I want to work very closely with you; together I am sure we can do the job.

Your Chairman, Mr. C. E. Wilson, will convene the Committee at an early date.

Very sincerely yours,

W. H. R.

[Faint signature]

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

CRC

February 21, 1947

MEMORANDUM

FROM: ROBERT A. CARL, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE ON CIVIL RIGHTS

SUBJECT: FURTHER REPORT ON THE WILLIE EARLE LYNCHING CASE

A progress report has been received from Turner L. Smith, Chief of the Civil Rights Section, Department of Justice. He reports the following:

- (1) Federal agents are pursuing their investigation of the case.
- (2) State and local officers have arrested some twenty persons and have obtained confessions from twelve of these people. It appears that from 35 to 40 persons were involved in the lynching and that many of these were taxi drivers. (Earle is alleged to have assaulted a taxi driver).
- (3) Thus far federal agents have discovered little or no evidence indicating that any members of the mob acted under "color of law" (a necessary element to a successful prosecution under Section 52). It appears that the jailer, an elderly man, made no attempt to resist the mob and opened the jail door, but thus far there is no evidence that he was a party to a conspiracy.
- (4) In lynching cases where:
 - (a) the evidence will not support a strong federal prosecution under Section 52, and
 - (b) state authorities are making vigorous efforts to arrest and prosecute the guilty parties,it is the policy of the Department of Justice to continue its investigations but to make no effort to seek a federal indictment. As of the present moment the Department of Justice feels that the Earle case falls into this category.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

November 10, 1947.

Dear Mr. Devitt:

I have been holding your letter of November 3 for a few days, in order to determine the date that the Government Printing Office will reprint sale copies of the Committee's report. I have been told that it will be November 14 before copies will again be available at the Superintendent of Documents.

The quantity discount at the Government Printing Office is 25 per cent on orders of more than 100 copies.

I noticed an advertisement in the New York Times of Friday, November 7, by the publishing firm of Simon and Schuster, concerning a commercial edition of the document. It is possible that your constituent might be interested in writing to this company. The address is 1230 Sixth Avenue, New York, New York. I do not know what the quantity discount rates are.

It is kind of you to report the wide interest the document is receiving in Saint Paul. I am sending your letter on to Chairman Wilson in New York.

Sincerely yours,

CHARLES J. DURHAM

The Honorable Edward J. Devitt,
405 Federal Courts Building,
Saint Paul 2, Minnesota.

July

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

ED J. DEVITT
(MSEY COUNTY) MINNESOTA
HOME ADDRESS:
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

MEMBER OF
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

November 3rd, 1947.

In
Ed J. Devitt

The President's Committee on
Civil Rights,
732 Fifteenth Street, N. W., Room 706,
Washington 25, D. C.

Gentlemen:

A constituent of mine in St. Paul, Minnesota
is interested in having about two thousand copies of your
recently published report.

Will you please advise me if the reports are
to be made available to the public, and if so, at what
cost and through what Department they may be secured.

The report is finding wide interest in St. Paul,
and I am sure you must be well satisfied with your work.

Very truly yours,

Edward J. Devitt

Edward J. Devitt,
Member of Congress.

EJD:DH

405 Federal Courts Bldg.,
St. Paul 2, Minnesota.

517

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

HAAS

November 5, 1947.

MEMORANDUM FOR: Most Reverend Francis J. Haas

FROM: Milton D. Stewart

We would like very much to make an analysis of news and editorial coverage of the report, and distribute it to Committee members.

It would be appreciated if members of the Committee would send any clippings that may come to their attention to me at:

66 West 12th Street,
% New School for Social Research,
New York, New York.

After the analysis has been prepared, all of the clippings will be returned.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

MEMORANDUM FOR: James B. Carey

FROM: Milton D. Stewart

We would like very much to make an analysis of news and editorial coverage of the report, and distribute it to committee members.

It would be appreciated if members of the Committee would send any clippings that may come to their attention to me at:

66 West 12th Street,
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New York, New York.

After the analysis has been prepared, all of the clippings will be returned.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

DURHAM

November 10, 1947.

Dear Mr. Durham:

The President has asked me to say to you that the Report of the President's Civil Rights Committee meets all the hopes he had for it.

He regards it as an important document and is confident that it will take its place among the documents on Freedom.

He wants me to express to you his personal appreciation for your service with the Committee and for your share in the preparation of its report.

Cordially,

DAVID K. NILES
Administrative Assistant
to the President

Mr. Charles J. Durham,
Route 1, Box 322,
Vienna, Virginia.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

November 12, 1947.

Dear Mr. Fitzpatrick:

Thank you for your card of November 6, 1947.

You will find that the Committee's report, issued
October 29th, did concern itself with racial discrimination.

Copies of the report may be procured from the
Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office,
Washington 25, D. C., at \$1 each.

Sincerely,

CHELES J. DURAN

Mr. Leo W. Fitzpatrick,
Battle Mountain Sanitarium,
Hot Springs, South Dakota.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

Hayes

May 5, 1947.

MEMORANDUM FOR DOCTOR ROBERT K. CARR:

Attached is a communication to the President, which is along the general lines of the proposal submitted by Walter White and forwarded to you recently.

DAVID K. NILES
Administrative Assistant
to the President

Attachment.

ltr and proposal from Abram Flaxer, President
Public Workers of America, ad to the Pres,
dtd 4-26-47.

Robert K. Carr

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

DRAFT

MEMORANDUM FOR DOCTOR ROBERT K. CARR:

Attached is a communication to the President, which is along the general lines of the proposal submitted by Walter White and forwarded to you ~~yesterday~~. *revel*

~~While the testimony before the President's Committee is already part of your records, so that the proposal is thoroughly familiar to you, this additional letter to the President ought I believe also be made part of the record.~~

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

May 5, 1947.

Dear Mr. Flaxer:

I have your letter of April 26, addressed to the President, and enclosing a copy of your testimony before the President's Committee on Civil Rights.

Since the Committee already has this proposal under consideration, I think we should have the benefits of their recommendations before we take any further steps. As you know, we are now awaiting the Committee's report on this and related problems.

I am forwarding to the Committee your letter to the President.

Sincerely yours,

DAVID K. NILES
Administrative Assistant
to the President

Mr. Abram Flaxer,
President,
United Public Workers of America,
930 F Street N. W.,
Washington 4, D. C.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

C.R.C.

FULGHAM

March 4, 1947.

Dear Mr. Fulgham:

I have your letter of February 7, in which you enclosed the newspaper clipping concerning a statement made by the President on the occasion of the first meeting of his Committee on Civil Rights.

As you say in your letter, the President's position is to stand firm on the Constitution. It was with this idea that he created the Committee on Civil Rights.

If you should wish to communicate with this Committee about your organization, I am sure they will be glad to hear from you. Doctor Robert K. Carr is the Executive Secretary of the Committee. Their offices are at 1712 "G" Street N. W., Washington 25, D. C.

Cordially,

DAVID K. NILES
Administrative Assistant
to the President

Mr. E. J. Fulgham,
The Christian League,
Bluffton, South Carolina.

Subject

I am viewing the President's position and

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President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

THE CHRISTIAN LEAGUE
FOR THE KINGDOM OF GOD MOVEMENT
THY KINGDOM COME. THY WILL BE DONE
ON EARTH AS IN HEAVEN—*Matthew 6:10*



BLUFFTON, S. C.

Feb 7-1947

Mr David K. Niles
Administrative Assistant
to the President.
The White House. Washington Dc.

Dear Mr Niles.

Relative to your request of February 2nd
concerning the text of the Presidents speech
of which I had reference in my letter to the
President January 25. I am inclosing a copy
herewith for your certainty of the matter.

you will also kindly receive my apology
for not being more respectable about the
manner in which I presented the statement.
I should not have used the word traitor
as that does not seem becomming to any one
to use such a word when speaking of a
nobleman. and I did not use the word
with any idea of disrespect whatsoever.
I am only sorry that I allowed my ignorance
to mislead me. Still you will credit me
for having modifying the statement to some
degree. And if you can bear with me
I will try to explain my situation further
more perfect.
I am viewing the Presidents position and

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President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

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see that he is fixed to a post of duty to try and serve a great multitude, a hundred and thirty million or more. and it is a well known fact that all of us are not of the same line of thought. For instance some of this nations multitude are of an opinion that our national laws and regulations should, and must be, enforced to a degree supreme to the Lord God that created us, and placed us first under his laws and ordinances as supreme, to any kind of government, King, Queen, or what not. While another portion of this countries multitude are inclined to stand too, and abide by, the laws of the great creator as supreme, to any law, whether it be a law of one kingdom alone, or a law of some united kingdoms.

These two different opinions are drawing on the powers of our civil government to give them the supreme right-of-way, and it does not seem passable that both can become supreme at one time, under our present regulations. one must give way to the other. In your honest opinion whom do you say should have the supreme right-of-way?

This I say is the Presidents position, he has not the ^{power} right to say who shall rule supremely, his position is to stand firm on the constitution.

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President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

THE CHRISTIAN LEAGUE
FOR THE KINGDOM OF GOD MOVEMENT
THY KINGDOM COME. THY WILL BE DONE
ON EARTH AS IN HEAVEN—Matthew 6:10

Page 3



BLUFFTON, S. C.

which the all wise God has provided. in order to prevent one class of believers from forcing his own theory down the throat of the other. This I say is where the President failed to remain ~~strong~~ firm. And if the constitution is broken then the greater portion will swallow up the minorities and force one form of religion upon all the rest. and the door to reform, and advance toward the Kingdom of God, will be then closed. The constitution is the middle wall between the two, allowing the minorities a chance to live and expand. I can tolerate evil, but I cannot stand to have it forced down my mouth as the Supreme of the universe.

You should now understand why I have asked Mr. John L. Lewis and others to help me defend the supremacy of God. you should also be in a position to know that the latent spirit of which you speak is not merely in the labor unions, and Ku Klux Klans. but it is hard to find any place clear of such evils, if it is to be called an evil.

Please allow me to explain further. This Christian League which I am trying to represent is only an act to bring the divided body of the church of Christ into one channel: which is marked by the life of Christ as our example. and while I have attempted to do this through

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

corresponding with the different churchmen
been much hindered. by postal clerks or insps
my mail has been held up. and some never were
accounted for. was that a legal act? or was it
not some of that kind of latent spirit as you
speak of. I have been deniged the use of
the public radio. and news publishers also
in trying to proclaim my message to the people..

There has been no federal officer to me to explain
the reason for all this.. Can it be passable
that there is some foreign spirit occupying
such positions. It hardly seems to me Mr
President that I was allowed to enjoy my religious
freedom. or privaleges. and please do not think
that I am holding you responsible for such..
I consider that it is a matter almost uncontrollable..
and what shall we do. Throw up our hands and give up..
I look to the Captain of our ship to be the last one to do
such a feeble deed.

are you willing to cooperate with me. and assist me in
my honest attempts? I do not wish to have you
step over the constitution in order to rescue me..
but I do ask that you hold a firm stand. and
prevent the opasit side from overpowering me
altogether. Please do not take issues with either
side. but hold too it that. both the political and
religious sides. shall enjoy their constitutional
rights.

may I have the honor of being
yours very truly.

E. J. Fulgham

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President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

THE CHRISTIAN LEAGUE
FOR THE KINGDOM OF GOD MOVEMENT

THY KINGDOM COME, THY WILL BE DONE
ON EARTH AS IN HEAVEN—Matthew 6:10



BLUFFTON, S. C.

JAN. 25-1947

The Honorable President
Mr Harry S - Truman
The White House
Washington Dc

Mr. J. L. Lewis
President of
the Mine Workers Union

Dear Mr President
As a citizen of these United States of
America, and feeling that my rights
as a citizen has been infringed upon
to the extent that I am resolved to go
into the details of the matter for a better
understanding. One week ago I addressed
a letter to Mr John L Lewis President of
the mine workers union, Washington Dc.
The post office took a long time
to get it to me. This letter was inclosed
a printed statement by the Savannah morning
news. of Savannah Ga. This statement
was supposed to be a speech of your own
origin. This speech however was
worded so as to represent a threat to
some religious movement, and as no
names was used. I took for granted
that I could be the one, or one of the

(over please)

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President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

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kind of which you had reference
as religious bigotry; I may be a
fanatic Mr President but the constitution
grants me such a liberty as I understand
the matter. And your statement was
directed to prevent that God given.
And man given right. And as a man
of such honors as you have Mr President
I was somewhat surprised to think
that you would allow your self to
be engaged into any thing that has the
appearance of a traitor. I might have
caught the wrong view of your message.
and if I have I humbly ask you pardon
me for such. I am not saying
that you meant my case in particular
but since I do represent a Christian
movement I am assuming the accusa-
-tion as much directed against me
as any one else. And while I may
be charged with many things. I allow
you had wisdom enough to at least
give a man a trial before condemning
him. And if you are inclined to assail
~~religious~~ my religious liberty I do
honestly ask that you atleast have

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President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

THE CHRISTIAN LEAGUE
FOR THE KINGDOM OF GOD MOVEMENT

THY KINGDOM COME. THY WILL BE DONE
ON EARTH AS IN HEAVEN—Matthew 6:10



BLUFFTON, S. C.

(3)

an interview with me and find out for certain whether or not I am teaching in line with the holy scriptures. It is not wise to condemn any person until you have heard both sides of the argument. Will you kindly grant me that privilege? Now regarding the letter I addressed to Mr. John L. Lewis, I do not have any idea that Mr. Lewis has received such a letter and I am not trying to force the matter. You should get possession of such a letter and read it for your self. And see if I am attempting to undermine the government. or if the government is attempting to undermine the people.

may I have the honor of being
Very truly yours
E. J. Fulgham —

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President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

GASPAR

THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE ON CIVIL RIGHTS

734 Fifteenth Street NW., Room 706, Washington 25, D. C.

Telephone: Executive 3300, Extension 459

ROBERT K. CARR,
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

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FRANCIS P. MATTHEWS
RT. REV. HENRY KNOX SHERRILL
BORIS SHISHKIN
MRS. M. E. TILLY
CHANNING H. TOBIAS

MEMORANDUM

TO: Hon. David K. Nils
FROM: Robert K. Carr
SUBJECT: L'Affaire Gaspar

On May 15th at 5 P.M., Mr. Gaspar and another member of his organization were received in the Committee's offices. The enclosed letter was read to me in formal fashion. I replied formally, stating that I was happy to receive the resolutions, that they would be turned over to the President's Committee for consideration and that the Committee would ultimately submit a series of recommendations to President Truman.

Mr. Gaspar and his attendant then shook hands with me formally and departed, seemingly pleased with the occasion.

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HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

May 15th 1947

PAGE I

RESOLUTIONS TO THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE ON CIVIL RIGHTS
PERSONAL ATTENTION OF DR' ROBERT K. CARR
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'

FROM THE NATIONAL JOINT CONFERENCE COMMITTEE
NEW HARLEM TENANTS LEAGUE'

Dr. Robert K, Carr'
Executive Secretary
President's Committee
On Civil Rights
1712 G. Steet N-W.
Washington D. C.

Dear Dr. Carr' And Officers of the President's Committee
On CIVIL RIGHTS' GREETINGS'

Our delegates are here today to leave with this committee resolutions of which the immediate attention of President Harry S. Truman is respectfully requested' Ofcourse we have the understanding that because of heavy duties on the President, he is unable to see the representativex of his Black Subjects of Harlem and of this nation This is exceedingly regrettable on the part of this chief executive of thus nation. I suppose as we have here to for said that very likely black people are citizens of this nation according to the convenience of this nation to utilize the un-organized masses of blao people to go forth to fight to sagesguard the Democracy of White people and nations. but never for once black men and women was able to safe qguard for themselves and their race any semblance of EQUALITY' Of Social Justice of Industrial Democracy of racial tolerance and appreciation they have failed to secure these privileges yet America calls on her black subjects to go forth to fight but for what WE DON'T KNOW or do we really can understand' We hope that tolerance. gratitude' Respect for the black people of African blood. of Ethiopian heritage will sooner exist in this nation , and all other white nations in the Eastern and Western Hemisphres'

ON THE ECONOMIC RECONSTRUCTION OF NEGRO PEOPLE' POST WAR JOBS'
INDUSTRIAL DEMOCRACY' RESPECT GRATITUDE TO THE NEGRO PEOPLE IS
WANTED TODAY IN AMERICA'

We have requested in past resolutions to the President an economic reconstruction program political independence for all black people America today is overcrowded with black people. Harlem in particular is over congested' Jobs are getting scarce' very soon unemployment will become a great problem for this nation. We want reconstruction economically industrially and commercially for the Negro people it is time for said people to realize the philosophy of thec decree of the Late President Warren G, Harding in his speech in Alabama if the Negro has a problem said this deseased President' LET HIM SOLVE IT HIMSELF'

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President's Committee
on
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RESOLUTIONS TO THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE
ON CIVIL RIGHTS'
ATT: Of DR' ROBERT K. CARR

The self same words was heralded by the World's Most profound black leader the Late Hon' Marcus Garvey. this great leader told the masses of black people in this nation in the West Indies. in South and Central America. even those in Africa' This great prophet of his race said LET THE NEGRO SOLVE HIS OWN PROBLEMS' but we regret to say that the Negro seemingly does'nt understand that he himself must start today on the road of industry, of commerce, of trade , of finance' of Government of African Colonization of Africa's Redemption' This is the beginning of Negro economic reconstruction ' Will President Harry S. Truman help the unfortunate black people of this nation towards economic reconstruction. towards nationhood' towards Political Independence' NO' If he was interested we say this and we charge come what may, if the President was specifically interested in the reconstruction economically industrially , financially socially and politically. he would have in all due respect for the masses of black citizens of this nation made time. or find it very convenient to see the representatives of the most exploited, the most oppressed , the most discriminated, the most Jimcrowed, the most segregated of all peoples in this nation

But He is not' Like all other White Politicians his interest is as far as to get the Negro to go forth to Vote and fight' since he is free for all NO GOVERNMENT NO COUNTRY OF HIS OWN' We were told in October last year in a conference with the Minister on African Affairs at the State Department Building in this District, Mr. Gaspar you may be right to seek for African Redemption and the colonization of your people. but I am afraid they are not willing to go there' I know that the Southern Negro people and the Preachers has expressed a greater desire to go to colonize themselves in Africa. but the majority rather stay here and fight us' YES' I Said to this Minister, Let them stay, we are not telling , or sending any one to Africa' that's their business. but we are warning them like the Late Hon' Marcus Garvey' we are telling them that if they think that they can stay here fight white people to get EQUAL RIGHTS SOCIAL JUSTICE' their fight I am afraid will be in vain they are fighting a losing battle' I manifested this in that conference I dare to manifest the same thing here today' except the Negro decide to shoulder his own economic industrial and political responsibilities HE IS LOST' And the prophecy the hand writing the Blue Print of Negroes Economic reconstruction dependeth mostly on himself. No one will shape the destiny of the Negro people. Ofcourse we are in duty bound to see those that our people are subjected, but if those to whom our resolutions are given . if they are reluctant on the fundamental issues of Negroes liberation and Negro economic reconstruction' It is squarely up to the Negro to start today on the road to solve his own problems'

ON THE HOUSING SITUATION AS IT CONFRONTS ALL NEGRO COMMUNITIES EVERYWHERE' PARTICULARLY IN NEW YORK BALTIMORE' PHILADELPHIA AND WASHINGTON FEDERAL HOUSING PROJECTS ARE STRICTLY NEEDED' GIVE THIS TO THE NEGRO PEOPLE'

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President's Committee
on
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RESOLUTIONS TO THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE
ON CIVIL RIGHTS'

ATT: Of DR: ROBERT K. CARR'

CLEAR THE SLUMS EVICT ALL DISASSTROUS FIRE-TRAPS

TODAY the alarm is heralded SMALL POX' Why small pox? The New York Daily News, in it's Sunday's Issue of April 13th. told us that this epidemic was the result of a man from Mexic that brought it at the Willard Parker's Hospital and left it there ' presently it is rampany throughout the City and State of New York. Vaccination centers ordered by the Department of Health' Thousands have been vaccinated' in order to drive away this contageous desease' We have made contact with Governor Thomas E. Dewey/ Mayor William O' Dwyer Commissioner Israel Weinstein of the Department of Health' We have also sounded the alarm and we have so far prophecy that except the homes of all tenants be clean and painted. where by rats mice lice roaches and bed bugs that carry a l these contageous desease on humanity. Except said the New Harlem Tenants League that a CLEAN UP' A PAINT UP drive is forcibly place in action. It will not be the man from Mexico patient at the Willard Parker Hospital that will furtherintroduce Small Pox but this will be conveyed to the Tenants in the filthy dens of apartments by the parasytes, rats mice bed bugs ants. flies, roaches that are allowed unmolested to stay and live with the tenants in these filthy and unsanitary homes CLEAN UP HARLEM' and all other communities, this will be of far more importance than vaccination. Let the Department of Housing get busy. send their inspectors on the job, to see that homes of tenants are painted, (NOT ONCE EBERY THREE YEARS|) NO' this is Physically unsound' It is a travesty or rather a misleading part of Health and sanitation.

APARTMENTS OF NEGRO TENANTS UNFIT FOR HUMAN HABITATION'
ANIMALS IN BRONX ZOO HAS BETTER SURROUNDINGS'

Almost every week Negro tenants are being roasted like pigs in the furnaces of the dingy dens of Apartments of which landlords refuses to clean paint, and make the necessary repairs, Monstrous rats devouring infants have been discovered, Large field rats lives among Negro tenants, I saw quite a few of them as large as young kittens WHY IS THIS? IS THIS AMERICAN DEMOCRACY? To allow a privilege Parasytical class of unjust and unscrupulous landlords to endanger the health and social welfare of thousands of people and expose the entire community the City and State to epidemics and social disaster simply because the Officials have failed to enact rigid legislations to force the unjust dishonest landlords where ever they are, who ever they are , those that exp;ois the Negro tenants , and all other tenants with extortionate rentals dies nothing refuse to do justice, Are these landlords, these Real Estate Trusts and Magnets another Government within a Government? President CHarry S? TRUMAN' Please Stop this tragic situation, Congress and Senate of the United States. instead of crucifying Labor and Labor Unions. Enact legislations on the viciopus landlords to keep the health of the community

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President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

PAGE 4.

RESOLUTIONS TO THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE
ATT: OF DR. ROBERT K. CARR'

and that of the people just where it ought to be. We ask President Harry S. Truman that he intercede with the Public Housing Authority or rather the Federal Public Housing Authority, to investigate the housing situation in New York City. In Philadelphia, In Baltimore M. D. In Washington D. C. as it exists today among the Negro tenants, CLEAN UP PAINT UP the homes of all tenants in all cities and states' Congress and the Senate will be rendering a better contribution to the Civic rights, and the Civil liberties of their constituents if instead of placing Labor and Labor Unions on the Cross of Calvary to die between the Criminals of Injesty of industrial exploitation of workers of all races, Congress and the Senate of this nation will do a better job. which will be more appreciative among all workers. tenants and consumers, if they get interested to crucify the vicious landlords, and to force them to observe the sanitary code of the respective communities'

BLACK PEOPLE WHO SO DESIRE SHOULD BE GIVEN THEIR FREEDOM' COLONIZATION IN AFRICAN TERRITORY' LIBERIA ETHIOPIA IS CALLING HER SONS AND DAUGHTERS TO COME HOME' LIKE THE PRODIGAL SON' AFRICA INVITES HER CHILDREN TO DIVORCE THEMSELVES FROM ALL FOREIGN ELEMENTS COME HOME BE SAVED FROM LYNCHINGS BURNINGS. JIMCROWISM SOCIAL AND POLITICAL INJUSTICE'

Ethiopia and Liberia is calling her sons and daughters. Prodigal Sons and daughters COME HOME' It is the hand of God writing on the wall It is Ethiopia stretching forth her hands unto God and unto her impoverished children now in exile in a strange land' We say to the United States of America, To England France Spain and all other White nations that has unlawfully invaded African territory. We serve them this notice. as the Late Hon' Marcus Garvey, as Emperor Haile Sellasie told the League of Nations in 1935. I came said this great prophet the King Of Kings, The Lion Of Juda the Kin of Solomon. I came to warn Europe of the DOOM THAT AWAITS IT' Should it bow before force Europe unfortunately did surrebder to the Allied nations, she is doomed politically industrially. financially. she is doomed in every which way. The emperor said the East and the West shall perish those that has'nt fallen victims of this prophecy we warn them to beware' America Do Justice today to your black subjects of African Blood . If they are not tolerated, If Lynch Legislations or rather if an Anti Lynch Bill cannot be enacted, If social injustice must triumph. if industrial in-equality' if racial discrimination. jimcrowism must prevail we say to you, like Moses to Pharoah ' the time has come. LET MY PEOPLE GO' Thanking you for the privilege to present these resolutions ' We respectfully request that duplicate copies be arranged . and sent to the President and the Senate Banking Committee'

Respectfully yours
NATIONAL JOINT CONFERENCE COMMITTEE
NEW HARLEM TENANTS LEAGUE

Victor C. Gaspar
Victor C. Gaspar. General Secretary-Treasurer

NEW HARLEM
TENANT'S LEAGUE
VICTOR C. GASPAR
GENERAL SECRETARY
130 W. 143RD STREET
NEW YORK 30, N. Y.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
On
Civil Rights

GASPAR

April 7, 1947.

MEMORANDUM FOR DOCTOR ROBERT K. CARR:

Attached for your consideration is a letter
from Mr. Victor C. Gaspar of the New Harlem Tenants'
League.

DAVID K. NILES
Administrative Assistant
to the President

Attachment.

J. H.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

C
O
P
Y

GASPAR

April 4, 1947.

Mr. Victor C. Gaspar,
General Secretary-Treasurer,
The New Harlem Tenants' League,
120 West 143rd Street,
New York 30, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Gaspar:

I have had further conversations with Mr. Philleo Nash and Mr. David K. Niles concerning your desire to have an interview with President Truman on May 15 or May 16. The President's Committee on Civil Rights has been created to advise the President on all matters pertaining to this area and as I have said in my previous letters, I will be only too happy to bring to the Committee's attention any suggestions or recommendations you may wish to submit to us.

As I have told you, I will be glad to talk with you and representatives of your organization when you come to Washington, although it will be impossible for me to agree on an exact hour for an interview until nearer the time. But you may rest assured that I will see you and discuss your problems with you. Moreover, it seems quite clear that the proper way for you to acquaint the President with your problems is by telling your story to this Committee on Civil Rights. One of the reasons why this Committee was created was to allow private persons and organizations to submit reports and recommendations which might ultimately serve as a basis for Committee recommendations to the President.

Sincerely yours,

Robert K. Carr.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

GOLDENTHAL

November 6, 1947.

Dear Mrs. Goldenthal:

The President has asked me to say to you that the Report of the President's Civil Rights Committee meets all the hopes he had for it.

He regards it as an important document and is confident that it will take its place among the documents on Freedom.

He wants me to express to you his personal appreciation for your service with the Committee and for your share in the preparation of its report.

Cordially,

DAVID M. WILES
Administrative Assistant
to the President

Mrs. Hannah Smith Goldenthal,
2813 Terrace Road S. E.,
Washington 20, D. C.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

HTH 5/7

January 5, 1948.

Dear Mr. Harsh:

The Government Printing Office has referred to me your letter of December 26th, in connection with the report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights.

The staff of the Committee was disbanded upon the completion of the report, so that I now have no means of locating the materials you asked for.

Being generally familiar with the work of the Committee, I doubt very much whether there would be any body of graphic material other than that which appears in the publication.

Cordially,

PHILIP NASH
Assistant to David K. Niles

Mr. Vurau G. Harsh,
Branch Librarian,
4801 South Michigan Avenue,
Chicago 15, Illinois.

RECORDED
INDEXED
JAN 10 1948
U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

SO PUBLIC LIBRARY

LIBRARIAN

December
Twenty-sixth
1947

Government Printing Office
North Capitol & H. St. N.W.
Washington D.C.

Gentlemen:

I am interested in having a display at this library of suitable materials, charts, photographs, etc., prepared by the President's committee on civil rights for their report, "To Secure these Rights."

This exhibit is for our annual Negro History Week celebration, which is to be observed February 8-14, 1948.

I wrote to Simon and Schuster, publishers of the book "To secure these Rights" who informed me that you might have items available for the display I am interested in arranging for this special occasion.

Hall Branch is one of the branch libraries in the system of the Chicago Public Library. The distinctive feature of its 20,000 books is a special collection of books and related materials on the Negro.

If there would be any charges for transportation etc., should this material be available, please note them in your reply.

Any assistance you can give us will be greatly appreciated.

Yours very truly,

Orvan G. Harsh
Branch Librarian
Hall Branch Library
4801 So. Michigan Avenue
Chicago 15, Illinois

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

Israel

December 17, 1947.

Dear Mr. Israel:

I have your letter, addressed to Mr. Charles E. Wilson, Chairman of the President's Committee on Civil Rights, in connection with your teaching guide, which you have used at Erasmus Hall High School.

When the President received this report, he said he hoped that Americans generally would read and study it.

I think your teaching guide makes a fine contribution in this direction, and I am very glad to have had an opportunity to see it.

Cordially,

Saul Israel
Saul Israel

DAVID K. NILES
Administrative Assistant
to the President

Mr. Saul Israel,
911 Flatbush Avenue,
Brooklyn 30, New York.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

Erasmus Hall High School
911 Flatbush Ave.
Brooklyn 30, NY
Nov. 29, 1947

Mr. Charles E. Wilson
Chairman
President's Committee on Civil Rights
Washington, D.C.

Answer?

Dear Mr. Wilson:

I have no doubt that you are interested in the extent to which schools are beginning to use the excellent report of your committee in their teaching. Hence, I am enclosing two copies of a teaching guide based on your report which was used by the social studies department of Erasmus Hall High School. Some 1500 copies of your reports were secured through the New York Newspaper PM and were made the basis of social studies lessons.

I am sending this teaching guide in the hope it might be of some value to other schools as well.

Sincerely yours,

Saul Israel

Saul Israel

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee

on

Civil Rights

*Casimir Hall H.S.
Brooklyn, N.Y.*

A TEACHING GUIDE FOR

Prepared by Saul Israel

TO SECURE THESE RIGHTS* THE REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE ON CIVIL RIGHTS

FACTUAL OUTLINE OF REPORT

I. The essential rights

1. The right to safety and security of the person
2. The right to citizenship and its privileges
3. The right to freedom of conscience and expression
4. The right to equality of opportunity

II. The record: short of the goal

The condition of our rights

1. The right to safety and security of the person
 - a. The crime of lynching-failure to punish offenders
 - b. Police misconduct
 - (1) Failure to protect persons against mob injury
 - (2) The third degree
 - (3) Unrepresentative juries
 - c. The wartime evacuation of Japanese Americans
2. The right to citizenship and its privileges
 - a. Citizenship and race
 - b. Citizenship and our colonies
 - c. Limitations on the right to vote
 - (1) White primary
 - (2) Literacy tests
 - (3) Poll tax
 - (4) Intimidation
 - (5) Treatment of Indians
 - d. The armed services and discrimination
3. The right to freedom of conscience and expression
 - a. Communism and fascism
 - b. Civil rights and federal employees
 - c. Problem of totalitarian propaganda
4. The right to equality of opportunity
 - a. The right to employment
 - (1) Discriminatory hiring practices
 - (2) On the job discrimination
 - (3) Efforts to improve the situation
 - (a) FEPC
 - (b) Ives-Quinn Law in New York State
 - b. The right to education
 - (1) The segregated school
 - (2) Discriminatory admission practices
 - c. The right to housing--restrictive covenants
 - d. The right to health services
 - e. The right to public services and accommodations
 - f. Civil rights in Washington, D.C.

III. Government's responsibility* securing the rights

1. Constitutional basis (this can be taught in connection with the Bill of Rights in American History)
 - a. Power to protect the right to vote--Art. I, Sec. 4; 14, 15, 19th amend.
 - b. Power to protect the right to freedom from slavery--13th amend.
 - c. Power to protect rights to fair legal process, to free speech and assembly and to equal protection of the laws--14th amend.
 - d. War power--Art. I, Sec. 8
 - e. Interstate commerce, Art. I, Sec. 8
 - f. Taxing and spending powers--Art. I, Sec. 8
 - g. Postal Power--Art. I, Sec. 8
 - h. Power over D.C. and territories--Art. I, sec. 8, Art. IV, sec. 3
 - i. Power derived from the Constitution as a whole
 - j. Power derived from treaty clause, Art. II, Sec. II; UN Charter
 - k. Republican form of government--Art. IV, Sec 4
2. Role of Supreme Court
3. Civil rights section of the Department of Justice
4. The problem of the climate of opinion (excellent section)

IV. A program of action: the committee's recommendations.

1. Reasons
 - a. Moral
 - b. Economic
 - c. International
2. Some governmental sanctions to safeguard civil rights

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

Suggested Activities For Class

I. Quotations From the Report for discussion

"I am going to read and study this report with great care and I recommend to all my countrymen that they do the same." -Pres. Truman

"The central theme in our American heritage is the importance of individual person."

"We abhor the totalitarian arrogance which makes one man say that he will respect another man as his equal only if he has "my race, my religion, my political views, my social position."

"Freedom, however, as we now use the term, means even more than the traditional "freedoms" listed in our Bill of Rights - important as they are."

"The threat of lynching always hangs over the head of the southern Negro, the knowledge that a misinterpreted word or action can lead to his death is a dreadful burden."

"In a recent case in the Department of Justice files, a Negro school teacher was disqualified under a North Carolina provision requiring an ability to read and interpret the Constitution."

"In the Presidential elections of 1944, 10% of the potential voters voted in the seven poll-tax states, as against 49% in the free vote states."

"The most immediate threat to the right of freedom of opinion and expression is indirect. It comes from efforts to deal with those few people in our midst who would destroy our democracy."

"Discrimination in employment damages lives, both the bodies and the minds of those discriminated against and those who discriminate."

"The public cannot long tolerate practices by private educational institutions which are in serious conflict with patterns of democratic life."

"Equality of opportunity to rent or buy a home should exist for every American."

"Public parks, beaches, and playground are generally closed to Negroes in the South, and on rare occasion when substitutes are offered they are inferior."

"The closer white infantrymen had been to the actual experience of working with Negroes in Combat units the more willing they were to accept integrated Negro platoons in white companies as a good idea for the future."

"The district of Columbia should symbolize to our own citizens and to the people of all countries our great tradition of civil liberty. Instead it is a graphic illustration of a failure of democracy."

"The Committee rejects the argument that government controls are themselves necessarily threats to liberty."

"We must make constructive efforts to create an appropriate national outlook-- a climate of public opinion which will outlaw individual abridgments of personal freedom, a climate of opinion as free from prejudice as we make it."

II. Study the Charts and maps in the Report. What do they indicate?

III. Arrange for forums, panels or round tables dealing with specific sections of the report. Among such might be:

Forum A - How can we protect the right to safety and security of person?

1. How can we prevent lynching?
2. How can we provide for fair police treatment of offenders?
3. How can we make sure our juries are fair?

Forum B - How can we protect the the right to citizenship and privileges?

1. How can we protect the Negroes right to vote?
2. How can we safeguard the liberties of Oriental Americans of Indians-- of Puerto Ricans?
3. How can the armed forces promote democracy?

Forum C - How can we protect the right to freedom of conscience and expression?

1. How can we protect the civil rights of federal employees?
2. How much free speech shall be allowed Communists and Facists?
3. What shall we do about the spreading hate propoganda through the mail?
4. How can Congressional Committees develop fair procedures?

Forum D - How can we protect the right to equality of opportunity?

1. Is the Ives -Quinn law in New York state a success?
2. Do we need a new federal FEPC?
3. What shall we do about discrimination in higher

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

3. How can improved economic conditions alleviate tensions?
4. How can people learn the evil effects of prejudice?
- IV. See the following films: - Oxbow Incident, Black Fury, Crossfire, Gentleman's Agreement. What social problems are portrayed here?
- V. Bright students might make reports on these recent cases affecting civil liberties:
Near vs. Minnesota-free press
Thomas vs. Collins-free speech
W. Virginia State Board of Education vs. Barnette-free religion
Chambers vs. Florida-the third degree
Norris vs. Alabama-fair juries
Smith vs. Allright-white primaries
These can be found condensed in "Leading Constitutional Decision" by R.E. Cushman.
- VI. Some useful references are:
Public Affairs Pamphlets:
No. 43-Cushman, R.E. "Safeguarding our Civil Liberties"
No. 85-Benedict, R. and Veltfish, G. "Races of Mankind"
No. 95-Stewart, M.S. "The Negro in America"
Town Hall bulletin, vol. 13, no. 24, "What can We Do to Improve Race and Religious Relationships in America?"
Swisher, C.B. "American Constitutional Development" N.Y. Houghton Mifflin, 1943
Cushman, R.E. "Our Constitutional Freedoms" Public Affairs, 1944

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

JACKSON

November 6, 1947.

Dear Mr. Jackson:

The President has asked me to say to you that the Report of the President's Civil Rights Committee meets all the hopes he had for it.

He regards it as an important document and is confident that it will take its place among the documents on Freedom.

He wants me to express to you his personal appreciation for your service with the Committee and for your share in the preparation of its report.

Cordially,

DAVID K. NILES
Administrative Assistant
to the President

Mr. Edward W. Jackson,
801 South 15th Street,
Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

Jones

November 25, 1947.

Dear Miss Jones:

I have your letter of November 8, addressed to Senator Tom Connally, requesting copies of the report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights.

I regret to inform you that the supply for public distribution has been exhausted. However, copies may be secured for the price of \$1 by writing the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C.

Cordially,

DAVID K. NILES
Administrative Assistant
to the President

Miss Janice Jones,
Box 14, McMurry College,
Abilene, Texas.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

December 17, 1947.

Dear Mr. Koda:

I am replying to your letter of November 27th, addressed to Mr. Charles E. Wilson, Chairman of the President's Committee on Civil Rights.

I am familiar with the Oyama case and fully appreciate your feelings about it.

The case is now before the Supreme Court and the Justices, I am sure, will give this case the same serious and impartial consideration that they give all cases that come before them.

Cordially,

DAVID K. NILES
Administrative Assistant
to the President

Mr. K. Koda,
South Des Plaines,
California.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
CENTRAL TRANSLATING DIVISION

[TRANSLATION]

TC NO. 47300

T-22 R-VI

To:

His Excellency, the Honorable Charles E. Wilson

South Dos Palos, California.
November 27, 1947.

~~Your~~ Excellency:

It is with feelings of profound respect that I send you this petition.

The case of Fred Oyama versus the California Land Law is still pending in the Supreme Court, and no decision has been made as yet. This is to beg that you exert your influence so that the decision will be in favor of Fred Oyama. As you know, this California Land Law is inhuman and iniquitous in that it deprives persons of their livelihood. I do not think that there are more barbarous and uncivilized laws than this one in the whole wide world. The Lord God must surely be in opposition to it. However much the United States may call themselves a free, democratic country, the fact that there is such a cruel law in a part of the United States and that people torment a minority of the population with it is a thing which cries out to God. It makes us doubt the very spirit which founded this country. In these changing times efforts are being made to spread American Democracy to Europe and to the Orient; and especially in Japan the American democratic spirit of General MacArthur is respected, and the Japanese are co-operating with him to the fullest of their capabilities. However, if this evil law of California be accepted, then every Japanese will feel sympathy for the oppressed Japanese in California and begin to doubt the spirit of the United States, with a consequent bad effect on all co-operation. If the Supreme Court upholds this

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
CENTRAL TRANSLATING DIVISION

[TRANSLATION]

TC NO. 47300 Page Two

law, the California Land Law will become strengthened and there will be further confiscation of lands. Already there have been two or three cases where land has been confiscated.

We have started a civil rights protection society and 100,000 Japanese in the United States have been sending in donations, and we have hired lawyers and are opposing the confiscation of lands. However, if, in the meanwhile, more and more lands are confiscated, the slender funds we have will not be enough to carry on the opposition.

As soon as the war started, we were driven out of California and the lands we had planted and tended with care and the personal property which we had went for a few pennies, and we suffered great losses. For three and a half years we lived in the mountainous deserts in camps behind barbed wire, and now that we have returned to our original holdings in California, some have had their houses burned down and others have been intimidated by bombs and still others were shot at or were beaten up. There are two hundred and forty some cases of this. Following this, there were some one hundred and forty cases of mob violence and land confiscation.

Cannot the Federal Government do something about this problem so that it could be equitably solved, so that this prejudicial treatment be stopped in the name of Humanity, and a just and decent way of living be made possible?

It is reported that the decision of the Supreme Court is to be handed down shortly, but out of my anxiety I am sending you this hurried petition.

With deep respect

K. KODA

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President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

Handwritten Chinese text, likely a letter or report, written in vertical columns. The text is dense and appears to be a formal communication. The characters are somewhat faded and difficult to read precisely, but the structure suggests a multi-paragraph document. The text is written in a cursive style, typical of personal or official correspondence from that era.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

KAUFMAN

November 6, 1947.

Dear Mr. Kaufman:

The President has asked me to say to you that the Report of the President's Civil Rights Committee meets all the hopes he had for it.

He regards it as an important document and is confident that it will take its place among the documents on Freedom.

He wants me to express to you his personal appreciation for your service with the Committee and for your share in the preparation of its report.

Cordially,

DAVID K. NILES
Administrative Assistant
to the President

Mr. Herbert Kaufman,
155 E. Wesholu Parkway North,
Bronx 67, New York.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

November 14, 1947.

Dear Miss Lampe:

I delayed answering your letter of November 4th with the hope that I could give you a better answer.

Since the Committee was dissolved on October 30, I am sorry that I must tell you that there is no one here to put together the material you request. I am sending a copy of the Committee's report that was returned because of insufficient address; our supply of free copies is exhausted.

If you write to the organizations you mention, I am sure that they will be able to tell you in some detail of their participation in the work of the Committee.

Sincerely yours,

CHARLES J. DUNHAM

Miss Jo Ann Lampe,
Tenney House,
Smith College,
Northampton, Massachusetts.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

Tenney House,
Smith College,
Northampton, Mass.,
November 4, 1947.

President's Committee on Civil Rights,
Washington, D.C.

Gentlemen:

I am writing in the hope that you may be able to give me some information relevant to a college undergraduate thesis on which I am working. The thesis is an analysis of four anti-discrimination organizations: the American Jewish Congress, the American Jewish Committee, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and the Urban League.

Since such an analysis necessarily must cover the activities of these organizations, I would very much like to know what part the four under consideration played in the formulation of your Committee's report which was issued last week. I already know, for example, that you held hearings at which the American Jewish Congress issued statements, but were similar hearings held for other organizations? If so, to what extent did your Committee utilize the specialized knowledge of these groups? In other words, did you and could you profit by their experience, or were their statements comparatively valueless? From the newspaper accounts and from my own limited knowledge about the field, Mr. Channing Tobias seemed to be the only representative from "professional" anti-discrimination organizations, and of course, he serves on a number of these committees. Naturally, if you could give me such information, I would not reveal the sources unless you gave me the "green light" on it.

If you feel that you cannot let me have the material requested, could you send me a copy of your report? If there is any charge for this, kindly advise and I will immediately remit. I should like to congratulate your Committee on the fine job you did; the report is undoubtedly one of the most complete and intelligent in the field of anti-discrimination.

Thanking you for any information you may be able to send me, I am,

Very truly yours,

Jo Ann Lampe
Jo Ann Lampe

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

LATTA

April 10, 1947.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE HONORABLE MAURICE C. LATTA:

I know that Mr. Niles has discussed this matter with you, but since he went away this morning a matter has come up, which I know he would want to raise with you if he were here.

The budget of the President's Committee on Civil Rights has been okayed as I understand it, and provides money for 15 people between now and June 30.

The Committee is now employing ten people and this number, I believe, represents their present personnel ceiling regardless of the budget allotment.

They have an opportunity to take on one research person whom they are very anxious to get, and Mr. Niles has agreed to it.

I am wondering whether it would be possible to give them an okay on personnel up to the amount provided in their budget, which would mean raising their ceiling by five persons.

PHILLO NASH
Assistant to David K. Niles

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

November 12, 1947.

Dear Miss Lawson:

Thank you for your letter of November 7, 1947.

Since the Committee's work was completed on October thirty-first, I regret to advise you that the staff studies you mention are not available.

Sincerely,

CHARLES J. DURHAM

Miss Elizabeth Lawson,
232 East 18 Street,
New York, New York.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

LIVERIGHT

December 6, 1946.

Mr. A. A. Liveright,
Executive Director,
American Council on
Race Relations,
32 West Randolph,
Chicago 1, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Liveright:

At the request of Mr. Nash, I am
sending you a few copies of the Executive Order,
together with a Statement, issued by the
President yesterday, creating the President's
Committee on Civil Rights.

Sincerely yours,

KATHLEEN POTTS
Secretary to Philleo Nash

Enclosures.

Subject

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

MASLOW

December 19, 1946.

Mr. Will Maslow,
Director,
American Jewish Congress,
Commission on Law and Social Action,
212 West 50th Street,
New York 19, New York.

Dear Mr. Maslow:

As requested in your recent letter,
I am enclosing several copies of the White House
release establishing the President's Committee on
Civil Rights.

Sincerely yours,

KATHLEEN POTTS
Secretary to Phillio Nash

Enclosures.

Subject

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

December 8, 1947.

Dear Dr. Matthews:

I have your letter regarding duplicates of pictures taken when the President met with the Committee on Civil Rights at the beginning of its work, and at the presentation of the Report.

Harris and Ewing, local photographers, will provide reprints for \$2 a copy.

Mr. Thomas Holmes of Associated Press Photos has reprints for \$3 for the first copy and \$1 for each additional copy.

If you would let me know how many prints of each you would like, I will be very glad to place an order for you.

Cordially,

DAVID K. NILES
Administrative Assistant
to the President

Dr. Francis J. Matthews,
Insurance Building,
Omaha, Nebraska.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

FRANCIS P. MATTHEWS
OMAHA

November 6, 1947

Dear Mr. Niles:

Now that the work of the President's Committee on Civil Rights has been completed, I am wondering if it is possible to secure a duplicate of the photograph taken at the time of the meeting with the President when the work of the committee was started, and also on the occasion when the report was submitted to him.

If these duplicates could be secured for the customary costs, I would be glad to have you order them for me, and, upon advice of the amount due, will be glad to remit.

May I take this opportunity to express my appreciation of the privilege of having become acquainted with you personally. I enjoyed the work on the committee, and I am grateful for the courtesies which you extended to me from time to time.

Sincerely yours,

Francis P. Matthews

Mr. David K. Niles,
Administrative Assistant to the President,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

MATTHEWS

LAW OFFICES
FRANCIS P. MATTHEWS
INSURANCE BUILDING
OMAHA
2

FRANCIS P. MATTHEWS
WM. P. KELLEY

December 4, 1947

Mr. Philleo Nash,
Assistant to Mr. David K. Files,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Nash:

Thank you for the courtesy of your communication of November twenty-sixth relative to the fifty-eight copies of the Report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights. It will not be necessary for you to order any of these copies for me.

Thanking you again, I am

Sincerely yours,

Francis P. Matthews

FPM:mcC

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

November 26, 1947.

Dear Mr. Matthews:

I have your letter of November 12th and have been searching for some means by which I could get you the 58 copies you asked for.

The 25,000 copies printed for general distribution have been completely exhausted, and I have no source to which I can go for the copies you requested.

The reason you, together with each of the other Committee members, received only 42 copies was that there was no source from which to draw the 100 copies the Committee voted for each member, except the cloth-bound volumes. There were not 1,500 of these, and we divided up what there were among each Committee member on a share and share alike basis. The original distribution of the 25,000 free copies included 4,000 to names submitted by Committee members.

The Government Printing Office is receiving a large number of orders and is running off additional copies to meet them. If you want me to place an order for 58 copies for you, I will be glad to do it and see that they are shipped out to you promptly.

Sincerely yours,

PHILIP NASH
Assistant to David K. Niles

Mr. Francis P. Matthews,
Insurance Building,
Omaha 2, Nebraska.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

LAW OFFICES

FRANCIS P. MATTHEWS

INSURANCE BUILDING

OMAHA

2

NEWS

November 12, 1947

The President's Committee on Civil Rights,
734 15th Street, N.W., Room 708,
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

At the time of the meeting of the President's Committee in Washington on October 29th, it was decided that each member of the Committee would get 100 copies of the Report, "To Secure These Rights". So far, I have received only forty-two copies. Depending upon the agreement which was made, I have made commitments for the others, and would like to have you send me the 58 additional copies.

As a matter of fact, I could use more, but I must have the 58, as was agreed upon by the Committee.

Thanking you for your attention to this matter, I am

Sincerely yours,

Francis P. Matthews

FPM:PMcC

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

December 4, 1947.

Dear Senator Mays:

I have your recent letter, addressed to the President, regarding the Report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights, and your request for an additional two copies.

I am sorry to have to tell you that the supply of copies for free distribution has been exhausted. Copies may be purchased, however, from the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C.

Cordially,

PHILLEO NASH
Assistant to David K. Niles

The Honorable,
Senator Calhoun A. Mays,
The Senate, State of South Carolina,
Columbia, South Carolina.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

The Senate
State of South Carolina

JUN A. MAYS
GREENWOOD COUNTY

HOME ADDRESS:
GREENWOOD, S. C.



COMMITTEES:
COMMERCE AND MANUFACTURES
EDUCATION
FEDERAL RELATIONS
HIGHWAYS
JUDICIARY
LOCAL LEGISLATION
RETRENCHMENTS
SOCIAL SECURITY
VETERANS AFFAIRS

Columbia

Greenwood, S. C.

November 15, 1947

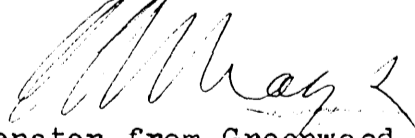
Hon. Harry S. Truman,
President of the United States,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I am reading with much interest
"Report of the President's Committee on Civil
Rights".

If additional copies are available,
I would appreciate your sending me two for
friends of mine, who would like to read this
report and keep copies for future reference.

Very truly yours,


Senator from Greenwood

County

cam/mb

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

McConaughy

December 2, 1947.

Dear Mr. McConaughy:

Thank you for your letter of November 24,
addressed to the President's Committee on Civil
Rights.

Unfortunately, the supply of copies for
free distribution has been completely exhausted.
Copies may be secured, however, for the price of
\$1 by writing the Superintendent of Documents, U.S.
Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C.
A discount of 25 per cent will be allowed on all
purchases of 100 or more publications mailed to
one address.

A commercial edition has been published,
and I understand that many of the newspapers have
printed it as a supplement to their regular editions.

Sincerely yours,

PHILIP HACH
Assistant to David K. Niles

Mr. John B. McConaughy,
University of South Carolina,
Columbia 19, South Carolina.

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HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

University of South Carolina
COLUMBIA

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

November 24, 1947

Mr. Charles E. Wilson, Chairman
President's Committee on Civil Rights
Office of the President
Washington, D.C.

*wants
150 copies*

Dear Mr. Wilson:

I would like to congratulate you and your Committee on Civil Rights for the fine report which you have made. I believe that this report should be given the fullest possible distribution through the public and private schools so as to insure its careful reading and study. Although I agree with the minority report on Federal Aid to education in that I believe that it should be extended without forbidding segregation by the states, yet I believe that only in America could such a report be prepared and written in such ringing but sensible style.

I should like very much to use this report in my classes in political science and discuss it thoroughly. I should, therefore, appreciate it very much if you would be so kind as to send me one hundred and fifty copies of the report for classroom use.

Sincerely yours,

John B. McConaughy

John B. McConaughy
Associate Professor
Box 160
University of S. Carolina
Columbia 19, South Carolina

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights



State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
STATE HOUSE ANNEX
TRENTON 7

DIVISION OF THE STATE LIBRARY,
ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

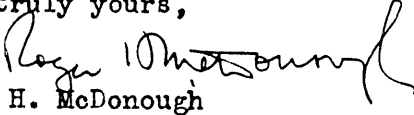
December 12, 1947

Mr. Philleo Nash
Assistant to David K. Niles
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Nash:

Thank you for your letter of December 9th informing me that no bibliographical materials are available in connection with the Wilson Report "To Secure These Rights." I am sorry that these materials are not available, but can understand that the Committee work did not require a formal bibliographical approach. Thank you again for your kind assistance.

Very truly yours,


Roger H. McDonough
Director and State Librarian

RHMcD:B

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights



THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE SERVICE

December 5, 1947

Mr. Philleo Nash
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Nash:

In order to save time, will you be willing
to reply to this telegram directly to Mr. McDonough?

Sincerely yours,

Ernest S. Griffith
Director

Legislative Reference Service

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

McDonough

November 10, 1947.

~~Dear Mayor McDonough:~~

Thank you for your fine letter of November 6, 1947. I have sent it on Mr. Charles E. Wilson, together with a copy to Mr. Milton S. Stewart, c/o New School for Social Research, New York, New York, who may be able to arrange a speaker for you, should Mr. Wilson himself be unable to accept your kind invitation.

Sincerely,

CHARLES E. WILSON

The Honorable,
John J. McDonough,
Mayor of the City of Saint Paul,
Saint Paul, Minnesota.

Sully

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

PHILIP MURRAY
President

Civil Rights
JAMES B. CAREY
Secretary-Treasurer



COMMITTEE TO ABOLISH DISCRIMINATION

718 JACKSON PLACE, N. W.

WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

EXecutive 5581

JAMES B. CAREY, Chairman
WILLARD S. TOWNSEND, Secretary
GEORGE L-P WEAVER, Director

McGUIRE

W. Richard Carter
James J. Leary
William H. Oliver
Morris Pizer
Lee Pressman
Harry Read
M. Hedley Stone
Philip Weightman
Boyd L. Wilson

December 30, 1947

Review

Mr. David Niles
Administrative Assistant
to the President
White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dave,

Enclosed herewith is a copy of a communication
received from Mr. Bernard G. McGuire, which is self-
explanatory.

Will you please take care of this matter.

Sincerely,

George L-P Weaver
George L-P Weaver
Director

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

From Wm. G. McGuire Dec. 13, 1947
(Name) (Date)
53019 - Leavenworth, Kans.
To Mr. J. B. Conroy, Sec. C. I. O., 118 Jackson Pl., Washington, D.C.
(Name) (Address)

DEC 22 1947

Sir:
I am in receipt of a letter dated Nov. 25, 1947, from Mr. George S. P. Heaver, Director of the Committee to Abolish Discrimination, an answer to my letter to you. He advises me that the President's Committee on Civil Rights of which you were a member, has been disbanded, thus implying that you are, therefore, not interested in the matter about which I wrote you.

I noted, with interest, the phrase on your letter reads "Committee to Abolish Discrimination" and felt that you, being chairman, of such a committee, should also on the President's committee with the more sounding title of "Committee on Civil Rights", and being a representative of labor, that is, poor men, was a public spirited man to whom a person who has had very basic and fundamental rights of a citizen grossly violated, might appeal. Evidently, as usual, I was wrong.

I can understand no reason why the disbanding of the President's Committee would cause you to refuse to consider a case so diabolical on the part of the government, having the President's ear, as you must, that is, if you are really interested in the Abolishment of Discrimination and Injustices and the protection of Civil Rights.



HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

(Date)

2.

(Address)

(Name)

as you prefer.
I have tried desperately to bring my case to the attention of someone who is in a position to inquire into it. Each one has declined, with regret, as you did. In other words, the case is too hot to handle, the political opposition being too great.

I am a working man, consequently a poor man, therefore I receive "poor man's justice," and you know what kind of justice that is. I am not an Andrew May.

The facts set out in the application for a writ of certiorari which I sent to you, are facts, not allegations; facts which offend the sense of decency and justice of anyone but a politician. It is unbelievable that this great government of ours would stoop so low as to admit that it deliberately and maliciously committed fraud and perjury to deprive two innocent men of their liberty.

Daily, via the radio and the press, we have heard in our ears, the utterances of men in high places, extolling the virtues of Democracy, the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, Freedom Train, etc. I present some of these men with a set of facts disclosing methods worthy of a Gestapo. Do

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President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

(Name)

(Address)

3
I am interested. Of course not.
I would greatly appreciate your calling
this case to the attention of the President, which
would have to be done personally, otherwise it
would be referred to the Dept. of Justice and
promptly consigned to the wastebasket.

If you are unable to do this, and are not
interested, please return the application for
extension which I sent you.

Respectfully yours,

Donald J. McQuinn,
P. M. B. # 53019.

Box # 1000,

Leavenworth, Kansas.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
RALEIGH

NEWBOLD

Mr. Hoover

October 29, 1946

President Harry S. Truman
White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

Our attention has been called to the possibility that you may decide to appoint a commission to study the whole question of lynching in America. In the event that you do, I am suggesting that you consider for appointment on such a commission one of the following prominent Negroes of North Carolina:

1. Dr. James E. Shepard, Durham, North Carolina
2. Dr. C. C. Spaulding, Durham, North Carolina
3. Dr. J. W. Seabrook, State Teachers College,
Fayetteville, North Carolina
4. Mr. C. C. Chick, State Teachers College, Fayetteville,
North Carolina

If you wish to consider a prominent Negro from this state, a number of people in this state will be glad, I am sure, to offer suggestions in the event you do decide to create such a commission.

I have communicated with Senator Clyde R. Hoey of this state about this matter, and he has advised that it be brought directly to your attention.

Wishing you continued health and happiness in your great work, I am

Very sincerely yours,

N. C. Newbold

N. C. NEWBOLD, Director
Division of Negro Education

NCN:mn

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

NILES

May 19, 1947.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE HONORABLE DAVID K. NILES:

As you requested, I had a talk with Bob Carr, getting the background of Charles Wilson's and Luckman's request to see the President.

You can expect that Luckman will ask the President to okay a proposal to develop an educational campaign on civil rights now, so that advertising, radio spot announcements, etc., will be in readiness at the time the Committee's report is submitted to the President.

Luckman's argument in the full Committee has been that it takes four months to prepare such a campaign, and if the preparation is not made until after the report is submitted, the campaign will have a slow start, not possibly before February 1, 1948. Luckman wants to start October 1, 1947.

Inside the Committee, Luckman has provoked a good deal of dissension, by his proposal. Wilson feels that Luckman is rushing things, and there is a fear in the Committee that to prepare the campaign now will be to write the Committee's report in advance.

The other question is a matter of sponsorship. Should the President's Committee, as such, engage in an educational campaign using the mass media, or should it merely recommend such a campaign to be conducted under other auspices, such as the Advertising Council?

The President will be asked what his wishes are.

Luckman's approach is a little disruptive to the Committee. Some Committee members feel that he is pushing himself too hard, and the staff fears that the Committee may get its eye off the ball, which is the writing of the report for the President.

The other hazard, of course, is the matter of sponsorship. No one knows what's going to be in the report yet. At this point, no one knows exactly what content Luckman would want to put in such a campaign. The President can't buy a "pig in a poke", and I don't imagine he is very likely to.

July

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

To avoid dissension in the Committee, to insure the completion of the report, and to make sure that the Committee's report will be the basis of any future action, I believe it would be best to suggest to Mr. Luckman that his idea is a good one, but that it is premature to plan a campaign until the report has been prepared.

PHILLO NASH

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

HELEN GAHAGAN DOUGLAS
14TH DISTRICT CALIFORNIA

CRC
COMMITTEE:
FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, D. C.
May 14, 1947

NILES

Mr. David Niles
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Niles:

I am writing you about the Civil Rights Commission. As you are well aware, my district is the third largest Negro district in the country, following closely on the heels of Chicago and New York. Despite this fact, there have been no appointments to the Civil Rights Commission from the West Coast. I am well aware that this Commission will shortly wind up its work, but I call it to your attention because the situation with regard to the Commission represents a pattern which is highly disheartening to the third largest Negro district in the country. Moreover, the President has made no outstanding Negro appointments that I know of from the West Coast.

Believe me, the Negroes on the West Coast are well aware of this. They feel very resentful over the fact that they are continuously passed over in the matter of appointments. They feel that the problems of the West Coast are seldom thoroughly considered. I have had communications and letters and phone calls on the matter.

I think this is a valid and serious complaint.

It is bad enough when the West Coast is treated as a colony in the matters of steel, transportation and reclamation; but when we are treated as a colony in matters of basic human relations, the results can be politically disastrous.

We should remember that N.Y.P.C. was passed in New York State and is operating there, also that Governor Dewey has made many major Negro appointments. Just to cite a few, may I mention the following three: Mr. J. B. Powell, the publisher of the Amsterdam News, a Negro publication which has the largest concentrated circulation, to the Housing Commission; Judge Francis S. Rivers, Justice of the City Court; and Mr. Grant Reynolds appointed to the Commission of Corrections.

You might say that Negroes overstress this matter of appointments, but for people who have long suffered in their relations with the community and who are still denied the basic rights of citizenship in many states--not to speak of discrimination in job opportunity in all states--Negro appointments are to them proof of the sincerity on the part of the party or individual making the appointment of their desire to play fair with the Negro people.

I must say I sympathize with this point of view.

Sincerely yours,

Helen Gahagan Douglas

cc: Mr. Philco Nash

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

RUSK

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

December 10, 1946.

MEMORANDUM FOR MISS ELIZABETH RUSK:

I am enclosing a copy of the
White House release establishing the
President's Committee on Civil Rights on
December 5, 1946.

Will you please see that we
receive complete coverage?

PHILLO NASH

Enclosure.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

SADY

November 6, 1947.

Dear Mrs. Sady:

The President has asked me to say to you that the Report of the President's Civil Rights Committee meets all the hopes he had for it.

He regards it as an important document and is confident that it will take its place among the documents on Freedom.

He wants me to express to you his personal appreciation for your service with the Committee and for your share in the preparation of its report.

Cordially,

DAVID K. NILES
Administrative Assistant
to the President

Mrs. Rachel Reese Sady,
61 Hawaii Avenue N. E.,
Washington 11, D. C.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

SHAW

December 31, 1946.

Mr. G. Howland Shaw,
President,
Catholic Interracial Council
of Washington, D. C.,
2723 M Street N. W.,
Washington 7, D. C.

Dear Mr. Shaw:

In connection with the resolution adopted at a meeting of the Catholic Interracial Council on November 12, 1946, I am enclosing a copy of the recent Executive order establishing the President's Committee on Civil Rights.

I am sure it will be of interest to the Council. It gives me a great deal of pleasure to be able to send it to you.

Cordially,

DAVID K. NILES
Administrative Assistant
to the President

Enclosure.

Shaw

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

SHORT

November 25, 1947.

Dear Mr. Short:

I have your memorandum for November 14, attaching a request from Mr. James C. Crutch for a copy of the report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights.

I regret to inform you that the supply of the report for public distribution has been exhausted, and it has been necessary for us to send our correspondents a copy of the attached information slip, telling them where copies may be purchased.

Cordially,

DAVID K. NILS
Administrative Assistant
to the President

The Honorable Dewey Short,
House of Representatives,
Washington 25, D. C.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

November 12, 1947.

Dear Mr. Smith:

Can you do anything with this letter? *cd*

Sincerely,

CHARLES J. FUGLUM

Mr. Turner Smith,
Chief,
Civil Rights Section,
Department of Justice,
Washington 25, D. C.

attached letter from Paul Voccaro, 49471,
135 State St.
Auburn, N.Y.
inmate of penal institution.

Ray E. Gates
13415 - 14th St NW,
Wash, D.C.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

December 2, 1947.

Dear Miss Spector:

Thank you for your letter of November 22, addressed to the President's Committee on Civil Rights, regarding copies of the Report of the Committee.

I am sorry to have to tell you that our supply of copies for free distribution has been completely exhausted. Copies of the report may be obtained, however, by writing the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C. The price is \$1 a copy. A discount of 25 per cent is allowed on purchases of 100 or more publications mailed to one address.

I understand that a commercial edition has been published, and that many newspapers have printed it as a supplement in their papers.

Cordially,

PHILLED NASH
Assistant to David K. Niles

Miss E. Spector,
Bronx, New York.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

December 9, 1947.

Dear Mr. Steadman:

Thank you for your letter of November 25, addressed to the President's Committee on Civil Rights, regarding additional copies of the Report.

I am very sorry to have to tell you that our supply of free copies has been exhausted. Copies may be purchased from the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C.

A commercial edition has been published and is available at most bookstores.

Cordially,

PHILLES NASH
Assistant to David K. Niles

Mr. Robert F. Steadman,
Professor of Government,
Wayne University
Detroit 1, Michigan.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

WAYNE UNIVERSITY

BOARD OF EDUCATION

DETROIT 1, MICHIGAN

SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT

November 25, 1947

President's Commission on Civil Rights
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your recent excellent report; and to request six (6) additional copies, if these are available.

In my judgement, the commission has contributed greatly to construction of a foundation upon which sound solutions may be built.

The interest expressed in the report by my colleagues here, and by our graduate students is an indication of the high quality of the report.

Very sincerely yours,

Robert F. Steadman
Robert F. Steadman
Professor of Government

FFS/lf

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

STEWART

MILTON D. STEWART

11-7

Dear Philleo,

Here's the financial data. There are two problems which I hope won't make any trouble for you. First, I spent one Sunday, Nov. 2 on the job in Washington (radio forum) and your form shows no work on that date. Suggest you shift the 8 hours from Nov. 1 to Nov. 2 to conform to reality. Second, on two of the four trips I paid my own ~~freight~~ freight to Washington via air since I had no travel book. My return trips were paid from Bob's or the office's travel book. I've indicated this, and have put down as the sum laid out, not what I paid, but the rate charged the government. Okay?

In general, thanks a million for carrying through on this for me. I will appreciate any success you have in speeding the process of repayment; the money's earmarked already. Discussion of other matters can wait for my next trip down which will be ~~in~~ right after Xmas for the American Political Science Association convention. Roger tells me the A.G. is planning his conference to coincide -- but it's such short notice I can't take it seriously.

Best to the family.

Milton.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

STEWART

November 10, 1947.

Dear Mr. Stewart:

The President has asked me to say to you that the Report of the President's Civil Rights Committee meets all the hopes he had for it.

He regards it as an important document and is confident that it will take its place among the documents on Freedom.

He wants me to express to you his personal appreciation for your service with the Committee and for your share in the preparation of its report.

Cordially,

DAVID E. RILES
Administrative Assistant
to the President

Mr. Milton D. Stewart,
c/o New School for Social Research,
66 West 12th Street,
New York, New York.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

STEWART

C 1 1

October 23, 1947.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE HONORABLE M. C. LAYDA:

In the absence of Mr. Niles, I am passing
on a memorandum relative to the appointment of
Milton D. Stewart as Special Consultant to the
President's Committee on Civil Rights.

PHILIP WASH
Assistant to David K. Niles

Attachment.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

SUDWARTH

November 20, 1947.

Dear Miss Sudwarth:

The President has asked me to say to you that the Report of the President's Civil Rights Committee meets all the hopes he had for it.

He regards it as an important document and is confident that it will take its place among the documents of freedom.

He wants me to express to you his personal appreciation for your service with the Committee and for your share in the preparation of its report.

Sincerely,

DAVID M. RILEY
Administrative Assistant
to the President

Miss Ann E. Sudwarth,
2115 F Street N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

December 19, 1947.

Dear Dr. Underhill:

The Honorable Hugh D. Scott has referred to me your request for a copy of the report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights.

I am sorry to have to tell you that the supply of copies for free distribution has been exhausted.

However, copies may be purchased by writing the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D.C.

Sincerely yours,

PHILIP NASH
Assistant to David K. Miles

Reverend Irwin W. Underhill, Jr.,
6329 Burbridge Street,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

ARNON M. GULICK
SECRETARY

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

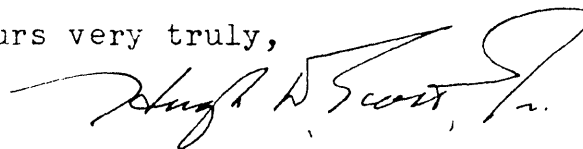
December 18, 1947.

Secretary,
President's Committee on Civil Rights,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Sir:

I have a request from Rev. Irwin W.
Underhill, Jr., 6329 Burbridge Street, Philadelphia
44, Pa., for a copy of your Committee's report on
Civil Rights. If you will be able to forward him
a copy or advise him how one may be obtained I will
appreciate it.

Yours very truly,



Hugh D. Scott, Jr.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

VANDEGRIFT

November 6, 1947.

Dear Mr. Vandegrift:

The President has asked me to say to you that the Report of the President's Civil Rights Committee meets all the hopes he had for it.

He regards it as an important document and is confident that it will take its place among the documents on Freedom.

He wants me to express to you his personal appreciation for your service with the Committee and for your share in the preparation of its report.

Cordially,

DAVID R. HIBBS
Administrative Assistant
to the President

Mr. John L. Vandegrift, Jr.,
3241 38th Street N.W.,
Washington, D. C.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

Civil rights

VESSELS

January 29, 1947.

Dear Miss Vessels:

I wish to thank you for your recent letter to the President commending his statement on civil rights. The President appreciates your support of his position.

You may be sure of his continued interest in this important problem.

Sincerely yours,

WILLIAM D. HASSETT
Secretary to the President

Miss Alma Vessels, R.N.
Executive Secretary,
National Association of Colored
Graduate Nurses, Inc.,
1790 Broadway,
New York 19, New York.

W.D.H.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

Edward F. Waite
DISTRICT COURT
EDWARD F. WAITE, JUDGE

505 Pence Bldg.
MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

November 11, 1947

The President's Committee on Civil Rights,
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

I should have difficulty in overstating the gratification with which I have read your recent report. "Epoch-making" is the term which comes naturally to my mind, and I rejoice that a life which began when the Dred Scott decision was shaking the foundations of human rights in the United States has been prolonged to witness such a frank and authoritative confession of our great national sin, and such thorough-going and courageous effort to wipe out the stain.

I am taking the liberty to send you the enclosed pamphlet,-- not, I think I can honestly say, merely for the purpose of calling attention to my own project in the field you have been studying, but specifically to place within easy reach of members of your Committee material which I believe will be of interest to them; and chiefly to call attention to the analysis on pages 246 - 252 of Plessy vs. Ferguson, a decision which has done inestimable harm and ought to be expressly overruled. Perhaps the members of the Committee, even though they may have completed their official function, may retain sufficient interest in their monumental work to seek the advice of lawyers much better versed in constitutional law than I am, as to the advisability of trying to secure a reversal of this crude decision, so superficial in its terms and so vicious in its results.

Under separate cover I am sending 15 additional copies of the reprint, for distribution to the members of the Committee if thought worth-while.

Sincerely yours,

Edward F. Waite

EFW/gc

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

WALDMAN

December 2, 1947.

Dear Mr. Waldman:

Thank you for your letter of November 24,
addressed to the President's Committee on Civil
Rights, regarding the Report of that Committee.

Unfortunately, our supply of copies for
free distribution has been completely exhausted.
Copies may be obtained, however, for the price of
\$1 by writing the Superintendent of Documents,
U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25,
D. C.

Sincerely yours,

PHILLO NASH
Assistant to David K. Niles

Mr. Louis Waldman,
Chairman,
Standing Committee on American Citizenship,
American Bar Association,
New York, New York.

Waldman

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION
ORGANIZED 1878
STANDING COMMITTEE ON AMERICAN CITIZENSHIP
1947-1948

*Report by
letter*

COMMITTEE
N. CHAIRMAN
WAY, NEW YORK 7, N. Y.
CHOLSON
RNON ST., BOSTON 8, MASS.
REY
JRNAL SQUARE, JERSEY CITY 6, N. J.
C. COLEMAN
OFFICE BLDG., BALTIMORE 2, MD.
S E. DUNBAR, JR.
ITED FRUIT BLDG., NEW ORLEANS 12, LA.
EN S. DICKINSON
ATIONAL BANK BLDG., DETROIT 26, MICH.
LTER F. DODD
30 N. LASALLE ST., CHICAGO 2, ILL.
DWARD L. WRIGHT
BOX 1260, LITTLE ROCK, ARK.
HAROLD R. MCKINNON
220 BUSH ST., SAN FRANCISCO 4, CALIF.
ROSS L. MALONE, JR.
J. P. WHITE BLDG., ROSWELL, N. M.

November 24, 1947

Charles E. Wilson, Chairman,
President's Committee on Civil Rights,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

Dear President Wilson:-

From press reports, it would appear
that the report of the President's Committee
on Civil Rights contains recommendations which
might be of interest to the Committee on American
Citizenship of the American Bar Association.

Would you be kind enough to send me a
copy of the report, so that I may familiarize
myself with its recommendations?

Sincerely yours,

LW:MH

Sam Waldman

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

November 11, 1947.

Dear Mr. Warren:

Thank you for your fine letter of November 10th.


Since the Committee's work terminated on October 30th, I am sorry to tell you that the free supply of the Committee's report is exhausted. However, I am told that the Government Printing Office has asked for a re-run of the document. Copies should be available after November 15th.

In addition, I have been told that Simon and Schuster, 1230 Sixth Avenue, New York, New York, still has a few copies on hand, although their first edition of 25,000 has been exhausted.

Cordially,

CHARLES J. DURELL

Mr. S. M. Warren,
Social Science Department,
Southern University,
Southern Branch Post Office,
Baton Rouge, Louisiana.



HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY
F. G. CLARK, President
SOUTHERN BRANCH POST OFFICE
BATON ROUGE, LA.

November 10, 1947

SOCIAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

The President's Committee on Civil Rights
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sirs:

I am anxious to secure copies of your report, To Secure These Rights for classes in American Government and History. Rush as many as you can and the name of the Government Agency or publishing company which is getting out inexpensive copies for wide distribution to schools and colleges.

Thanking you for this monumental contribution to the cause for which most of us are fighting in so many ways, I am

Very truly yours,

S. E. Warren

S. E. Warren, Head

SW/asn

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

WECHSLER

November 6, 1947.

Dear Mrs. Wechsler:

The President has asked me to say to you that the Report of the President's Civil Rights Committee meets all the hopes he had for it.

He regards it as an important document and is confident that it will take its place among the documents of freedom.

He wants me to express to you his personal appreciation for your service with the Committee and for your share in the preparation of its report.

Cordially,

DAVID E. HILLS
Administrative Assistant
to the President

Mrs. Nancy F. Wechsler,
3422 Reservoir Road, N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

WHITFORD

November 9, 1967.

Dear Mrs. Whitford:

The President has asked me to say to you that the report of the President's Civil Rights Committee meets all the hopes he had for it.

He regards it as an important document and is confident that it will take its place among the documents on Freedom.

He wants me to express to you his personal appreciation for your service with the Committee and for your share in the preparation of its report.

Cordially,

DAVID M. NILES
Administrative Assistant
to the President

Mrs. Berle S. Whitford,
5021 S. Merrimac,
Oak Lawn, Illinois.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

WILSON

Ampl.

House of Representatives
State of Tennessee

HENRY NEWTON WILLIAMS
REPRESENTATIVE
DICKSON COUNTY
DICKSON

NASHVILLE

Dickson, Tennessee
November 4, 1947

Mr. C. E. Wilson, Chairman
President's Committee on Civil Rights
734 Fifteenth Street N.W., Room 706
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. Wilson:

I appreciate your sending me a copy of The Report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights. Would it be possible for me to obtain copies of the staff studies referred to on page xi? I should be grateful for them.

Sincerely yours,

H. N. Williams

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

WIRTH

December 1, 1947.

Dear Dr. Wirth:

Thank you very much for your expression of interest in the report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights, and for your efforts to give it a wide distribution.

As you know, all matters connected with the Freedom Train are being handled by the American Heritage Foundation. Your suggestion has been brought to their attention, and you will no doubt be hearing from the Foundation in the very near future.

Cordially,

DAVID K. NILES
Administrative Assistant
to the President

Dr. Louis Wirth,
President,
American Council on Race Relations,
32 West Randolph Street,
Chicago 1, Illinois.

HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

A **AMERICAN COUNCIL ON RACE RELATIONS**

32 WEST RANDOLPH STREET CHICAGO 1 PHONE CENTRAL 3066

LOUIS WIRTH
President

November 18, 1947

CLARENCE E. PICKETT
Chairman of Board
CHARLES HOUSTON
Vice-President, Consultant
WILL W. ALEXANDER
Vice-President, Treasurer
MARY-JANE GRUNSFELD
Secretary

Mr. David Niles
Administrative Assistant to the President
White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Niles:

At the November 13-16 Conference on Local Race Relations and Minority Group Problems held here at International House a resolution was unanimously adopted endorsing the findings and recommendations of the President's Committee on Civil Rights' report, "To Secure These Rights." The delegates from 150 race and inter-group relations agencies, comprising both officials and citizens' groups, urged the wide distribution of the report and the most effective and economical implementation of its recommendations at as early a date as possible.

Enclosed you will find copies of telegrams which we have sent to the Attorney General and to the American Heritage Foundation urging the inclusion of copies of the Report for distribution to persons who will visit and inspect the Freedom Train.

We are calling upon you to help us in any way you can to implement this plan. We understand that government printing office copies are exhausted and that commercial editions will be available soon. In the interim, however, we believe it is important that copies of the complete Report, or condensed version, bearing the government seal should be made available to the visitors of the Freedom Train at a popular price. You are, of course, familiar with the PM newspaper special Sunday supplement which sold for a few cents. Perhaps a similar edition might be made available.

In a few days we are sending you a copy of the release describing the plans of all national agencies in this field as they concern the implementation of the President's Committee Report. We plan to keep all agencies currently informed of developments in this area and, if you will keep us posted of developments as you learn of them, we will include them in future releases.

Sincerely yours,

Louis Wirth
Louis Wirth

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HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY

President's Committee
on
Civil Rights

11/17/47 NIGHT LETTER 8:30 P.M.

WIRE

TOM C. CLARK
ATTORNEY GENERAL
WASHINGTON, DC

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TELEGRAM REPLY TO OUR INVITATION WHICH WAS READ AT THE GENERAL SESSION OF NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LOCAL RACE RELATIONS AND MINORITY GROUP PROBLEMS. YOUR MESSAGE GAVE COURAGE AND REASSURANCE TO THE ASSEMBLED DELEGATES OF ONE HUNDRED FIFTY OFFICIAL AND CIVIC AGENCIES. THE CONFERENCE UNANIMOUSLY ENDORSED THE REPORT "TO SECURE THESE RIGHTS" AND DEVELOPED PLANS FOR ASSISTING IN IMPLEMENTATION OF ITS RECOMMENDATIONS ON ALL LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT AND THROUGH CITIZENS ORGANIZATIONS. A COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT AT CONFERENCE CONSIDERED PLANS OF ALL AGENCIES FOR DISSEMINATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF REPORT AND URGED THAT YOU BE RESPECTFULLY REQUESTED TO EMPLOY THE PRESTIGE OF YOUR OFFICE IN (ONE) ENCOURAGING THE APPROPRIATE ADMINISTRATIVE AGENCIES OF THE GOVERNMENT IN PRINTING AN ADEQUATE SUPPLY OF OFFICIAL COPIES, BEARING THE IMPORTANT GOVERNMENT SEAL, OF "TO SECURE THESE RIGHTS" FOR ADEQUATE PUBLIC CONSUMPTION AND (TWO) ENDORSING A PLAN FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF COPIES OR POPULARLY PRICED CONDENSATIONS OF THE REPORT ON THE FREEDOM TRAIN. THIS LATTER SUGGESTION HAS BEEN SENT TO AMERICAN HERITAGE FOUNDATION. URGE YOU REENFORCE OUR REQUEST. RESPECTFULLY.

LOUIS WIRTH, PRESIDENT
AMERICAN COUNCIL ON RACE RELATIONS
LOUIS HOSCH, SECRETARY
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF INTERGROUP
RELATIONS OFFICIALS
32 W. RANDOLPH STREET
CHICAGO, 1, ILLINOIS

Louis Weiss

Walter White

Donald Young

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DAY LETTER 11/18/47

MR. WINTHROP ALDRICH, CHAIRMAN OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES
AMERICAN HERITAGE FOUNDATION
17 EAST FORTY-FIFTH STREET
NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK

AT THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON RACE RELATIONS AND MINORITY GROUP PROBLEMS NOVEMBER
13-16 ATTENDED BY DELEGATES FROM 150 RACE AND INTERGROUP RELATIONS AGENCIES, OFFICIAL
AND CITIZENS GROUPS IN THE UNITED STATES, A RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED ENDORSING
PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE ON CIVIL RIGHTS REPORT "TO SECURE THESE RIGHTS" AND URGING
WIDE DISTRIBUTION OF THE OFFICIAL COPY OF THE REPORT AND THE MOST EFFECTIVE AND
ECONOMICAL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REPORT AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE.
A COMMITTEE OF THIRTEEN NATIONAL RACE RELATIONS AND MINORITY GROUP AGENCIES MEETING
AT THE CONFERENCE DEVELOPED INITIAL PLANS FOR A COORDINATED DISTRIBUTION AND IMPLE-
MENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE REPORT. ONE OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS URGES
YOUR FOUNDATION TO INCLUDE POPULARLY PRICED EDITIONS BEARING THE GOVERNMENT SEAL
OF "TO SECURE THESE RIGHTS" ON THE FREEDOM TRAIN. WE RESPECTFULLY URGE YOU TO
TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO INCLUDE "TO SECURE THESE RIGHTS" AMONG THE OTHER
IMPORTANT HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS AND THAT COPIES BE AVAILABLE FOR THE TRAIN VISITORS

LOUIS WIRTH, PRESIDENT
AMERICAN COUNCIL ON RACE RELATIONS

LOUIS HOSCH, SECRETARY
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF INTERGROUP
RELATIONS OFFICIALS

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Walter White - Sara E. Southall
Donald Young