

Telegram, A. Philip Randolph to Harry S. Truman, March 22, 1951.
Official File, Truman Papers.

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The White House
Washington

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THE PRESIDENT

THE WHITE HOUSE

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AM SHOCKED TO LEARN HOUSE ARMED SERVICE COMMITTEE WROTE RACIAL
SEGREGATION PROVISION INTO DRAFT-UMT BILL. THE UNITED STATES ARMED
FORCES WITH A RACIAL SEGREGATION PATTERN IS UTTERLY INCONSISTENT
WITH OUR DEMOCRATIC PRONOUNCEMENTS. RACISM IN THE ARMED FORCES CAN
ONLY SUCCEED IN DEFEATING THE HIGH MORALE OF OUR FIGHTING FORCES AND
CONTRIBUTE TO NATIONAL DISUNITY. RACIAL-SEGREGATION CANNOT CONVINC

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ANYONE AT HOME OR ABROAD TO OUR AVOWED DETERMINATION TO DEMOCRATIZE
THE WORLD. I IMPLORE YOU TO DO EVERYTHING IN YOUR POWER TO DEFEAT
ANY PROVISION WHICH WILL RESULT IN RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AND
SEGREGATION AGAINST ANY AMERICAN CITIZEN WHO BEARS ARMS IN
DEFENSE OF THE NATION. THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE BROTHERHOOD OF
SLEEPING CAR PORTERS WITH 110 LOCALS IN THE UNITED STATES ARE
ALARMED AT THE RACIST ACTION OF THE HOUSE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE.
URGE YOUR SUPPORT FOR DEFEAT OF THIS PROVISION

A PHILIP RANDOLPH INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT..

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