

Correspondence with Philleo Nash re: final copies of "Freedom to Serve", June 9, 1950. Nash Files, Truman Papers.

*Com on Quality*

*Comments and*

*Correspondence on:*

- 1. Issuance of Ex Order  
in 1948*
- 2. Rpt. - presented  
5.22.50*



Philleo Nash

This is wonderful progress. I hope  
there are more <sup>articles</sup> stories like this one  
getting out in the coming months.  
May I have this back?

S. M. E.



RAYMOND PACE ALEXANDER  
MACEO W. HUBBARD  
SADIE T. MOSSELL ALEXANDER  
MATTHEW W. BULLOCK, JR.  
G. WESLEY ALLEN

LAW OFFICES  
RAYMOND PACE ALEXANDER  
40 SOUTH NINETEENTH ST.  
PHILADELPHIA 3, PA.

Rittenhouse 6-9960

HONORARY CONSUL OF HAITI

June 7th, 1950

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

Dear Mr. Nash:

I wish to express my appreciation for your thoughtfulness in sending me a copy of "Freedom to Serve", the report of the President's Committee on Equality of Treatment and Opportunity in the Armed Services. It is apparent that the Committee had a thorny problem which it has honestly attempted to solve.

I wonder are there any hard backed

I wonder are there any hard backed  
copies of the Report and if so may I request that  
you send one of these to me. I want to preserve  
this Report as another milestone in our American  
democratic process.

Very sincerely yours,



*Sadie T. M. Alexander*  
SADIE T. M. ALEXANDER

STMA:drj

to: ~~Dave Bell~~  
from: Philleo Nash



Thank - I got a copy already.  
Very well written.  
*[Signature]*

Kenworthy

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 24, 1950

Dear Philleo:

I think your latest report is a fine job. I am pleased at the initial response. I hope that magazines and weekly papers take it up now and give it a good boost.

  
GEORGE M. ELSEY



Whitehall 4-9000

Poston

Founded 1801  
**New York Post**  
75 WEST STREET • NEW YORK 6, N. Y.

5/23/50



Dear Keller:

I seldom attempt  
an editorial on this  
paper, but I couldn't  
resist a try on this.

Thank you to reports;  
have already made good  
use of them. How

use of 3 of 10  
you're sending some to our  
friend out West? Ted.

Bethune

Mary McLeod Bethune

May 30, 1950

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

My dear Philleo Nash:

You were very kind to send me a copy  
of FREEDOM TO SERVE, by the President's Committee.  
I appreciate it more than I can tell you.

I shall go through it with great interest  
and understanding, and deep gratitude for the  
forward strides we have made. God bless our  
President and give him great vision and even greater  
courage and spiritual undergirding to carry on in  
a day like this.

We shall all stand prayerfully and  
loyally by him.

Sincerely yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune.

Mary McLeod Bethune  
Founder President-Emeritus  
Bethune-Cookman College



Founder President-Emeritus  
National Council of Negro Women

631 Pearl Street  
Daytona Beach, Florida

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DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION



# Southern Regional Council, Inc.

ROOM 432, 63 AUBURN AVENUE, N. E.

ATLANTA 3, GEORGIA

A Council to attain, through research and action, the ideals and practices of equal opportunity for all peoples in the South.

June 9, 1950

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

Dear Philleo:

Freedom to Serve duly came. We have already mailed it out to the officers of our State Divisions and affiliated interracial committees over twelve Southern States and to the Fellows of the Council, who number approximately a hundred and are also widely spread in the South.

We are truly grateful for the opportunity to get this excellent publication into this further circulation.



Sincerely,  
*George S. Mitchell*

George S. Mitchell  
Executive Director

GSM:er

ALEXANDER

September 9, 1948.

As. sec.



Dear Mrs. Alexander:

I have had to be away during the summer and returned to find on my desk your letter to the President of July 30th.

On behalf of the President, I should like to thank you, even at this late date, for your statement and for your kind letter.

I will be back at my desk continuously and will always be glad to see you at any time you are in town.

Sincerely,

PHILLO NASH

Mrs. Sadie T. Alexander,  
40 South Nineteenth Street,  
Philadelphia 3, Pennsylvania.

*2-2nd*  
RAYMOND PACE ALEXANDER  
MACEO W. HUBBARD  
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PHILADELPHIA 3, PA.

HONORARY CONSUL OF HAITI

July 30, 1948

*enfiles*

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

My dear President Truman:

I enclose herewith copy of a telegram I released through the Associated Negro Press, which expresses my opinion and approval of your Executive Order of July 26, 1948 directing equality of treatment and opportunity for all members of the armed services.

I desire to express personally my appreciation of your forthright action in this regard.

Very sincerely yours



very sincerely yours,

*Sadie T. M. Alexander*  
SADIE T. M. ALEXANDER

STMA:gda

Enclosure

President Truman's executive order directing equality of opportunity for all persons in the armed forces is the first such directive in time of peace or war of the American concept of equality for military personnel regardless of race, religion or national origin by a President of the United States. The President's Committee on Civil Rights has pointedly stated that separate facilities are never equal and that without equality of opportunity democracy is an illusion. While the order is disappointing in that it does not specifically decree the abolition of segregation, the President having accepted this report and approved it, must envision equality of opportunity in the armed forces as the elimination of segregation. The accomplishment of this purpose with speed will depend upon the character and vision of the seven members appointed to the Committee on Equality of Treatment and Opportunity in the Armed Services. The frame work of a democratic army has been established by President Truman's Executive Order. Its realization depends upon the people of America using their



power to secure the appointment of and action by a Committee that recognizes the Army as a living symbol of Democracy and not dissipating our strength in arguments as to whether the President intended by decreeing equality in the Armed Services to eliminate segregation as recommended in the Report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights. I am convinced that the President has as his purpose an army representative of our great American heritage of equality, which does not countenance segregation in any form or manner.

/S/ SADIE T. M. ALEXANDER