MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: Successor Policy to HD Circular 126 (Gillen Board Policy)

Enclosed is a copy of new regulations on "Utilization of Negro manpower in the Army," which the army proposes shall replace HD Circular 126, and which will probably be issued as a "special regulation."

This special regulation will not be promulgated without the approval of the White House, and the White House will not approve it without first getting the reaction of the President's Committee.

My own comment on the document is this:

1. The Committee's recommendation on WOS and schools can be realized only in two ways:
   a. By creating enough new Negro units, or converting enough white units to Negro units, so that Negro units have the samespread of WOS, and require the same schooling, as white units.
   b. By gradually integrating qualified Negroes into white units.

2. If either one of the above two courses is not followed, it is meaningless for the Army to say it is going to open all WOS and schools, for the plain fact is that Negroes will get the WOS and the schooling required by present Negro units and by overages. That is, the racial quota for schools will still result in effect whether or not these quotas are put down on paper.
3. But the Committee has very definitely stated to the President in its interim report of 13 October that it opposes the further creation of Negro units and that its objective is "the beginning of integration by a slow and practical process."

4. The attached paper does not provide for gradual integration. In paragraph 10, dealing with utilization and assignment, the Army states that normally Negroes will be assigned to the present Negro 7/106 units or overlaided, but that Negro specialists may be assigned to white units to fill vacancies requiring special skills. The key word is specialists, which to the Army is quite different from specialists. "Specialists" is a term usually reserved for a critically needed job, for which there is often special recruitment. This would bring about the gradual integration which the Committee seeks, not only the mere placement of a Negro specialist in a white unit. The Army does not intend to take qualified school-trained Negroes and fill out the RSM in white units which are under strength, as the Committee has proposed.

5. Further evidence that the Army intends to keep its Negro units unmixed is provided by Paragraph 12, providing that Negro units will continue to be formed in regiments, battalions, companies; by Paragraph 13, assigning Negro officers to Negro units to replace white officers; by the last paragraph of Gray's memo to Johnson of September 20 (copy of which I enclose), stating that "for the foreseeable future negro units must be maintained"; and finally by Gray's letter to Judge Day (copy also enclosed) in which he states that his memo to the press on Aug. 3 declaring that Negroes would be used in some white units did not constitute an advance over the policy announced by Johnson on September 20.

6. The officer detailed to write the enclosed special regulation has conceded that the regulation does not affect appreciably the Army's present policy on assignment and does not reflect the Committee's recommendations to the Army.

S. W. Klawonn

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Executive Secretary