MEMORANDUM

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

27 May 1952

To: Mr. Nash
From: Charles Tyroler 2nd

Per request.
SUBJECT: Racial Integration of EUSOM Army Units

TO: Commanding Generals:

Seventh Army
EUSOM Communications Zone
772A Office of US Commander, Berlin
Director, EUSOM Special Activities Division
All Military Post Commanders (except Wiesbaden MIl Post)
Chief:
Administrative and Technical Services
Armed Forces Information and Education Division
Finance Division

Commanding Officers:
324 AAB Brigade
64th GIC Detachment
7756 Audit Agency
Special Troops, EUSOM
7682 EUSOM Detachment

1. The Department of the Army has directed that this command initiate, on 1 April 1952, a phased program of racial integration for the Army elements of this command. The first units to be integrated will be combat units. As the program progresses, service type units and V/D organizations also will be integrated. Complete integration of combat units will be accomplished over a period of from six months to one year. Service unit integration may extend from one to two years for completion.

2. In accordance with the instructions indicated in paragraph 1, the following policies which will govern the implementation of this program in the European Command are established:

a. The operational efficiency of the units of this command will be maintained during the phasing of the integration program. Personnel transfers which will be required under this program will not be made so that operational efficiency of the units will not be reduced thereby. This consideration governs planning and administrative details required in the implementation of this program.

b. Integration will be accomplished in two ways; first, by redesignation of units and the removal of racial identifying symbols, concurrently with personnel transfers from such units and their replacements with other personnel; secondly, by the assignment of loss replacements from the replacement stream to units in accordance with their NSW requirements, regardless of race or color.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
EUSOM

1 April 1952
That aspect of this program which involves the redesignation of Negro units, the removal of racial identifying symbols, and the transfer of Caucasian units into such units will be accomplished only after receipt of specific instructions from this headquarters. Large scale transfers of Negro personnel from Negro units to Caucasian units will be accomplished only after prior approval of this headquarters; however, addresses are the authority to accomplish individual transfers of Negro personnel to Caucasian units, where it appears that better utilization of available manpower may thereby be effected. The assignment of less replacements from the replacement stream will commence immediately, and addresses are advised that they can expect to receive Negro personnel for assignment into service type units and 7/9 organizations which are not designated currently as Negro units.

c. Initially, the Negro element of integrated combat units will approximate 30 per cent of the unit's strength. The limitation may be increased to a reasonable degree in the service type and 7/9 units during the initial phases of the program. Eventually, Negro strength in all units will approximate the Negro percentage of the total command strength.

d. Personnel will be integrated into existing organizations on an individual basis. Separate units such as squad, platoons, companies, or separate detachments will not be organized to consist solely of Negro personnel.

e. This program will proceed without any advance publicity. Queries from the press concerning any phase of this program will be referred to this headquarters.

BY ORDER OF GENERAL RANDY

V. H. Smith
Assistant Adjutant General

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