

May 27, 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR THE HONORABLE DONALD S. DAWSON:

Newsweek, Pathfinder and similar magazines carried dope stories two or three weeks ago about the integration of troops in the European Command. The change was attributed to General Eisenhower, who, of course, had nothing to do with it.

I checked with the Defense Department at the time these rumors were circulated, but was told that the order was classified and could not be released, and was being handled by the European Troop Command.

As you can see by the attached clipping from the Washington Post of last Saturday, the story has finally been released from Heidelberg, but in such a way as to throw the story away. The only possibility, at this late date, is to see whether the order itself and the terms of it could be declassified and made available to the interested press. When the change was made in the Far East Command, the order was made public with good effect.

PHILLO NASH



8

Item from Periscope, NEWSWEEK, April 21, 1952

TICKLER

One of the issues Eisenhower will be asked about, if he agrees to express his views, is segregation in the Armed Forces. Negro groups may make a point of the fact that, when he was Chief of Staff, Ike hedged on this question. Don't be surprised if he anticipates this poser and forestalls it by moving to end segregation in the U.S. Forces in Europe before he leaves Paris.

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From PATHFINDER, 5-7-52 "Under the Dome"

GENERAL EISENHOWER HAS ORDERED INTEGRATION OF WHITE AND NEGRO TROOPS

in the European Command. The order went into effect last month, means that as much as one-third of some units will be colored. It also means Eisenhower will have a good talking-point in winning Negro support for his candidacy.



8