Comments and Correspondence on:

1. Issuance of EO Order in 1948
2. Rpt. presented 5.22.50
Philleo Nash

This is wonderful progress. I hope you've got more stories like this one coming out in the coming months.

Why have this tech?
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 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,

[Signature]

SADIE A. ALEXANDER

[Stamp: SADA:drj]
to: Dave Bell

Philleo Nash

Dear -

I got a copy already.

Very well written.

[Signature]
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. EISENHOWER
Dear Rilee:

[Handwritten text is difficult to read, but appears to mention something about not being able to attend due to a prior commitment.]
May 30, 1930

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

My dear Mr. 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 understanding to carry on in a day like this.

We shall all stand prayerfully and loyally by him.

Sincerely yours,

Mary McLeod Bethune

Founder-President Emeritus
Bethune-Cookman College

Founder-President Emeritus
National Council of Negro Women

651 Pearl Street
Daytona Beach, Florida
June 9, 1950

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

Dear Phyllis:

Freedom to serve only makes. We have already mailed it out to the officers of our "hate factions 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 further circulation.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

George E. Mitchell
Executive Director

GSHar
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,

PHILIP HOSS

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

[Signature]

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 regard-
less 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
declare the abolition of segregation, the President having accept-
ed this report and approved it, must envision equality of
opportunity in the armed forces as the elimination of segre-
gation. The accomplishment of this purpose with speed will de-
pend upon the character and vision of the seven members appoint-
ed to the Committee on Equality of Treatment and Opportunity
in the Armed Services. The framework 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 recognises the Army as a living symbol of Democracy and
not dissipating our strength in arguments as to whether the
President intended by declaring 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 count-
tenance segregation in any form or manner.

/S/ SADIE T. M. ALEXANDER