Dear Mr. President:

I am in receipt of a letter from Mr. Donald Dawson, suggesting that I submit to you my recommendations for the persons to be appointed to the Committee on Equality of Treatment and Opportunity in the Armed Services.

The names which I recommend are the following:

**Member**
- Dr. Frank Graham, Chairman
- Mr. Ralph McMillan
- Mr. Lester Granger
- Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune
- Senator Cabot Lodge
- Mr. Philip Graham
- Mr. Edward S. Hope

**Alternate**
- Mr. Charles R. Wilson
- Mr. Mark Ethridge
- Mr. John H. Sangster
- Dr. Climbing Tonka
- Mr. Earl Coxton
- Mr. Clark Howell
- Mr. Truman Gibson

I will be glad to supply more detailed information concerning all of the individuals named, if you should desire it.

Respectfully,

James Forrestal

The President
The White House
Suggested Members and alternates for President's Committee on Equality of Treatment and Opportunity in the Armed Services (Telephoned by Marx Levy):

Chairman: Dr. Frank Graham
Alternate: Charles Wilson

MEMBERS:
- Lester Granger
- Mr. Singarstock (Alternate)
- Mary Heisla Bethune
- Dr. Channing Tobias (Alternate)
- Mr. Philip Graham
- Clark Howell (Atlanta) (Alternate)
- Senator Harry Cabot Lodge, Jr.
- Aaron Fort (Alternate)
My dear Mr. President:

In connection with the President's Committee on Equality of Treatment and Opportunity in the Armed Services, I would like to suggest two names for membership on the Committee.

For Chairman, I would like to urge you to appoint Charles E. Wilson, President of General Electric Company. As Chairman of the President's Committee on Civil Rights, Mr. Wilson did an outstanding job. His work on that Committee has given him the unbounded confidence of all minority groups for his fairness and integrity. His appointment as Chairman will give an assurance to the minority groups that is absolutely necessary.

I have discussed this matter with Howard McNary and I think he has somewhat different ideas. You will doubtless want to have his views. I have thought over what Howard has said, but I still would strongly urge Mr. Wilson's appointment.

I do not know how many Negroes you plan to include in the membership. I would, however, urge that you appoint John M. Sengstacke, Publisher and Editor of the Chicago Defender. Mr. Sengstacke is a man of highest qualifications and integrity. He is well and favorably known to Secretary Hornerstal. Mr. Seng- stacke has come out in an editorial in the Chicago Defender, urging your re-election in unqualified terms. Congressman William Dawson also urges Sengstacke's appointment. I think it will mean a lot to the Negro press if one of their members is recognized in this way.

Cordially and sincerely,

Oren P. Storm

The President
The White House
Washington 25, D. C.
MEMORANDUM FOR MR. DONALD DABSON.

Attached is a supplemental list of suggested names from the Navy. This list has just reached my office this morning, and I am sending it on to you for any interest it may have.

Mary Leva.

Mary Leva
MEMORANDUM FOR MR. MAX LEVY, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON

9 August 1943

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Subject: Nominations for Membership on the President's Committee on
   Equality of Treatment and Opportunity in the Armed Forces.

1. This memorandum confirms our telephone conversations on this subject.

2. The Chief of Naval Personnel has suggested the following possible nom-
   inations, consisting of the names of persons who have served or are serving
   on various Navy advisory groups:

   Mr. Rayleigh Warner
   Chairman of the Board of Directors
   Pure Oil Company
   36 East Wacker Drive
   Chicago, Illinois

   Mr. C. Douglas Dillon
   Dillon Read & Company
   23 Nassau Street
   New York 7, New York

   Mr. Henry T. Heald
   President
   Illinois Institute of Technology
   Technology Center
   Chicago 16, Illinois

   Mr. John A. Haynes
   Secretary
   Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company
   Independence Square
   Philadelphia 5, Pennsylvania

   Mr. Milton C. Huford
   Marshall Field & Company
   General Offices
   25 East Washington Street
   Chicago 2, Illinois

   Mr. Lester S. Granger
   Executive Secretary
   National Urban League
   1130 Broadway
   New York 10, N.Y.

   Mr. Warren W. Ford
   15 Arlington St.
   Newburyport, Mass.

   Mr. R. Hall Downes
   Aparcito 1002
   Lima, Peru

   # Members of minority
   racial groups.

Respectfully,

H. O. Beauregard
MEMORANDUM FOR MR. DAVISON:

You requested further information concerning five names of persons recommended by Secretary Forrestal. Attached are two memoranda containing the requested information. The memorandum concerning Mr. Clark Howell and Mr. Ralph McGill contains information taken from Who's Who in America. The memorandum containing information concerning Mr. Granger, Mr. Hope, and Mr. Sengstacke was dictated by Mr. James Evans, Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army.

Mary Leva
Special Assistant to the Secretary

2 Encls.
Clark Howell's biography, from Who's Who in America, reads as follows:


Ralph McGill's biography, from Who's Who in America, reads as follows:

MR. LESTER GRANGER

Lester Granger is Executive Secretary of the National Urban League. His office is in New York. He served earlier as a college teacher concerned with vocational and occupational aspects of Negro life in the nation. From this position, he took a similar position with the Urban League and now, for probably ten years, has been Executive Secretary and the active head of this organization.

During the war he served as Special Consultant to the Secretary of the Navy. For the services which he rendered during the integration and full utilization of Negro personnel, leading to abolition of racial differentials in the Navy, Mr. Granger was awarded the Medal of Merit by the President. He holds numerous other citations from civic organizations.

DR. EDWARD S. HOPE

Dr. Hope is presently Professor of Civil Engineering at Howard University in Washington, D.C. He is the son of the late Dr. John Hope, for a number of years the senior Negro educational leader in the nation and the founder of the Greater Atlanta University.

During the war Dr. Hope attained the highest rank, lieutenant commander, ever held by a Negro in the United States Navy. He saw service in the Pacific and in view of his educational background was, toward the close of the war, chief educational officer in an Army Forces university organization based in Honolulu. Dr. Hope holds degrees from Morehouse College in Atlanta, MIT, and Columbia.

MR. JOHN H. SONGEETZEN

Mr. Songeetzen is the nephew of the late Robert S. Abbott, founder of the Chicago Defender. While not in direct line of inheritance, he was chosen by his late uncle to carry on the work of the Chicago Defender in its fight for human rights.
Mr. Bangstocke, now editor and publisher of the
Chicago Defender, did receive a full heritage of his uncle's
ability and spirit and is the most prominent of the younger
publishers in the field of American Negro journalism. Through
his journal, his influences and that of his late uncle are
widely felt among Negroes and others in many parts of the world.

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