

1285-0

July 28, 1948

My dear Mr. Attorney General:

The President on July twenty-sixth
signed an Executive Order entitled "Establish-
ing the President's Committee on Equality of
~~x w.e.~~ Treatment and Opportunity in the Armed Serv-
ices," a copy of which is enclosed.

x161

x190-T

Very sincerely yours,

WILLIAM J. HOPKINS
Executive Clerk



x93.B
x93
x1285

The Honorable
The Attorney General, x10
Washington, D. C.

Enclosure.

bk



Office of the Attorney General
Washington, D.C.

July 26, 1948

The President,

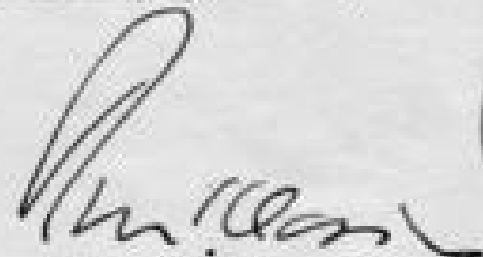
The White House.

My dear Mr. President:

I am herewith transmitting a proposed Executive order entitled "Establishing the President's Committee on Equality of Treatment and Opportunity in the Armed Services."

The proposed order, which was prepared at your request, has my approval as to form and legality.

Respectfully yours,


Attorney General



Signed July 26, 1948


EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
BUREAU OF THE BUDGET
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

July 26, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. CLIFFORD.

SUBJECT: Executive Order prepared by the Department of Justice establishing the President's Committee on Equality of Treatment and Opportunity in the Armed Services.

The Director has asked me to inform you that the attached draft is without objection in so far as he is concerned.


Assistant Director
Legislative Reference.



Att.

JULY 26, 1948
F. L.

EXECUTIVE ORDER

ESTABLISHING THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE ON
EQUALITY OF TREATMENT AND OPPORTUNITY IN
THE ARMED SERVICES

WHEREAS it is essential that there be maintained in the armed services of the United States the highest standards of democracy, with equality of treatment and opportunity for all those who serve in our country's defense:

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me as President of the United States, by the Constitution and the statutes of the United States, and as Commander in Chief of the armed services, it is hereby ordered as follows:

1. It is hereby declared to be the policy of the President that there shall be equality of treatment and opportunity for all persons in the armed services without regard to race, color, religion or national origin. This policy shall be put into effect as rapidly as possible, having due regard to the time required to effectuate any necessary changes without impairing efficiency or morale.

2. There shall be created in the National Military Establishment an advisory committee to be known as the President's Committee on Equality of Treatment and Opportunity in the Armed Services, which shall be composed of seven members to be designated by the President.

3. The Committee is authorized on behalf of the President to examine into the rules, procedures and practices of the armed services in order to determine in what respect such rules, procedures and practices may be altered or improved with a view to carrying out the policy of this order. The Committee shall confer and advise with the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of the Army, the Secretary of the Navy, and the Secretary of the Air Force, and shall make such recommendations to the President and to said Secretaries as in the judgment of the Committee will effectuate the policy hereof.

4. All executive departments and agencies of the Federal Government are authorized and directed to cooperate with the Committee in its work, and to furnish the Committee such information or the services of such persons as the Committee may require in the performance of its duties.

5. When requested by the Committee to do so, persons in the armed services or in any of the executive departments and agencies of the Federal Government shall testify before the Committee and shall make available for the use of the Committee such documents and other information as the Committee may require.

6. The Committee shall continue to exist until such time as the President shall terminate its existence by Executive order.

HARRY S. TRUMAN

THE WHITE HOUSE

July 26, 1948



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July 26, 1948.