August 9, 1948

My dear Mr. Ravenner:

Please accept the President's thanks for your letter of August third. He appreciates your courtesy in telling him of the communication which you have received from Mrs. Julia A. Parker recommending Mr. Edward Haden for appointment as a member of the President's Committee on Equality of Treatment and Opportunity in the Armed Services. The President wishes me to assure you that this endorsement as well as your expression of interest in Mr. Haden will be borne in mind.

Very sincerely yours,

MATTHEW J. CONNELLY
Secretary to the President

Honorable Frank R. Ravenner,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D.C.

MR. DANNON:
Honorable Harry Truman
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

I am in receipt of a letter from Mrs. Julia G. Porter, of San Francisco, Vice-Chairman of the California Democratic State Central Committee, requesting that I submit to you the name of Mr. Edward Bowden of San Francisco for appointment on the Committee to investigate the problem of segregation in the Armed Services.

Mrs. Porter, in whom I have the highest confidence, recommends Mr. Bowden very highly. He is a young man, a graduate of the University of California and a member of Phi Beta Kappa, who worked in the field of housing with Catherine Bauer prior to the war. He enlisted in the Army as a Private and rose to the rank of First Lieutenant. He is now Director of the San Francisco Council for Civic Unity, which deals with race relations. Mrs. Porter describes Mr. Bowden as able, intelligent, progressive and liked by the various racial groups.

In view of Mrs. Porter's very high recommendation of Mr. Bowden, I am glad to submit his name to you for consideration, as one of your appointees to this new committee.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Franck R. Havemeyer
Member of Congress