

September 17, 1948.

The President

The White House

Dear Mr. President:

It has come to my attention that a number of the men being considered for appointment on the President's Committee on Equality of Treatment and Opportunity in the Armed Services have publicly expressed their opinion in favor of abolishing segregation in the Armed Services. At least one of them, Lester Grainger, has been critical both of the Army and of me personally on this particular matter.

I feel strongly that no person should serve on this Committee who has formed a fixed opinion on this subject on either side, certainly no person who has made a public pronouncement of such opinion. Otherwise the Committee could not give fair consideration to the subject.

I respectfully suggest that no person be appointed until he has been queried on these points and has not disqualified himself under the criteria suggested above. If you feel otherwise, I would like an opportunity to discuss this matter with you personally before appointments are made.

Respectfully,



(Signed) KENNETH C. ROYALL

Kenneth C. Royall  
Secretary of the Army

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