March 22, 1948

MEMORANDUM TO MR. CLARK CLIFFORD
The White House

The two proposed letters (copies attached) were submitted to the Secretary of Defense on March 15 and he has now asked me to discuss them with you.

I will be glad to do so at any time.

(Signed) KENNETH C. ROYALL
Kenneth C. Royall
Secretary of the Army
MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESS:

In response to queries, Secretary of the Army Kenneth C. Royall has made a copy of his letter to the Honorable Alfred E. Driscoll, the Governor of New Jersey, available for publication. (NOTE FUTURE RELEASE DATE)

Mr. Royall's letter follows:

"On January 8 you addressed to me a telegraphic inquiry concerning the utilization of Negro manpower in the militia of New Jersey. I have had the matter carefully reviewed by the military staff of this Department and have myself given it full consideration.

"In accordance with a report of competent and experienced officers, the War Department on 27 April 1948 issued regulations which, among other things, required (subject to certain exceptions) that when Negroes are employed in Army units below the battalion, they will be organized into separate units.

"This provision was considered to be in the interest of national defense, and both the Staff and I feel that this is still the case. Therefore, these regulations will be continued in force for the Regular Army and, subject to the exception noted below, will also be effective for the Federally recognized civilian components of the Army.

"I have noted the fact that the people of New Jersey by direct majority vote have provided in their Constitution that "no person shall... be segregated in the militia because of race, color,..." While the authority to determine all questions relating to the Federally recognized National Guard must necessarily be exercised by the Department of the Army, yet I recognize the importance to a sovereign state of a constitutional provision such as yours, and I have determined that for the present, Army militia units of New Jersey, if otherwise qualified, will not be denied Federal recognition on the ground of non-segregation.

Sincerely yours,

signed

KENNETH C. ROYALL,
Secretary of the Army"
MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESS:

The appointment of United States Air Force air staff committees on Air Reserve and Air National Guard policy was announced today by General Carl Spaatz, Chief of Staff of the AAF.

The committees, which will convene immediately upon transfer of authority by the Secretary of Defense from the Secretary of the Army to the Secretary of the Air Force for the functions and responsibilities of the AAF’s civilian components, will study the integration of Air Reserve and Air National Guard into the over-all structure and program of the Air Force.

The committees are composed of equal representation of outstanding officers of the Air Force Reserve and the Air National Guard, complemented by a number of Regular officers.

The following Air Force Reserve officers, listed here with their home addresses, will serve on the Air Force Committee on Reserve Policy:

2. Brigadier General Chester E. McCoy, 1401 Yow Building, Portland, Oregon.
4. Colonel Fred B. McCollum, 416 Broad St., Nashville, Tenn.
5. Lieutenant Colonel John W. Richardson, 5-238 General Motors Building, Detroit, Michigan.

The following Air National Guard officers, listed here with their assignments, will serve on the Air Force Committee on Air National Guard Policy:

2. Brigadier General George S. Finch, Commanding General, 94th Wing, Air National Guard of Georgia, Marietta Air Force Base, Marietta, Ga.

(More)
(3) Colonel Thomas G. Loughier, Jr., Commanding Officer, 150th Fighter Squadron, Air National Guard of Idaho, Gowen Field, Boise, Idaho.
(4) Colonel Lawrence H. Bell, Jr., Commanding Officer, 197th Fighter Squadron, Air National Guard of Arizona, Luke Field, Arizona.
(6) Lieutenant Colonel Oliver H. Stott, Headquarters, 122nd Fighter Group, Stout Field, Indianapolis, Indiana.

In addition, Brigadier General John Bennett of San Antonio, Texas, and Brigadier General Timothy Manning of Los Angeles, California, have been asked to serve as members of the committee because of their interest in the Air Force Reserve program.

Brigadier General John P. McConnell, Chief of the USAF's Reserve and National Guard Group, said: "The acceptance by these individuals of the invitation to serve on these committees is indicative of the widespread interest in the Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve circles towards the integration of these units with the Regular Air Force establishment."

The following Regular officers will serve with the committees:

(1) Brigadier General John P. McConnell, Headquarters, USAF. (Resident member and Chairman).
(3) Colonel William A. H. Robertson, Office of the Chief of the National Guard Bureau.
(4) Colonel Jack W. Hughes, Headquarters, USAF.
(5) Colonel Linus D. Frederick, Headquarters, USAF.
(6) Colonel Prescott M. Spierer, Headquarters, USAF.
Secretary of Defense Forrestal has appointed an Inter-Service Committee to engage in a thorough study of problems involving the several reserve components of the three Armed Forces. These components include the Naval Reserve, the Marine Corps Reserve, the National Guard (Army and Air Force), the Organized Reserve (Army and Air Force) ROTC (Army and Air Force) and Naval ROTC. The Secretary named as Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Gordon Gray, Assistant Secretary of the Army.

The Committee will have as its general objective the development of a rounded and uniform reserve program which is fully integrated with the national security program as a whole and which takes into account probable developments in the character of warfare, the mobilization requirements of each of the services, the availability of manpower for distribution among all reserve components, new problems confronting the several states, especially those raised by considerations of civil defense, universal training and questions of cost. It will consider disparities and inequities among the various components and the possibility of developing uniform policies and practices covering such matters as promotions, pay and emoluments, retirement benefits and insurance, procurement of personnel, interchange of personnel among the components, and joint training. It will investigate methods of attaining, by joint utilization or otherwise, the most economical use of facilities, installations, equipment and training personnel.

The membership of the board is as follows:

Army: Assistant Secretary Gray, Chairman
       Lieutenant General Raymond S. McLean

Navy: Assistant Secretary for Air John N. Brown
      Vice Admiral William M. Fochtler

Air Force: Assistant Secretary C. V. Whitney
          Brigadier General J. P. McConnell

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