

MEMORANDUM

1 March 1949

Subject: Conference with Mr. Fahy and Mr. Kenworthy

1. We met in the office of the Chairman of the Committee at 10:30 and discussed some of the matters pertaining to the work expected of the staff. Mr. Fahy reminded us that the Committee will meet on the 17th of March for a two-day session and that notices must be sent to all of the members. It was his feeling that from now on the meetings should be planned and an agenda set up so that the Committee will know what is to come before it.

2. He mentioned in talking the Air Force proposal for a plan of complete integration that will eliminate any segregation that may have existed and suggested that we study the plan very thoroughly to see if it is just what is wanted. He also mentioned the situation with regard to the Marine Corps, whether the testimony of their representatives indicated they have only one Negro officer out of approximately 8,000. He is anxious to find the reason back of this. He mentioned also the matter of segregation and its relation to discrimination indicating that some of the members of the Committee are anxious to come to a decision early as to whether the Committee will regard segregation in itself as discriminatory. I suggested to him that in these early discussions which may not necessarily result in an immediate conclusion, the matter of quotas should also be discussed because the quota system inevitably is tied up with a segregated pattern. Mr. Fahy is anxious to have the picture of discrimination as it relates to recruiting, training, induction after training, living facilities, etc. He also reminded us that we are not to over-look the matter of discrimination as it is reflected in the National Guard. I suggested to Mr. Kenworthy that he get in touch with Mr. Summers and Mr. McCloy. I agreed to get in touch with Governor Hastie, former Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War, to see if he might give us the benefit of his experience.

March 1949



2. In a further discussion on the agenda I suggested that we should by all means take up at the next meeting the Gillem Report so that it might be determined if the intent of the Gillem Board was to do away with segregation in the entire army. Other matters concerning arrangements for space for staff additions for equipment for use of personnel on loan from the various departments were discussed, and it was agreed that Mr. Kenworthy and I would proceed immediately to set up the proper office to carry out our tasks.

Joseph H. B. Evans.