

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 17, 1949

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHAIRMAN,

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

I am sending you herewith, for attention and preparation of an appropriate reply, the attached letter which the President has received from Mrs. Arthur Forrest Anderson, President of the National Board of the Young Women's Christian Association of the United States of America.

William D. Hassett
WILLIAM D. HASSETT
Secretary to the President



Young Women's Christian Association of the United States of America

National Board



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November 10, 1949

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. President:

The National Board of the Young Women's Christian Association received and commends the announcement of the program to give greater increasing assurance of equality of treatment and opportunity to Negro personnel in the Army. We believe that all military occupational specialties should be open to all qualified military personnel without regard to race or color and are pleased to see this principle embodied into policy.

However, it was a disappointment to find that the basic framework for racial segregation of Army units yet remains. The report of the experience of those units operating on an integrated plan during the wartime experiment make us believe all the more firmly that this pattern is one we should hope to see extended throughout the armed services.

May we urge that you use the influence of your office to the end that non-segregation will become the Army pattern - a practical demonstration of the concept of equality inherent in our democracy.

Yours respectfully,

Constance W. Anderson

Mrs. Arthur Forrest Anderson
President

CHA:em

