

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

## Memorandum

TO : Robert F. Kennedy  
Attorney General

DATE: July 19, 1963

FROM : Louis F. Oberdorfer  
Assistant Attorney GeneralSUBJECT: Report of Desegregation Activity

We are now reporting regularly on all developments which come to our attention.

Survey by J. C. Penney Company.

Mr. George H. Stone and Mr. E. F. Rowan of J. C. Penney's, who were of great help in getting our project under way have now furnished us with the results of a survey recently taken in approximately 400 Southern and Border cities; this information is being correlated with information from other sources and will result in a significant expansion of our basic information on the status of desegregation of public facilities in this area of the country.

Quiet Solution.

Warrenton, Virginia. Most of the restaurants and lunch rooms here have quietly desegregated, and chain stores have opened employment opportunities to qualified Negroes.

The voluntary desegregation occurred without incident after weeks of discussion and communication between community leaders of both races.

Chattanooga, Tennessee. In Chattanooga, 50 restaurant and other food service operators joined 20 others which voluntarily had desegregated their facilities. Said the 50 in taking the action: "Most Chattanoogaans want to preserve our record of peace and harmony in race relations. We believe that we have done what is best for our city."

Columbus, Georgia. In Columbus, Georgia, a group of Negro leaders issued a statement last week saying that "mass demonstrations of any nature are unnecessary at present to achieve the goals of the local Negro community." The statement cited Columbus' desegregation of airport, train and bus terminals, the auditorium, stadium, lunch counters and the like, and positive commitments for better job opportunities in certain stores and businesses.

September 30, 1963

Mr. Robert F. Kennedy  
The Attorney General

L.F.O. →

Mr. Burke Marshall  
Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Div.

Louis F. Oberdorfer  
Assistant Attorney General  
Tax Division

LFO:meg

John Hazen, Vice President, National Retail Merchants Association, wants to arrange a meeting for several Department store executives with you to discuss the proposed boycott of retail stores over the Christmas season.

I told Hazen that I thought that the best way to avoid such things as a boycott was to anticipate legitimate complaints and deal with them before action was threatened or taken by Negro organizations. For example, they could have a program for the employment or upgrading of 50,000 Negroes over a stated period.

Hazen will call later about a specific meeting. I recommend that you see them.

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September 30, 1963

Harrison Tweed, Esq.  
Milbank, Tweed, Madley & McCloy  
1 Chase Manhattan Plaza  
New York 1, New York

Bernard G. Segal, Esq.  
Schneider, Harrison, Segal & Lewis  
1719 Peckard Building  
Philadelphia 2, Pennsylvania

Lloyd M. Cutler, Esq.  
Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering  
903 Farragut Building  
Washington 6, D. C.

Gentlemen:

Attached is a copy of a letter of September 16, 1963, from Lewis H. Hall, Jr. to the Attorney General. It occurs to us that some member of your Committee, such as Mr. Minor of Charlottesville, might want to reply to this and let the Attorney General have a copy for his reply.

Sincerely yours,

Louis F. Chardorfer  
Assistant Attorney General

BN:BJB:arg

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Re-typed 7/25/63

JUL 26 1963

Mr. C. L. Patrick  
Martin Theatres  
Martin Building  
Columbus, Georgia

Dear Mr. Patrick:

After receiving your letter we caused some inquiries to be made regarding the situation in Columbus. We are told by the Washington Council for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People that the regional representative of that organization in Atlanta has assured him that further NAACP-sponsored demonstrations have been suspended in your city.

The affirmative steps which we understand have recently been taken in Columbus to meet certain grievances of its Negro citizens are a credit to your city and we think they should alleviate some of the tensions which you report.

We do appreciate your bringing this to our attention, and hope that our inquiries and replies are helpful.

Sincerely,

*Louis F. Oberdorfer*

Louis F. Oberdorfer  
Assistant Attorney General

cc: Records  
Chron.

Mr. Oberdorfer  
✓ Mr. Marshall  
Mr. Barrett

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT  
**Memorandum**

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

TO : Robert F. Kennedy  
Attorney General

DATE: December 26, 1963

FROM : L. F. Oberdorfer  
Assistant Attorney General

SUBJECT: Report of Desegregation Activity - 1963

At year's end we are submitting a summary of our activities in desegregating public facilities in the South and Border states. Our survey covered some 566 cities, with primary attention given to the 476 cities in this area with a population of over 10,000.

In the first written report dated June 5\*, we noted that similar reports would be made each day through June 11, 1963. However, 56 daily reports were prepared and we submit for your attention highlights therefrom.

On June 5, we reported the following changes (by cities) since May 22:

|                             |    |
|-----------------------------|----|
| Lunch counters desegregated | 22 |
| Theatres desegregated       | 3  |
| Hotels desegregated         | 5  |
| Restaurants desegregated    | 4  |

By June 21, we were able to report the following progress and make the observation that the South is not a monolithic bastion of resistance to desegregation:

|                             | 4th | June 21st |
|-----------------------------|-----|-----------|
| Lunch counters desegregated | 22  | 65        |
| Theatres desegregated       | 3   | 80        |
| Hotels desegregated         | 5   | 25        |
| Restaurants desegregated    | 4   | 72        |

\*On June 5, you wrote the some 125 executives who attended the President's June 4 meeting, asking them to report by June 11, on any new steps taken during the intervening week. Several follow-up letters were sent to business leaders. Letters soliciting cooperation and suggesting steps to be taken were sent to lawyers who attended the meeting at the White House and to United States Attorneys in the South and Border states, in Carolina; and practically no progress had been made in Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi.

Through June 21, progress of some sort was noted in 179, or about 36% of the cities under survey, with visible acts of desegregation reported in 161 cities. The final statistical analysis revealed substantial progress in 356 of the 566 cities surveyed (63%)\*. In the memorandum of November 13, by which time we had gathered figures on activity both before and after May 22, we reported the final figures:

|                             | Prior to<br>May 22 | June 5 | Nov. 13 | Total |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|--------|---------|-------|
| Lunch counters desegregated | 109                | 22     | 144     | 253   |
| Theatres desegregated       | 141                | 3      | 129     | 270   |
| Hotels desegregated         | 163                | 5      | 99      | 222   |
| Restaurants desegregated    | 204                | 4      | 100     | 304   |

There was a tremendous response to the Administration's call for voluntary action on the part of business leaders, lawyers, ministers, women's groups and labor leaders. We have picked several noteworthy developments to illustrate the extent of this cooperation.

#### June 5

Carling Dinkler of Atlanta reported that the Nashville Tennessee Hotel and Motel Association had issued a release calling upon their members to serve desirable patrons regardless of race.

The Tutwiler Hotel in Birmingham was integrated without incident.

The Associated Press wire reports that on June 5, in Spartanburg, most restaurants and stores with eating facilities began a voluntary program of desegregation.

#### June 6

Word was received that lunch counters were desegregated in Hampton, Virginia and that a bi-racial committee was formed and is functioning.

Bi-Racial Committee in Winston-Salem, North Carolina announced desegregation of larger hotels and restaurants.

\* Widespread progress has been made in Florida, Tennessee, North Carolina, Texas, Kentucky, West Virginia, Oklahoma, Maryland and Virginia; progress has been confined to metropolitan areas in Arkansas, Georgia and South Carolina; and practically no progress has been made in Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi.

June 7

The President of the National Restaurant Association in a letter to members called upon all restaurant operators in the North and South to support the Administration's desegregation program.

Mr. Ira Kepforth, President of Liggett Drug Co., reported the immediate up-grading of 26 Negro workers in their drug stores in southern cities.

Mr. Marriott reports that by June 11, Hot Shoppes will be 100% desegregated in all hotels and restaurants.

June 10

Mr. Edwin P. Neilan, President of the United States Chamber of Commerce urged all businessmen to give leadership and support to prompt and peaceful racial integration.

Mr. Thomas Powers, counsel for the National Restaurant Association, reported on a meeting of restaurant owners in Austin, Texas held on Friday, June 7. On Sunday, June 2, 17 restaurant owners in Austin agreed to integrate and felt that before making an announcement all owners should be given an opportunity to join.

Kingsport, Knoxville and Bristol, Tennessee. Mr. Everett Erlick reported desegregation of the Paramount theatres in these cities. Through the past six months Mr. Erlick has been a tower of strength in all of our efforts.

June 13

Conrad N. Hilton sent a telegram to the managers of the Hilton Hotels reiterating his policy of integration of facilities in all hotels and stressing the policy of employing persons without regard to race or color.

June 18

Asheville, North Carolina. The three largest eating establishments (S. & W. Cafeteria, Holiday Inn and Bailey's) desegregated. S. & W. has been a stumbling block in several large cities of the South and this break-through is of major importance.

June 20

Easton, Maryland. Eastern shore town - 25 miles north of Cambridge - will desegregate all public accommodations (hotel, motel, movie, restaurant, drug store) as of July 9.

June 24

Atlanta. 14 major hotels and motels announced they are now accepting conventions with "limited" number of Negro delegates. Mayor Ivan Allen, Jr., said the dining facilities at the establishments will be open to Negro delegates identified by convention badges.

Bowling Green, Kentucky. Mr. Patrick (Martin Theatres) called to say that Bowling Green, Kentucky integrated 30 restaurants and 8 drug stores and the downtown theatres on June 21.

Dallas, Texas. Integration was accomplished voluntarily with unusual cooperation of newspapers in the city. The secret of success, according to one member, is that the process took place quietly without press pressure and no announcement was made publicly until the job was done.

June 26

Mr. Erlick advised of desegregation of theatres in Charlottesville, Virginia on June 5 and Newport News, Virginia on June 12.

Greensboro, North Carolina. Last week the Mayor announced that 38 restaurants had agreed to serve "all desirable customers without regard to race."

June 28

The U. S. Junior Chamber of Commerce national convention in Louisville was asked today by its group of Ten Outstanding Young Men of 1962 to take steps aimed at resolving the current crisis in race relations in America.

Birmingham. Three city-owned golf courses, closed for seventeen months, were to be reopened at noon on an integrated basis.

New Orleans. Mr. L. E. Singer of the Royal Castle System advised that its eating establishments in New Orleans were desegregated this week.   
in 1961 the U.S. Civil Rights Commission was conducting a study of the project.



July 19

We mailed to the United States Attorneys in the Southern and Border states a letter informing them of the current activities of the Tweed-Segal Committee, suggesting they might be able to perform a useful function as a moderator of local racial disputes, and asking them to report to us further information as to the status of desegregation in their Districts.

July 22

The hierarchy of the United Presbyterian Church has sent a letter to each member of the United States Congress urging passage of civil rights legislation, and the suspension of "politics as usual" in view of the crisis confronting the nation.

The trade publication "Chain Store Age" has editorially taken a most positive stand for the enactment of a public accommodations law of wide application.

Walter and Victor Reuther of the U.A.W., are organizing a religious-labor-business committee of 100 to support the general principles of the civil rights legislation.

July 24

According to Brandt Ayers, Anniston, Alabama, may soon desegregate some public facilities. The city plans to hire Negro policemen.

Victor Hurd, Continental Insurance Company, contacted Robert Knight and considered making bail bond service available to anyone for whom request is made by Irvin Miller's Church group.

The Lawyers' Committee is active and held a meeting in Philadelphia today. I met with Harrison Tweed, Bernard Segal and Jerry Shestack.

August 1

Birmingham, Alabama. Six stores yesterday opened their lunch counters to Negroes. This is in compliance with the prior agreement reached when demonstrations there ended.

Nashville, Tennessee. U. S. District Court ruled today that a Holiday Inn had to desegregate because it was located in an urban redevelopment project. This is a precedent-setting case in that the basis for decision was Federal Government financing of the project.

August 1 Cont'd

A chain theater owner who desegregated his outlet in Pine Bluff initially had a substantial falling off of business. When he reported this to us we asked our labor group, women's group, church group and Mr. Shestack of the Lawyers' Committee who represents the movie distributors for that area to see what they could do to avoid a set-back there. Further communications with the theater owner reveal that the situation has been much improved and he has thanked us for our assistance, though it is impossible to say how much our assistance had to do with the improvement of the situation.

August 8

As of this date figures were accumulated on the formation and operation of civic machinery (bi-racial and similar committees). Prior to May 22 there were 74 committees organized while 108 have been created since that date.

August 9

Harry Kelleher (who jumped in without hesitation to help us in any way he could) advises that the situation in New Orleans is becoming critical because of the inability of theatre owners to reach an agreement about desegregating their theatres and, more important, because Mayor Schiro has refused to meet with a bi-racial committee which has sought to see him. We are in touch with the theatre owners about this. Mr. Geoghegan has also spoken to Congressman Boggs about the mayor. Burke Marshall intends to call the mayor directly.

August 15

Mr. E. F. Harrigan, Vice President of the F. W. Woolworth Co., visited with us today and gave a comprehensive report of the desegregation activities of his Company in the South. Woolworth's lunch counters have been desegregated in a number of additional cities and progress has been made to employ Negroes in sales positions.

Sam Bloom reports that beginning August 26, 1963, and extending through Labor Day, 150 retail corporations in Dallas (some with more than one store) will have Negro sales people at work. This development is not being publicized.

AS THE NEED FOR NEGRO EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN THE DALLAS AREA BECOMES MORE APPARENT, THE NECESSITY OF OPENS UP THE QUESTION OF HOW TO EMPLOY NEGROES AND HOW TO TRAIN THEM FOR THE JOBS OF THE FUTURE.

August 29

Mr. Harry B. Kelleher requested us to contact Mr. Robert S. Benjamin of United Artists and arrange for out of state owners of theatres in New Orleans to contact Mr. Kelleher, who is arranging for a meeting.

Committee on Religion and Race. Messrs. Geoghegan, Barrett and I attended a meeting of this Committee. In addition to representatives of all religious faiths, NAACP, CORE, the Lawyers' Committee and the Women's Committee were represented. The meeting considered problems in Danville, Prince Edward County and school openings generally.

The Business Council has circularized its membership, urging that they use their good offices to facilitate peaceful school openings next week.

September 16

Report from Robert B. Smith, Jr., United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Arkansas - sent us an extensive report pointing out the great progress which had been made in Little Rock and Pine Bluff.

In a further report of his activities, United States Attorney Maxwell advised of letters he has written to mayors of the principal cities in his district.

November 13

The W. T. Grant Co., informs us they now employ 1502 Negroes, with a substantial number in non-menial positions. Almost 20 percent of these people have been employed since April 15, 1963.

Sam R. Bloom reports that during the two weeks ending with Labor Day, 150 corporations in Dallas employed Negroes in customer contact areas with many larger corporations employing several Negroes in such positions.

George Stone of J. C. Penney Co., visited us today and brought us up to date on what his company and other major retail chains were doing in the civil rights area. He reports that he met with several of their major competitors in New York last August and discussed the problems they were then facing. He feels that the attention of retailers should now be primarily directed towards equal employment opportunities, as most retailers already recognize the necessity of opening their public accommodations to Negroes, and have plans to accomplish this well underway.

The emphasis on desegregation shifted from privately owned public accommodations to integration of schools as the schools opened in the fall. Now that the school year is well underway, the attention of businessmen is shifting to the area of equal employment opportunities. As noted above, we have received several recent communications showing progress in this area.

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December 27, 1963

Mr. Robert F. Kennedy  
The Attorney General

LFO:ljp

L. F. O.

Louis F. Oberdorfer  
Assistant Attorney General

Voluntary Desegregation - 1963

You will recall that following the May, 1963, demonstrations and settlement in Birmingham, the Executive Branch made a major effort to persuade community leaders to take the initiative in accomplishing desegregation of public facilities voluntarily. In the period between May 22 and July 9, President Kennedy held a series of eleven meetings at the White House, attended by 1,558 leaders of religious, labor, business, legal and women's groups. The meetings included three separate sessions with 23 state governors. During this same period, you met here and in New York with a total of 134 business executives.

At each of these meetings, President Kennedy, then Vice-President Johnson, and sometimes Secretaries Rusk and Wirtz, as well as yourself, made statements outlining the plight of the Negro community in the United States as a result of discrimination in education, job opportunity and public accommodations. They pointed to the incidents in Birmingham as symptoms of the rising tide of justifiable Negro discontent. They explained that legislation might not be enacted and that, in any event, pending legislation, voluntary desegregation of public facilities was a necessary emergency measure to relieve the intolerable pressures which had been generated.

Persons attending these meetings were asked to take leadership at the local level in forming bi-racial committees to provide vitally needed communication between the races, to use their individual and business influences to desegregate public facilities which they owned or controlled, and to create a local climate of opinion which would facilitate such steps taken by others. They were also urged to eliminate racial discrimination in employment in their own businesses, to press for and cause repeal of local segregation ordinances, and to stand up publicly to refute public officials, newspaper comment,

W. Marshall

and other advocates of segregation. Finally, each group was urged to accept the leadership of the chairman appointed for it and to maintain communication with the Department of Justice in order to record and facilitate changes in desegregation practices.

As a result of these meetings, separate committees were formed and committee chairmen volunteered their services at the request of President Kennedy. J. Irvin Miller, then President of the National Council of Churches, accepted the chairmanship of an informal committee formed from 250 religious leaders who met with President Kennedy on June 17, 1963. Harrison Tweed and Bernard Segal accepted appointment as co-chairmen of what became the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law. Mrs. Douglas Horton became chairman of the Women's Committee for Civil Rights following a June 9 meeting at the White House. After a June 11, 1963, meeting with the Business Council, its chairman, Mr. Fred Kappel of American Telephone and Telegraph Company, assumed the responsibility for maintaining liaison between the Executive Branch and the Business Council on civil rights questions.

These meetings were followed by letters from you to those attending each meeting reiterating the substance of the discussion at the meeting and the request for continued liaison with this Department. This liaison has been maintained and specific projects and problems managed by correspondence, telephone conferences and personal meetings with the leaders of these groups and various members.

Beginning June 5, 1963, we began a series of daily reports to you based on the information submitted to us as a result of the White House meetings and your meetings with the business leaders—who are the source of most of the detailed reports. These reports reflected remarkable progress in response to the appeals of President Kennedy. This progress, detailed in the attached chronological summary, is reflected in two major facts:

1. There is now some desegregation of public facilities in 356 out of 366 cities in the South and Border states.

2. There are now bi-racial committees in at least 185 of these cities.

- 3 -

DATE: December 22

In addition, three of the committees formed as a result of these meetings have developed remarkable energy and influence: the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, the Women's Committee for Civil Rights, and the National Council of Churches. Each of these has formed a corporation, has raised funds, has influential representatives throughout the country, and has taken specific constructive action in particular crises in the South. The activities of these committees have become co-ordinated. The religious group, for example, is using the services of the lawyers group in order to insure that the overt activities sponsored by the religious leaders are consistent with the federal and state laws. The two groups have cooperated in investigating interference by Selma, Alabama, officials with efforts to combat discrimination in voting there. They have worked together to provide counsel for indigent defendants facing spurious local charges brought because of civil rights activities. Together they have developed facilities for providing bail for defendants in the South who would otherwise be jailed indefinitely for lack of means to meet bail set by local courts. Representatives of the Lawyers' Committee actually accompanied 30 ministers of the religious group to a town in Mississippi, where they made an effort to establish communication between the white and Negro ministers in that city in the face of local court injunction against such communication.

More recently, the Women's Committee and the religious group have become active in support of the Administration's legislative proposals on civil rights. Each of them sent nationally representative delegations to many Congressmen in connection with the pending discharge petition. We understand that they were also very helpful in establishing the bi-partisan support which brought the Civil Rights Bill out of the House Judiciary Committee in November.

The voluntary effort stimulated by President Kennedy and the Administration beginning last summer has helped swing the American business community into the battle against racial discrimination and has created a new, powerful and virtually invulnerable political and moral force against segregation and the abuse of legal process to support it. Several letters were sent to business leaders. Letters soliciting cooperation and suggesting steps to be taken were sent to lawyers who attended the meeting at the White House and to United States Attorneys in the South and Border states.



*Memorandum*

TO : Mr. Robert F. Kennedy  
Attorney General

DATE: November 13, 1963

FROM : Louis F. Oberdorfer  
Assistant Attorney General

SUBJECT: Report of Desegregation Activity

This report is to bring you up to date on civil rights developments which we have not previously reported to you.

1. Statistical Summary of Public Accommodations Progress.

Reports of progress in desegregation of privately owned public facilities show virtually no new breakthroughs since the middle of October. We are receiving only occasional status reports from businessmen and our monthly reports from United States Attorneys show very little change is now taking place. Our latest statistical summary is:

| Type of Facility            | Prior to May 22 | Since May 22<br>Reported as of |         | Total      |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|---------|------------|
|                             |                 | Aug. 8                         | Nov. 13 |            |
| Theaters desegregated       | 109             | 134                            | 144     | 253 cities |
| Restaurants desegregated    | 141             | 122                            | 129     | 270 cities |
| Hotels desegregated         | 163             | 54                             | 59      | 222 cities |
| Lunch Counters desegregated | 264             | 91                             | 100     | 304 cities |

2. Difficulties in Savannah.

Mr. Everett Erlick of ABC-Paramount recently informed us that their business had suffered as a result of the integration of their Savannah theater. As was widely reported, a local theater which desegregated along with the ABC-Paramount theater had a tear gas bomb incident on October 27th, and the owner is getting very nervous. The hotels have desegregated without repercussions so far, but the bowling alleys and restaurants which originally agreed to desegregate have taken no action. We have informed the Lawyers' Committee and the Women's Groups of the problem and will keep in touch with the situation.



### 3. Employment.

As you will recall, the emphasis on desegregation shifted from privately owned public accommodations to integration of schools as the schools opened in the fall. Now that the school year is well underway, the attention of businessmen is shifting to the area of equal employment opportunities. We have received several recent communications showing progress in this area.

#### a. Major Effort in Dallas.

Sam R. Bloom reports that during the two weeks ending with Labor Day, 150 corporations in Dallas employed Negroes in customer contact areas with many larger corporations employing several Negroes in such positions. He also reports that two all-Negro conventions were held in Dallas with accommodations available for everybody, and there were no unpleasant incidents.

#### b. W. T. Grants Makes Progress in Employment.

The W. T. Grant Co. informs us they now employ 1502 Negroes, with a substantial number in non-menial positions. Almost 20 per cent of these people have been employed since April 15, 1963.

#### c. J. C. Penney Co. Takes Active Role in Equal Employment Opportunities.

George Stone of J. C. Penney Co. visited us today and brought us up to date on what his company and other major retail chains were doing in the civil rights area. He reports that he met with several of their major competitors in New York last August and discussed the problems they were then facing. He feels that the attention of retailers should now be primarily directed towards equal employment opportunities, as most retailers already recognize the necessity of opening their public accommodations to Negroes, and have plans to accomplish this well underway. (He stated that most chain retailers support Federal Public Accommodations legislation so long as it does not discriminate against chain operations.) They plan to hold another meeting next week. Penneys is actively pursuing a program whereby the large national chain organizations will exchange information with each other on civil rights matters in particular localities with a view towards moving together to secure advances in employment opportunities for Negroes, particularly at non-menial levels.

Mr. Stone mentioned briefly several specific ideas as to action which can be taken now to insure that qualified Negroes were available to fill the jobs as the jobs become available. After we have an opportunity to explore these ideas we will make a separate report on this subject. He mentioned with some apprehension the possibility of "Santa Claus" boycotts by liberal groups in the North, but feels that they will be sporadic and directed to situations in particular localities rather than organized on a national basis.

## **I. The problem**

- A. Many Negroes have been employed in "Negro jobs" without regard to their individual qualifications.
- B. Once employed, they have only been promoted up traditional job ladders having a low ceiling.
- C. Frequently, Negroes have not been placed in jobs in which they can develop skills.
- D. Negroes have usually not been selected for formal and informal training.
- E. Negroes have traditionally been excluded from white-collar jobs in general.
- F. As a result (among Government contractors):
  - 41% of all Negroes are in "unskilled" jobs, while 12% of whites are in such jobs.
  - 97% of all Negroes are in blue-collar jobs, in manufacturing industries, while 67% of whites are in blue-collar jobs.
  - Negroes are virtually excluded from middle management positions except in highly skilled occupations in critical shortage, such as engineers.

## **II. Substantive proposals**

- A. Conduct a skill inventory of Negroes now employed.
  - 1. Identify their current skills and abilities.
  - 2. Reassign them according with their current skills and place them in a promotion ladder that is related to their potential for growth.
  - 3. Place them in jobs that will develop their potential.

4. Arrange for training for Negroes who can benefit from it.
- B. Eliminate traditional "Negro jobs" and lines of promotion, and substitute job requirements and promotion ladders related to skill and development of skills.
- C. Review current recruitment sources and methods to assure that they do not, in effect, eliminate qualified Negro applicants. (For example, recruitment from persons referred by current employees may effectively eliminate Negro applicants for most jobs.)
- D. Establish an understanding in the Negro community, nationally and in specific labor markets, that this company is seeking qualified Negro applicants. This is essential for recruitment and to motivate Negroes to stay in school and go to college.

### III. Administrative steps

- A. Effectively communicate a clear company policy, from the top of the company down to those that hire and promote large groups of people. Base the policy both on moral and economic grounds: What is right; what is needed to make the best use of Negro manpower by the company and nation; and what is required of Government contractors by the Executive Orders.
- B. Carefully look into whether or not the word was received throughout the organization.
- C. Periodically review the utilization of Negroes by organizational units and geographical areas to discover areas needing special attention.

Plan of Organization  
Advisory Council on Plans for Progress

The United States of America is founded upon fundamental principles, from which the strength of our nation is derived. Among these is the concept of equal opportunity for every individual to develop his full potential based solely upon personal merit and performance, without regard to race or color, or religious affiliation.

Today it is imperative that we provide equal employment opportunities for all our citizens. By doing so we reaffirm faith in our basic precepts. By utilizing all our human resources, we make it possible to achieve the full development of our nation.

The Plans for Progress Program instituted by the President's Committee on Equal Employment Opportunity has proven effective in the area of government contracting. However, the assurance of equal employment opportunities requires the support of every segment of our economy, private and public, and the wholehearted cooperation of government and industry. For this reason the Advisory Council on Plans for Progress is being established.

**Purpose**

The purpose of the Advisory Council shall be to develop and implement a program to encourage equal employment opportunities for every individual in order to assure the full utilization of Negro and other qualified minority personnel. The purpose shall also be to promote affirmative attitudes directed toward the employment of all qualified

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minority personnel. The purpose shall also be to promote affirmative attitudes directed toward the employment of all qualified applicants and to urge Plans for Progress participants to engage in active programs of recruitment, training, and improved education of all citizens.

Organization

The Advisory Council shall consist of three ex officio members and a number of regular members fixed from time to time by the Council. The ex officio members shall be the Vice President of the United States, the Secretary of Labor and the Executive Vice Chairman of the President's Committee on Equal Employment Opportunity. The regular members shall be representatives from Plans for Progress participants. The regular members and the Chairman of the Advisory Council shall be appointed by the Vice President. Initially, one-third of the regular members will serve terms of one year, one-third will serve terms of two years and the remaining one-third will serve terms of three years. Subsequent appointments shall be for terms of three years. No regular member of the Advisory Council who has served a full three year term may be reappointed for a consecutive term. Meetings of the Advisory Council will be called as deemed necessary by the Chairman, or as otherwise provided by its rules.

The Advisory Council shall organize itself, form committees and adopt such rules and procedures as may be necessary or advisable to accomplish its purposes. The committee chairmen shall be appointed

by the Chairman of the Advisory Council from members of the Advisory Council. The members of the committees shall be appointed by the committee chairmen on the basis of qualifications, and membership shall not be restricted to Advisory Council members. It is deemed advisable that the following committees be among those formed.

1. Development Committee (Program Extension)

The purpose of this committee shall be to encourage additional companies and organizations to adopt Plans for Progress. Emphasis shall be placed on broadening participation to encompass all employment sectors, including firms and organizations which are not involved with defense contracts.

2. Employment Resources Committee

The purpose of this committee shall be to provide guidance to Plans for Progress participants in the recruiting of Negro and other minority group employees. Furthermore, this committee shall provide guidance to participants in improving the qualifications of present Negro and other minority group employees and in fully utilizing their skills and abilities. The committee shall also provide guidance to participants in the development and utilization of additional educational and training opportunities for minority group members by such means as promoting the advancement of scholarships and training programs, and promoting their availability.

3. Communications Committee

The purpose of this committee shall be to encourage and assist in the preparation and distribution of information to the general public and specific groups. The information should be designed to illustrate and emphasize the progress being made in providing equal employment opportunity for Negroes and other minority group members.

4. Community Relations Committee

The purpose of this committee shall be to provide guidance and assistance to participants in the development of community attitudes which promote the implementation of Plans for Progress.

5. Research and Information Committee

The purpose of this committee shall be to provide data, statistics and studies in the area of Negro and other minority employment which will be helpful to participants. An "Information Center" should be established for the dissemination of this information to all participants.

6. Scholarships and Training Committee

The purpose of this committee shall be to provide and to encourage the development and utilization of, additional educational and training opportunities for minority group members by such methods as promoting the establishment of scholarships and training programs, and publicizing their availability.



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LFO  
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October 16, 1963

MEMORANDUM

1. Public Accommodations

a. Negroes say that discrimination in public accommodations has been a most serious and increasingly painful irritant for them. It is estimated that 65% of the street demonstrations in 1963 relate to discrimination in public accommodations.

b. Remarkable progress has been made in desegregation of public accommodations in the border states and in the Old Confederacy, particularly since May 22, 1963. This may be summarized as follows:

|                             | <u>Prior to<br/>May 22</u> | <u>Since May 22<br/>Reported as of<br/>Oct. 15</u> | <u>Total<br/>to date</u> |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Theatres desegregated       | 109                        | 144                                                | 253 cities               |
| Restaurants desegregated    | 141                        | 129                                                | 270 cities               |
| Hotels desegregated         | 163                        | 60                                                 | 223 cities               |
| Lunch counters desegregated | 204                        | 102                                                | 306 cities               |

This progress is most striking in the larger cities. There are 89 cities in this area with populations exceeding 50,000. There has been some progress in public accommodations or in establishing machinery for bi-racial committees in 83 of them. Thirty-nine out of the 42 cities with populations in excess of 100,000 have accomplished some desegregation of public facilities. The exceptions are Montgomery, Alabama, Shreveport, Louisiana, and Jackson, Mississippi.

c. There remains a hard core of resistance to voluntary change. There are also many who would welcome an opportunity to change if the law required it. Hence, the Civil Rights bill and particularly the public accommodations provisions are the best hope to meet the problem in the courts instead of in the streets. Its enactment will also serve as a symbol to the Negro leadership to sustain their faith in our legal processes.

2. Employment

The President's Committee on Equal Opportunity and its Plans for Progress program have been working steadily to increase Negro employment and to upgrade Negroes from menial and blue collar jobs to nonmenial and white collar ones.

Overall statistics are difficult to collect and do not tell the whole story. Yet there are some useful and enlightening statistics available. For example, unemployment among Negroes is more than twice that of whites. And among the ranks of the employed, Bureau of Labor Statistics reports show that 97% of Negroes in industry are in blue collar work; whites are 60% of blue collar employees.

A recent survey of the ten Plans for Progress Companies in Birmingham, Alabama, which is not atypical of the nationwide employment pattern, shows the following:

| <u>Ten Companies</u> | <u>All</u>   | <u>Nonwhite</u> |
|----------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Salaried Jobs        | 1,379        | 18              |
| Hourly Jobs          | <u>1,173</u> | <u>417</u>      |
|                      | 2,552        | 435             |

For 1962 and 1963, some Government contractors in the Birmingham area reported employment data to the President's Committee on Equal Employment Opportunity. These figures show that there are some companies that have no Negro employees at all, that only a few companies have Negroes in a clerical or white collar capacity, and even those companies have only a small number of Negroes in such white collar positions. The following chart summarizes these findings. There is this caveat that the difference between the figures for the two years in all three categories is due largely to differences in the companies which reported and to differences in reporting techniques rather than to the creation of new jobs or to changes in employment practices.

|                          | <u>Number of Establishments</u> |                     | <u>Employment</u>  |                |                               |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|----------------|-------------------------------|
|                          | <u>Total</u>                    | <u>With Negroes</u> | <u>All Workers</u> | <u>Negroes</u> | <u>Percent Negro to Total</u> |
| <u>ALL OCCUPATIONS</u>   |                                 |                     |                    |                |                               |
| 1962                     | 31                              | 24                  | 12,935             | 2,549          | 19.7                          |
| 1963                     | 37                              | 30                  | 18,214             | 2,907          | 16.0                          |
| <u>WHITE COLLAR JOBS</u> |                                 |                     |                    |                |                               |
| 1962                     | 31                              | 5                   | 4,158              | 14             | 0.3                           |
| 1963                     | 36                              | 9                   | 6,441              | 76             | 1.2                           |
| <u>BLUE COLLAR JOBS</u>  |                                 |                     |                    |                |                               |
| 1962                     | 29                              | 24                  | 8,777              | 2,535          | 28.9                          |
| 1963                     | 34                              | 30                  | 11,773             | 2,831          | 24.4                          |

The present picture may generally be described as one in which progress has been made but a great deal more is ahead.

Top management in major industrial concerns is committed to change by adopting policies of recruiting Negro employees and upgrading them.

Both business management and national union leadership have had mixed success in carrying out their general policies at the plant and local level.

3. Some Ways to Further Improvement of Employment Opportunities

a. Support for the Plans for Progress Program of the President's Committee on Equal Employment Opportunity.

b. Community-wide business committees, e.g., Huntsville Contractors Association, Birmingham Citizens Advisory Council. These committees enable businessmen to plan and act jointly at the local level with the branch managers enjoying the support of their national headquarters.

c. Special recruiting efforts at universities and high schools in the manner now practiced by law firms at law schools and business corporations generally seeking executive talent.

For example, some firms have hired Negro teachers during the summer to indoctrinate them as recruiting agents at their schools.

d. Training. While this subject includes gigantic educational needs and programs reaching to all levels, there are shorter range training programs such as the New York University secretarial course sponsored by the National Urban League and financed by four major employers. Universities have begun special training programs oriented to providing personnel equipped for jobs never heretofore open to Negroes, e.g., engineering, business administration and other technical skills.

e. Close supervision of personnel practices of individual plants focusing on preemployment tests (1) are Negroes eligible for them? and (2) are the tests so constructed as automatically to discriminate?

f. Ensuring that new plants begin on a nondiscriminatory basis and are staffed and supervised by personnel who are committed to management's policy of nondiscrimination.

g. Close supervision by meetings and conferences with those executives responsible for personnel practices at the local level.

h. Elimination of discriminatory lines of seniority and promotion in cooperation with unions.

i. Desegregation of employee service facilities at plant sites.

j. Check and supervise the racial practices of employment agencies serving each plant.

k. Desegregation of Public Schools

There was a significant increase in the number of desegregated school districts and in the number of pupils attending desegregated schools throughout the border states and the states of the Old Confederacy. With exceptions only in Alabama, school desegregation in these areas were accomplished with no unusual incidents. The business community in these areas and in the three cities whose school districts were desegregated in Alabama did much to insure that law and order prevailed. The following chart shows cities in which there has been some desegregation of schools.

| <u>State</u>   | <u>No. Cities Over 10,000</u> | <u>Under 10,000*</u> |
|----------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| Alabama        | 3                             | -                    |
| Arkansas       | 9                             | -                    |
| Florida        | 22                            | 2                    |
| Georgia        | 5                             | -                    |
| Kentucky       | 19                            | 3                    |
| Louisiana      | 2                             | -                    |
| Maryland       | 24                            | 6                    |
| Mississippi    | -                             | -                    |
| North Carolina | 23                            | 2                    |
| Oklahoma       | 20                            | 9                    |
| South Carolina | 1                             | -                    |
| Tennessee      | 9                             | 1                    |
| Texas          | 63                            | 8                    |
| Virginia       | 25                            | 1                    |
| West Virginia  | 12                            | 3                    |
|                | <u>237</u>                    | <u>35</u>            |

\* The figures for the Under 10,000 group are not all inclusive.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

TO : Robert F. Kennedy  
Attorney General

DATE: September 20, 1963

FROM : Louis F. Oberdorfer  
170 Assistant Attorney General

SUBJECT: Report of Desegregation Activity

Since our last statistical report to you on September 6, 1963, there has been relatively few new breakthroughs in the cities which we are surveying. Most of the activity has consisted of consolidation of progress previously accomplished and further desegregation of facilities in cities where we have previously reported some desegregation.

Some of the slow-down in activity in the public accommodations field can undoubtedly be attributed to concentration of local communities on the problems which they were encountering in the integration of public schools.

While we have reports of desegregation for the first time in only five additional cities, within the past two weeks, theatres have desegregated in two additional cities, restaurants in three additional cities, hotels in three additional cities and lunch counters in two additional cities.

We know now of specific improvements in the desegregation of privately owned public facilities in 361, or 64%, of the 566 cities in this area which have been surveyed.

Our latest tabulation results is shown on the attached statistical summary. Of particular significance is the shift in cities from categories 2 and 3 to category 1.

**DESEGREGATION OF PRIVATELY OWNED PUBLIC  
FACILITIES BY CITIES AS OF SEPTEMBER 20, 1963**

|                             | <u>Prior to<br/>May 22</u> | <u>Since May 22<br/>Reported as of</u> |                 | <u>Total<br/>to date</u> |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
|                             |                            | <u>Sept. 6</u>                         | <u>Sept. 20</u> |                          |
| Theatres desegregated       | 109                        | 142                                    | 144             | 253 cities               |
| Restaurants desegregated    | 141                        | 126                                    | 129             | 270 cities               |
| Hotels desegregated         | 163                        | 56                                     | 59              | 222 cities               |
| Lunch counters desegregated | 204                        | 98                                     | 100             | 304 cities               |

The breakdown into categories today compared with June is as follows:

| <u>Category</u>                                                                                                    | <u>June 4</u>     | <u>Sept. 6</u>    | <u>Sept. 20</u>   |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Category 1 - cities in which changes have been made or could be made immediately                                   | 90                | 292               | 334               |
| Category 2 - cities in which changes could be made through coordination among business groups and local leadership | 49                | 134               | 131               |
| Category 3 - cities in which changes will be more difficult                                                        | <u>34</u>         | <u>119</u>        | <u>73</u>         |
| <b>Total</b>                                                                                                       | <u><u>173</u></u> | <u><u>545</u></u> | <u><u>538</u></u> |

**Memorandum**

TO : Robert F. Kennedy  
Attorney General

DATE: September 16, 1963

FROM : Louis F. Oberdorfer  
Assistant Attorney General

SUBJECT: Report of Desegregation Activity

There have been several noteworthy developments which we have not previously reported to you:

Theater Owners In Jackson, Tennessee Ask Help.

We have a letter from the Malco Theater corporation indicating that they and ABC-Paramount would like to desegregate their theaters but would like other businessmen to go along. The mayor of Jackson has called a meeting in Memphis to discuss what can be done. We contacted Woolworth's and Penney's who are going to get their local managers in Jackson to support the proposition that all businesses there should desegregate.

Southern Businessman Suggests Regional Meeting of Businessmen to Promote Negro Equality.

Harvey Poe, Assistant to the President of Aerojet General Corporation based in Washington, D. C., has suggested that a group of Southern businessmen should meet to discuss how groups could be established in each Southern community to achieve equal status for Negroes and at the same time preserve law and order.

Morrison's Cafeteria Recalcitrant In Jacksonville.

We received a letter from Rutledge Pearson, President of the Jacksonville, Florida branch of the N.A.A.C.P., stating that 80 per cent of the restaurants in Jacksonville had agreed to desegregate but that Morrison's Cafeteria, the local outlet of a Mobile, Alabama chain, was unwilling to desegregate. We called Don Greenaway of the National Restaurant Association in Chicago who is going to request Morrison's to cooperate. Mr. Greenaway stated that he got a rather violent reaction from Morrison's when he made a similar request a couple of months ago.\*

Royal Castle Chain Desegregates.

Lawrence E. Singer, President of the Royal Castle Hamburger Store chain based in Miami, has written that he has desegregated the entire chain with the exception of one store in St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana.

\* See next page for further developments.

Report From Eastern District Of Arkansas.

Report from Robert B. Smith, Jr., United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Arkansas - sent us an extensive report pointing out the great progress which had been made in Little Rock and Pine Bluff. We are preparing an answer for your signature.

Northern District Of West Virginia.

In a further report of his activities, United States Attorney Maxwell advised of letters he has written to mayors of the principal cities in his district. A copy of the letter (attached) seems to cover the situation admirably and offers assistance without suggesting pressure of any kind.

- \* Mr. Greensway called back to say that he had contacted J. H. Gibbons, President of Morrison's, who was considerably less hostile, but would not agree to desegregation in Jacksonville. Gibbons said the Directors of Morrison's met last week and decided it was not possible from an economic standpoint, to integrate in places like Jacksonville and Savannah, but they were not opposed to integration as a matter of principle.



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

# Memorandum

TO : Robert F. Kennedy  
Attorney General

DATE: September 5, 1963

FROM : Louis F. Oberdorfer  
Assistant Attorney General

SUBJECT: Report of Desegregation Activity

There have been several noteworthy developments which we have not previously reported to you:

## Lawyers' Committee.

Yesterday Ed Smith attended a meeting in Philadelphia of the Co-Chairmen of the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights under Law. Messrs. Tweed, Segal, Cutler and Shestack were present. The committee readied itself for immediate research assistance to attorneys who are available to bring suit on behalf of white children to forestall closing of public schools in Alabama. It is understood that some twenty attorneys in Birmingham stand ready to help in this area. The committee decided to hold off on this yesterday in light of information that Governor Wallace had backed down, but in view of developments over night this decision may be altered. The Lawyers' Committee hopes to have acquired a full time executive director within a matter of days and expects to be set up in its Washington quarters soon thereafter. A meeting of the board of directors is planned for the week of November 12 and Mr. Segal will be approaching you with a request that you make an appearance before the board at that time.

## Birmingham - Side Light.

There have been reports that W. H. Cash, a Birmingham businessman and member of the Klan, has been distributing small cards to customers of Pizitz, Lovemans, Sears and Parisian, urging them to boycott these stores because they agreed to integrate lunch counters, dressing rooms and schools. The above stores are managed by members of the Senior Citizens Committee which has taken a stand against strict segregation in Birmingham and has negotiated with the Negroes. The Sears manager apparently believes that former city commissioners, Arthur T. Hanes and Eugene T. Connor may be responsible, but he has no proof of this. Hanes has publicly advocated such a boycott.

Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Mr. William G. Vandever reports that the Tulsa Bi-Racial Committee of businessmen has now met for the second session. Non-menial jobs for Negroes are now becoming realities and a strategy has been worked out in order to appeal to two segregated restaurants (Picadilly and Bordens).

West Virginia.

Robert E. Maxwell, United States Attorney, Northern District of West Virginia has submitted a report detailing the rural areas of his district. This report is in addition to an earlier report of the larger cities in his district. From his survey, Mr. Maxwell concludes that "the civil rights problems are not comparable in degree to those found in other sections of the country. We have several islands of resistance to civil rights for minority groups, but it is felt that responsible local leadership is surely melting these areas of resistance and that the problems will be solved in a short time". He further states that if various areas of resistance should continue to prevail despite local leadership, a committee of prominent citizens would be formed quickly to arbitrate and discuss the issues.

Labor Department Interested in Charlotte Plan:

In consideration of a proposal by Mr. Francis M. Fitzgerald of Charlotte, North Carolina that radio stations be asked to assist in matching qualified Negroes and available jobs, Mr. Powers suggests that arrangements be made for representatives of the United States Employment Service to meet with appropriate representatives of the radio and television industry to explore in detail the possibility of using the influence of that industry to bear on the problem of racial discrimination.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. Robert F. Kennedy  
Attorney General

DATE: August 28, 1963

L.F.O.

FROM : Louis F. Oberdorfer  
Assistant Attorney General

SUBJECT: Report of Desegregation Activity

## 1. Latest Statistical Analysis.

We have surveyed 566 cities in the Southern and Border states, with primary attention given to the 476 cities in this area with a population of over 10,000.

Our survey shows substantial gains have been made in this area in the desegregation of restaurants, hotels-motels, theatres, and lunch counters. In 353 cities, or 62% of the total surveyed there has been substantial desegregation of at least one type of such facility, and a significant amount of this progress has occurred since the President and yourself began your meetings with the business community last May. Our latest tabulation of results is shown on the attached statistical summary.

**DESEGREGATION OF PRIVATELY OWNED PUBLIC  
FACILITIES BY CITIES AS OF AUGUST 28TH**

|                             | <u>Prior to<br/>May 22</u> | <u>Since May 22<br/>Reported as of</u> |                | <u>Total<br/>to date</u> |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|
|                             |                            | <u>July 26</u>                         | <u>Aug. 28</u> |                          |
| Theatres desegregated       | 99                         | 118                                    | 137            | 236 cities               |
| Restaurants desegregated    | 136                        | 101                                    | 122            | 258 cities               |
| Hotels desegregated         | 148                        | 36                                     | 54             | 202 cities               |
| Lunch counters desegregated | 203                        | 80                                     | 95             | 299 cities               |

The breakdown into categories today compared with June is as follows:

| <u>Category</u>                                                                                                    | <u>June 4</u> | <u>July 26</u> | <u>August 28</u> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|------------------|
| Category 1 - cities in which changes have been made or could be made immediately                                   | 90            | 248            | 288              |
| Category 2 - cities in which changes could be made through coordination among business groups and local leadership | 49            | 113            | 138              |
| Category 3 - cities in which changes will be more difficult                                                        | <u>34</u>     | <u>85</u>      | <u>118</u>       |
| <b>Total</b>                                                                                                       | <b>173</b>    | <b>436</b>     | <b>544</b>       |

# Memorandum

TO : Robert F. Kennedy  
Attorney General

DATE: August 29, 1963

FROM : Louis F. Oberdorfer  
132 Assistant Attorney General

SUBJECT: Report of Desegregation Activity

There have been several noteworthy developments which we have not previously reported to you:

Theatre Situation in New Orleans.

Mr. Harry B. Kelleher who has been assisting us generally in New Orleans is now attempting to work out an agreement with the theatre owners in that city. At his request we contacted Mr. Robert S. Benjamin of United Artists who arranged for the out of state owners of theatres in New Orleans to contact Mr. Kelleher, who is arranging for a meeting.

Side Effects of the President's Executive Order Relating to  
FHA Financed Housing.

Some FHA-financed Washington area developers, faced with the President's executive order forbidding them to discriminate in selling housing on which FHA commitments were written after November 20, 1962, have decided to end discrimination in their entire developments. The Broyhill firm, Geeraert Construction Company and Hylton Building Corporation have made such announcements. In the case of Sterling Park, the Broyhill development, few, if any, unsold units are unaffected by the executive order, but Geeraert and Hylton have opened several hundred unsold units which are not covered.

In the middle of this week the directors of the Home Building Association of Metropolitan Washington plan to hold a meeting at which they will discuss a proposed voluntarily open occupancy pledge by all builders in the area.

Danville, Virginia.

Meetings have been scheduled with leaders of several of our groups to tackle the situation in Danville. In preparation for these meetings we prepared a chronological report of racial events in that city. Mr. William U. Norwood, one of our summer employees, did an excellent job of obtaining preliminary information and arranging the material. Copies have been furnished to all of those who will attend the meeting.

Amusement Park Desegregates in Baltimore.

The Gwynn Oak Amusement Park in Baltimore, the scene of mass demonstrations last month, was integrated yesterday without incident. The integration occurred pursuant to an agreement reached on July 19, 1963, and climaxed 11 years of effort on the part of civil rights groups.

Committee on Religion and Race.

Messrs. Geoghegan, Barrett and I attended a meeting of this Committee today. In addition to representatives of all religious faiths, NAACP, CORE, the Lawyers' Committee and the Women's Committee were represented. The meeting considered -

(a) Danville - A subcommittee was appointed to develop ways and means of renewing efforts to solve the problems there.

(b) Prince Edward County - Mr. Saltzman presented the case for church interest in Prince Edward. (Incidentally, Irwin Miller has indicated that he would like to help stimulate church interest.)

(c) School Openings - We asked the group to promptly get in touch with their counterparts in the six cities where school desegregation is scheduled for next week. The ministers are also considering watches over schools and the homes of school children.

Business Council.

The Council has circularized its membership, urging that they use their good offices to facilitate peaceful school openings next week.

Henry Alexander, Chairman, Morgan Guaranty and Trust Company, has undertaken to call directly banking and business leaders in Birmingham to mobilize their support for peaceful school openings next week.

# Memorandum

TO : Robert F. Kennedy  
Attorney General

DATE: August 26, 1963

FROM : Louis F. Oberdorfer  
Assistant Attorney General

SUBJECT: Report of Desegregation Activity

There have been several noteworthy developments which we have not previously reported to you:

Activity of Lawyers' Committee.

As a result of discussions participated in by Bernard Segal, Robert Bell and Lloyd Cutler of the Lawyers' Committee, and St. John Barrett, Ed Smith and I, of the Department, the newly elected president of the American Bar Association has telephoned the president of the Birmingham Bar Association to urge him to make a public protest against the bombing of the home of Arthur D. Shores, Birmingham attorney. Mr. Craig is confident that the statement will be made, and he and Mr. Segal plan to write to the president of the Birmingham Bar Association commending him for the statement.

Meeting with representatives of National Council of Churches.

On Friday, Mr. Barrett and I lunched in New York with J. Irvin Miller, President of the National Council of Churches, and Dr. Robert Spike, Executive Director of the Council's Emergency Commission on Religion and Race. We discussed a number of matters of mutual concern, including the pending civil rights legislation, the "March", and community action by the church groups. Dr. Spike asked that we furnish him the name of critical cities that face school desegregation orders effective this fall. They plan to contact local white clergy to have them do what they can to facilitate peaceful desegregation. Specifically, they will have clergymen go to the desegregating schools with the Negro students where that appears desirable. Later Friday evening we mailed Dr. Spike background information on the critical cities in accordance with his request.

I advised Mr. Miller and Dr. Spike of the situation of Rick Tuttle, who is in jail in Savannah, Georgia, because of his inability to raise a \$15,000 peace bond required by a local court. They expressed a desire and willingness to see what could be done. We have heard today that Mr. Bushbaum, a Savannah attorney who has previously handled civil rights cases, is looking into the matter at the request of the Tweed-Segal Committee.



Meeting on the Danville, Virginia, Situation.

Plans for a meeting in Washington for preliminary discussion regarding possible resolution of the Danville, Virginia, situation are going ahead. Representatives of the religious, women's and lawyers' groups have already said they will be attending. Messrs. Geoghegan and Barrett from this Department plan to attend.

Assistance to Glen Oaks Amusement Park - Baltimore.

The Glen Oaks Amusement Park in Baltimore has been the scene of several major demonstrations this summer. The owners have agreed to desegregate all facilities on August 28. One of the owners contacted this Department requesting assistance in this effort. His suggestion that the Attorney General aid him in obtaining outstanding entertainment for that weekend was vetoed by Messrs. Nolan, Barrett and the writer. However, he was advised of how much the Attorney General appreciated his efforts and that various groups who had attended the White House Meetings would be contacted and advised to render appropriate assistance.

We contacted Mrs. Peterson concerning her groups and will contact the ministers and lawyers.

Mobile, Alabama.

We received a telephone call from the Council for the New York Jets of the All American Football Conference concerning a problem which is developing concerning an exhibition game with the Oakland Raiders in Mobile. Both teams have Negro players and the stadium is segregated. CORE is urging the Negro players not to participate. The Council queried as to what Justice could do and it was suggested that we could put him in touch with the members of the newly formed bi-racial committee in Mobile. He was given the name of the member of the City Council who organized the committee. It was later learned that the game was transferred to Oakland.

Jackson, Tennessee.

There has been considerable difficulty in this city and a bi-racial committee formed by the Mayor has not been very active. Mr. Richard L. Lightman of Malco Theatres has been attempting to desegregate the Malco Theatre in this city, but feels that there must be some assistance, particularly from the ABC-Paramount Theatre. We have contacted Mr. Everett Erick who is looking into the situation and will ask his local man to cooperate with the local Malco manager.



# Memorandum

TO : Mr. Robert F. Kennedy  
Attorney General

DATE: August 20, 1963

FROM : Louis F. Oberdorfer  
Assistant Attorney General

SUBJECT: Report of Desegregation Activity

1. Latest Statistical Analysis.

We have surveyed 566 cities in the Southern and Border states, with primary attention given to the 476 cities in this area with a population of over 10,000.

Our survey shows substantial gains have been made in this area in the desegregation of restaurants, hotels-motels, theatres, and lunch counters. In 346 cities, or 61% of the total surveyed there has been substantial desegregation of at least one type of such facility, and a significant amount of this progress has occurred since the President and yourself began your meetings with the business community last May. Our latest tabulation of results is shown on the attached statistical summary.

2. Summary of Progress to Date.

a. States Where Progress is Widespread.

In the four Border states of Kentucky, West Virginia, Oklahoma and Maryland, as well as in Florida, North Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia, the principal urban areas are making substantial progress in the desegregation of public facilities. In these states, the 63 cities of over 50,000 population have all made some significant advances; similarly, in the 67 cities in these states with a population of 25,000 to 50,000, all but 7 have shown some specific progress. Substantial progress is also being made in the smaller cities in the Border states, but is spotty in the smaller communities of the Old Confederacy, even in the five most progressive southern states mentioned above.

b. States Where Progress is Confined to Metropolitan Areas.

In Arkansas, Georgia, South Carolina, and to some extent, Alabama, aggressive local leadership has resulted in progress in the larger communities. In Arkansas the communities of Little Rock, Pine Bluff, Fort Smith, Fayetteville, and Hot Springs have made significant advances. In Georgia, Atlanta, Athens, Augusta, Columbus, Macon and Savannah, are moving ahead. In South Carolina the state remains almost entirely segregated despite advances in Greenville, Spartanburg, Charleston and Anderson; and in Alabama the same segregation pattern holds except for Birmingham, Mobile, and Huntsville. There are hints of change in Columbia, South Carolina and Anniston, Decatur and Tuscaloosa, Alabama, but very little concrete progress.

c. States Where Progress is Meeting Fierce Resistance.

Louisiana shows fierce resistance to change except for New Orleans and Baton Rouge and Mississippi is still a stronghold of segregation though local leaders in Greenville and Gulfport have taken tentative steps towards meeting with Negro leadership.

**DESEGREGATION OF PRIVATELY OWNED PUBLIC  
FACILITIES BY CITIES AS OF AUGUST 20TH.**

|                             | <u>Prior to<br/>May 22</u> | <u>Since May 22<br/>Reported as of</u> |                | <u>Total<br/>to date</u> |        |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|--------|
|                             |                            | <u>July 26</u>                         | <u>Aug. 20</u> |                          |        |
| Theatres desegregated       | 99                         | 118                                    | 134            | 233                      | cities |
| Restaurants desegregated    | 136                        | 101                                    | 122            | 258                      | cities |
| Hotels desegregated         | 148                        | 36                                     | 54             | 202                      | cities |
| Lunch counters desegregated | 203                        | 80                                     | 91             | 294                      | cities |

The breakdown into categories today compared with June is as follows:

| <u>Category</u>                                                                                                    | <u>June 4</u> | <u>July 26</u> | <u>August 20</u> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|------------------|
| Category 1 - cities in which changes have been made or could be made immediately                                   | 90            | 248            | 281              |
| Category 2 - cities in which changes could be made through coordination among business groups and local leadership | 49            | 113            | 138              |
| Category 3 - cities in which changes will be more difficult                                                        | 34            | 85             | 118              |
| <b>Total</b>                                                                                                       | <b>173</b>    | <b>436</b>     | <b>537</b>       |

*Memorandum*

TO : Robert F. Kennedy  
Attorney General

FROM : Louis F. Oberdorfer  
Assistant Attorney General

DATE: August 19, 1963

SUBJECT: Report of Desegregation Activity

There have been several noteworthy developments which we have not previously reported to you:

Equal Employment Opportunity Meetings in Dallas. A number of meetings of businessmen from the Dallas area were scheduled last week in that city. There was to be discussion of making more jobs available to Negroes and of upgrading existing jobs. Some progress has already been made in that area. Mr. Sam Bloom tells us that many large businessmen would probably attend. Smaller businessmen were also invited to attend. The project was coordinated by Elizabeth Foraling Harris, who is employed at Mr. Bloom's Dallas advertising agency.

Americus, Georgia. A Negro spokesman announced on August 14 that demonstrations had been called off pending conferences which are scheduled with Mayor Griffin Walker.

There have been a number of demonstrations in this City in the past week resulting in arrests of at least 77 Negroes.

Resolving Difficulty in Bartlesville, Oklahoma. United States Attorney Imel from the Northern District of Oklahoma in his report concerning the situation in his district advised that the Osage Theatre in Bartlesville was the only facility not desegregated and was causing some difficulty. We contacted the owner of the Video Theatre chain in Oklahoma City and learned that he had issued instructions to all of his theatres to integrate and that he was surprised that the one in Bartlesville had not done so. The owner indicated that he would immediately look into the situation and send us a copy of a letter he had sent to all of his managers early this summer.\*

Brunswick, Georgia. In addition to the planned integration of public schools in this Deep South Community there has been voluntary integration of all chain store lunch counters and some restaurants, and an indication that further desegregation will occur in the very near future.

- \* The letter has just been received and is attached for your information. Note that the policy was restated with greater emphasis as a result of the meeting with you and the President.

Columbia, South Carolina. With the assistance of United States Attorney Glenn we have been trying to make progress in this South Carolina city in which the Mayor refuses to cooperate in any way. Our contact with ABC-Paramount has checked with his local manager and finds that there have been no meetings and that the owners or managers of public facilities have not been contacted regarding desegregation. Working with United States Attorney Glenn we will attempt to get something going in this city.

## Memorandum

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

TO : Robert F. Kennedy  
Attorney General

DATE: August 16, 1963

FROM : Louis F. Oberdorfer  
Assistant Attorney GeneralSUBJECT: Report of Desegregation Activity

We know now of specific improvements in the desegregation of privately-owned public facilities accomplished in 346, or 61% of the 566 cities in this area which we have surveyed. Our latest tabulation shows the following changes by number of cities where desegregation has been reported.

|                             | Prior to<br>May 22 | Since May 22<br>Reported as of |         | Total<br>to date |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|---------|------------------|
|                             |                    | July 26                        | Aug. 16 |                  |
| Theatres desegregated       | 99                 | 118                            | 134     | 233              |
| Restaurants desegregated    | 136                | 101                            | 122     | 258              |
| Hotels desegregated         | 148                | 36                             | 54      | 202              |
| Lunch counters desegregated | 203                | 80                             | 91      | 294              |

The breakdown into categories today compared with June is as follows:

| Category                                                                                                           | June 4 | July 26 | August 16 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|---------|-----------|
| Category 1 - cities in which changes have been made or could be made immediately                                   | 90     | 248     | 281       |
| Category 2 - cities in which changes could be made through coordination among business groups and local leadership | 49     | 113     | 138       |
| Category 3 - cities in which changes will be more difficult                                                        | 34     | 85      | 118       |
| Total                                                                                                              | 173    | 436     | 537       |

Civil Machinery. There has been considerable progress in the formation of bi-racial committees since the meetings in the White House and the Department. According to our information, which may not be complete, there were 74 committees organized prior to May 22 and 110 have been set up since that date, which means that groups are now working towards the voluntary desegregation of public facilities in at least 184 cities.

M. Marshall



# Memorandum

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Attorney General

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FROM : Louis F. Oberdorfer  
Assistant Attorney General

SUBJECT: Report of Desegregation Activity

We know now of specific improvements in the desegregation of privately-owned public facilities accomplished in 346, or 61% of the 566 cities in this area which we have surveyed.

There have been several noteworthy developments which we have not previously reported to you:

1. Woolworth's Progress Report. Mr. E. F. Harrigan, Vice President of the F. W. Woolworth Co., visited with us today and gave a comprehensive report of the desegregation activities of his Company in the South. Woolworth's lunch counters have been desegregated in a number of additional cities and progress has been made to employ Negroes in sales positions. There was an exchange of information with Mr. Harrigan and upon his return to New York, he will make further efforts to desegregate or to cooperate with other businesses in developing plans to desegregate in quite a number of additional cities.

2. A Breakthrough in Housing. On Sunday, August 11, the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company announced that it would end discrimination in rental housing at the developments which it owns, as well as promoting nondiscrimination in financing and in employment. This decision has resulted in Negro tenants being accepted in Park Fairfax in Alexandria. Mr. Irwin Miller, a Director of the Equitable Life Insurance Company, has stated that he will write the other Directors of that Company, urging them to follow Metropolitan's example. Letters for your signature have been drafted thanking the Board of Metropolitan and Mr. Miller.

3. More Progress in Dallas. Sam Bloom reports that beginning August 26, 1963, and extending through Labor Day, 150 retail corporations in Dallas (some with more than one store) will have Negro sales people at work. This development is not being publicized.

Mr. Bloom also reports that in the last 30 days, public swimming pools were integrated with no violence, although attendance dropped somewhat.

4. Philadelphia Bar Association Urges Equal Employment. David Berger, Chancellor of the Philadelphia Bar Association, sent us a complete report on the action taken by a bi-racial subcommittee on Public Employment in Philadelphia. He lists such progress as:

- (a) Reorganization of the oral examining board of the state civil service;
- (b) A widespread training program planned, coordinated, and stressed;
- (c) An equal opportunity urge to all appointing officers.

5. Schine Theatres. J. Meyer Schine of Schine Theatres reported to William Meadows, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Florida, that he had desegregated all his theatres with the exception of the Dorset Theatre in Cambridge, Maryland. He plans to reopen the Cambridge Theatre on segregated basis until the referendum is held on the charter amendment.

He also reported he had desegregated his theatres in the following cities since May 22: Cumberland, Maryland; Middlesboro, Kentucky; Richmond, Kentucky; Paris, Kentucky; and Maysville, Kentucky.

6. Report from Oklahoma. William G. Vandever, President of the Vandever Co., reports that with the exception of Borden's Restaurants, Tulsa is 100% integrated. An all businessman bi-racial committee is working on the Borden's situation.

Oklahoma City has recently had problems in public pools, but are settled for the present.

Bartlesville, under the leadership of Mayor Hensley, has agreed to voluntarily desegregate all facilities.

7. Kentucky Bar Offers Aid. William L. Wilson, President of the Kentucky State Bar Association, reports that at a meeting of the Board of Governors on July 26, the following entry was entered in the minutes:

" \* \* \* With respect to the foregoing matters, the Board of Governors recommends that each individual lawyer, in their respective communities, aid and assist to the fullest extent of their influence and ability. to insure that discrimination be eliminated, violence be prevented; that the laws of our land and decisions of our Courts may be observed and executed with promptness, fairness and impartiality."



8. Manassas, Virginia. More than 20 restaurants in this area have agreed to desegregate immediately, Frederick Williams, Executive Director of the Greater Manassas Chamber of Commerce said yesterday.

Mr. Williams said the only theatre in this town also would desegregate.