

CARTON 10:1 THE BROTHERHOOD OF SLEEPING CAR PORTERS

NAACP

1934-1966

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Dellums position with W. Coast Regional NAACP

In NAACP papers (MSS 78/180. Carton 9) Correspondence – Dellums 1955-66

I found a letter dated 11/1/58 which D signs as "Chairman, West Coast Region NAACP", and another letter dated 3/31/66 from Leonard Carter, "Regional Director", to Dellums, "Chairman, West Coast Region, NAACP" Perhaps there was a position of Chairman that was different from Regional Director?

Query Donna  
D Chairman of  
the Bd of NAACP?



February 28, 1939

Mr. Walter White, Secretary  
National Association for the  
Advancement of Colored People  
69 5th Avenue  
New York, N.Y.

Dear Sir and Brother:

As first vice-president and chairman of the Legal Committee of the Alameda County Branch, N.A.A.C.P., I am writing concerning the report of the New York State Legislative Commission which made a two-year study of the condition of New York's Negro population. According to the press of February 26th, fourteen measures designed to improve the economical, social and cultural opportunities of the Negro were submitted to the New York Legislature.

Please send me copies of each. The California Legislature re-covenes March 6 and if I can get these measures immediately, there is a great opportunity of getting them introduced, and, at least, some of them passed by our Legislature.

Hoping to receive this, as well as to hear from you by return mail, I am

Sincerely yours,

C.L. Dellums, First Vice-President-  
Chairman, Legal Committee, Alameda  
County Branch, N.A.A.C.P.

CLD:kh



REPORT OF THE LEGAL REDRESS COMMITTEE OF THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA  
BRANCH OF THE N. A. A. C. P.

May 18th 1933.

TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD :

The Legal Redress Committee met at the Filbert Street Y.M.C.A. at 7:30 P.M., April, 25th .933. The Chairman, Mr. Dellums, outlined the matters before the Committee and the committee disposed of them as follows:

On the matter of the alleged discriminations in the employment of colored persons by the City of Oakland for work in election booths, the investigation by the committee revealed the fact that the number of colored persons who worked in election booths in the election just past is much smaller than it has been in previous years. An effort was made to ascertain the number of colored persons who had made proper application and failed to be assigned to duty. Requests for names were placed in the Spokesman and in the Voice, but only one name was submitted to the committee. The lack of concrete evidence handicapped the work of the committee as it was impossible to determine whether the failure of colored persons to get work in the booths was due to discriminations on the part of the city officials or to the failure of colored persons to make proper application. We are advised that a group of persons operating independent of the N.A.A.C.P. took the matter up with the City Council and were advised by the Council that colored applicants for election work will be more equitably dealt with in the future. Your committee recommends that a letter be sent to the City Council advising them of the complaints concerning work in elections and stating to the council that we have been informed that more consideration will be given to colored persons in the future, which information we hope is true and will be carried out.

On the matter of the treatment of colored nurses at Highland Hospital, the committee recommends that the proper legal steps be taken if no satisfactory results are obtained from the investigations to be concluded shortly after the anniversary meeting on the 28th of May.

On the matter of the treatment of Negroes at the Veterans Hospital at Livermore, the committee was advised by Mr. Richardson that



the same complaint had been filed with the American Legion and that he had made a thorough investigation. Mr. Richardson informed the committee that he would show them the correspondence he received from the authorities of the hospital at Livermore. The contents of the report of the authorities to the American Legion will be considered by the legal redress committee as soon as the report is received.

On the matter of the policy of the Oakland Police Department in regard to inter-racial dances, reports from members of the legal redress committee reveal the fact that the Oakland Police department is committed to the policy of refusing to issue dance permits to organizations and groups that allow colored persons to mingle with white persons at the dances given by them. The particular case involved the refusal to issue a dance permit to a group known as District 5 of the Unemployed Council. This organization is composed of colored and white persons. The International Labor Defense took the matter up with the Oakland City Council but were unable to bring the matter to a hearing. They have asked the N.A.A.C.P. to work with them in bringing the matter before the authorities. The entire matter was laid on the table until after the facts could be taken up with the incumbents and aspirants for office in the City Council, it being understood that the Independent Forerunners would be questioning all the office seekers at their next meeting.

Respectfully submitted

LEGAL REDRESS COMMITTEE

C. L. Dellums

Chairman



January 1932 - Investigated Warren Olney, possible appointee of President Hoover to the Supreme Court bench. Wired result of investigation to the National Office.

February - Investigation by Legal Redress Committee of reported alleged discrimination against Negro girls in the nursing department at Highland Hospital also the matter of segregation in the swimming classes of the public schools of Oakland. Matter still in the hands of the Legal Redress Committee.

April-Upon appeal from the National Office the local Branch sent letters of protest, to California State Senators, against the proposed cut in the apportionment of Howard University.

July - Ramey vs Sheriff's Office: Referred to the Legal Redress Committee. The Branch stands ready to co-operate if charges are substantiated and help is asked by the Ramey family.

July-Verbal report made on the "Spite Fence Case". Matter held in abeyance until the co-operation of the owner of the property is obtained.

August- Jordan Daniels Case, Eureka California Charge- Murder Investigation made by Branch president. Contributed \$45.00 to defense. San Mateo Branch ~~contributed~~ \$10.00 of this amount. Sentence one to ten years on manslaughter charge. (\$20.00 for investigation- \$25.00 attorney's fee.

November Letter of protest to Mayor Rossi of San Francisco against the treatment accorded E. Daniels, Negro chauffeur by police officer Sydney DuBois. Mayor Rossi expressed regret for the occurrence and promised an investigation for what he hopes will bring about acceptable adjustments.

November-Night Letters to Senators Johnson and Shortridge and Wagner urging their support of the Mississippi flood investigation.

November- Letter sent to Governor Rolph protesting against press accounts of his proposal to appoint a Negro judge in Los Angeles to preside over a Negro Court.

February 1933 Rollera and Case on Telegraph Avenue- Discrimination.

March Protest sent to Assemblymen Mehan and Fisher against the introduction of a bill in the State Legislature to establish a branch of the State Free Employment Office in West Oakland to be known and described as a Negro Employment Office. Letter asks that representatives be given employment in the present State Employment Offices.

March- Letters sent to Senators and seven California Assemblymen urging them to vote for the abolition of the anti-criminal syndicalism law and the anti- capital punishment law.

April Investigation of charges of discrimination in election booths in the City of Oakland

May- Financial review and report



May - 1933 Financial drive made for the Scottsboro Case. \$66.18 sent the National Office for the case.

June-Discrimination of barbers at Highland Hospital against Negro patients turned over to the Legal Redress Committee. Mr. Wm. Hill 2801 Dohr Street, Berkeley complainant.

July - Norman Davis Case, San Jose California. Murder charge. Branch contributed \$25.00 towards his defense. Held mass meeting in San Jose. Davis acquitted.

September- Merle Hackett Case. Boy killed by local police officer on suspicion of stealing automobile.

September- Attempt by the Legal Redress Committee to recover the books and money of the Junior Branch of the N. A. A. C. P., from Mrs L. M. Dixon.

October - Protest of the East Oakland Community Club against conditions at Roosevelt Junior High School with particular reference to the publication of certain types of articles in the school paper. Referred to the Legal Redress Committee.

November-Bear Parlor Case - 2800 San Pablo Avenue. Attorneys Gordon- Johnson -Vaughns and Richardson empowered to bring civil action.

December- Resolution given the press and a copy sent to Governor Rolon condemning his attitude in the San Jose Lynching

December- Legal Redress Committee investigated the authenticity of remarks appearing in the San Francisco Spokesman attributed to a Mr. Daniels, proprietor of a shoe store on 7th Street, with reference to Negroes.

December - ElCerrito Dog Racing Tract Case. Discrimination alledged in their club house.



Oct. 15

To the Board of Supervisors of Alameda County,  
State of California,  
Hall of Records,  
5th and Broadway  
Oakland, California.

Dear Sirs:

The Northern California Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, through its Legal Redress Committee, takes this method of protesting against the discriminatory policies maintained in the Highland School of Nursing in the Highland Hospital of Alameda County.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is an organization composed of white and colored persons throughout the United States. The Association is dedicated to the purpose of securing common justice and equality of opportunity for the Negro and to obtain for them full equality of opportunity with all other citizens.

In making this protest, we are not unmindful of the fact that the County Institutions Commission formulates the policies in operation at the County Hospitals. We realize however, that the County Institutions Commission is responsible to the Board of Supervisors and any policies adopted by the Commission must be approved by the Board of Supervisors.

We are vigorously protesting against two policies adopted by the Institutions Commission and approved by the Board of Supervisors in 1929. They are summarized by Dr. B. W. Black, Medical Director of Alameda County as follows :



1) " That the number of colored students in the School of Nursing shall not exceed a number of 1.8% which represents the comparative percentage of colored population to white population in Alameda County."

2) " That when colored students are admitted and meet the standard requirements they shall receive maintenance in cash in lieu of quarters and living accommodations in the school of nursing."

We are objecting to these policies on the grounds that they constitute discriminations against a group of citizens solely because of their color and race.

We respectfully submit that the School of Nursing is a public, tax-supported institution, and the Board of Supervisors by approving the policies above set forth is violating the spirit of the laws of this State and is proceeding in defiance of the express provisions of the Federal Constitution.

We respectfully request this honorable body to immediately abrogate all discriminatory policies now in operation at the Highland Hospital of Alameda County and more especially those above set forth. We further request that the County Institutions Commission be advised and instructed to admit colored students to the Nursing School upon exactly the same terms as other students and that all policies adopted for the operation of the Nursing School be applicable to white and colored persons alike.

Very truly,

LEGAL REDRESS COMMITTEE OF THE  
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA BRANCH OF THE  
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCE-  
MENT OF COLORED PEOPLE.

\_\_\_\_\_  
C. L. Dellums, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
George M. Johnson, Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Walter A. Gordon

\_\_\_\_\_  
H. Leonard Richardson

\_\_\_\_\_  
D. R. Wallace

\_\_\_\_\_  
John D. Drake

\_\_\_\_\_  
George R. Vaughns

\_\_\_\_\_



NAACP WEST COAST REGIONAL OFFICE  
Rooms 703-4, 916 Kearny St.  
San Francisco 11, Calif.

March 13, 1947

TO PRESIDENTS OF NAACP BRANCHES IN WEST COAST REGION:

We are sending the Regional Office Development Plan which was accepted by delegates at the West Coast Regional Conference on March 7th and 8th, 1947.

This is being sent to all branches in the region so they may act upon the proposals within the next 30 days. It shall take effect after ratification by a majority of the branches, and after approval by the National Office. Branches will be notified of final action taken.

A blank is attached on which you will state whether the branch approves or disapproves this plan, and your decision should be returned to the Regional Office within 30 days.

Branches with 1500 or more members shall select representatives on the Regional Advisory Board and certify them to Regional Secretary within 30 days after ratification of this plan.

We are listing below duly elected members of Advisory Board by delegates of states present at conference:

Arizona	-	Rev. Harry J. White, Tucson Mrs. Louise A. Phillips, Phoenix
California	-	Mrs. Dorothy Sumner, Fresno Ernest McBride, Long Beach
Hawaii	-	(to be sent in)
Idaho	-	(to be sent in)
Nevada	-	Frederick J. Frye, Reno Rev. Wm. H. Stevens, Jr., Las Vegas
Oregon	-	James Chrysler, Portland Mrs. Pearl Clow, Portland
Utah	-	(to be sent in)
Washington	-	(to come from State Conference)

Sincerely yours,

N. W. GRIFFIN, Regional Secty

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## REGIONAL OFFICE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The following states shall comprise the region:

California  
Arizona  
Idaho  
Nevada  
Utah  
Oregon  
Washington  
Honolulu, Hawaii

### OBJECT

Its object shall be to stimulate branches, Youth Councils and College Chapters to greater activity, to revive dormant branches, to organize new branches throughout the region, to coordinate the work of branches, Youth Councils and College Chapters in the region, and to plan and execute the program of the national association within the region in accordance with the over-all program of the association. In all of its functioning the Regional Conference Advisory Board and staff shall be subject to the general authority of the Board of Directors of the national body.

### REGIONAL CONFERENCE

A Regional Conference shall be called at least once a year composed of delegates from the branches listed above with voting representation as contained in Article X of the NAMP Constitution (blue book). The Regional Conference will be called by the Regional Secretary in consultation with Regional Advisory Board, and shall consider such programs and decide action and policy not inconsistent with the national program and policy of the Association. The resolutions and program adopted at the Regional Conference shall be forwarded to the national office for approval before execution by whatever bodies established by the Conference to effect such program and before implementation by the Regional Secretary.

### OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

The officers of the Regional Conference shall be Regional Secretary, appointed by the National Office in consultation with the Regional Advisory Board, and a Regional Advisory Board, elected as hereinafter provided. Tenure of office shall be one year, or until their successor is elected.

### REGIONAL ADVISORY BOARD -

The conference shall elect at this West Coast Regional Training Conference a Regional Advisory Board which shall meet at least quarterly (at various cities throughout the region whenever possible) to implement the decisions of the Regional Conference, to advise and assist the Regional Secretary and which shall appoint such other committees in conjunction with the Regional Secretary as may be needed, such as a Regional Legal Committee, Education Committee, Labor and Industry Committee, Membership Committee, Public Relations Committee, Youth Work Committee, etc. All committees thus appointed will be under the supervision of the Regional Secretary, and his work shall be coordinated by the proper department of the Association.

### ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES

The members of the Regional Advisory Board shall be elected as follows:

Each branch with a membership of 1,500 members or more shall be entitled to one (1) representative on the Regional Advisory Board, such representative shall be elected by the branch and certified to the Regional Secretary within 30 days after the ratification of this plan, and thereafter within 30 days after the Regional Conference.

There shall be two (2) representatives elected at large from each state represented at the Regional Conference provided that no representative at large shall be elected who is a member of a branch having automatic representation through membership qualifications on the Regional Advisory Board. These officers shall not become ratified until plan is voted on by branches.

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DUTIES OF REGIONAL SECRETARY

The duties of the Regional Secretary shall be between meetings of the Conference and the Advisory Board to exercise general executive and administrative authority on behalf of the region. He shall coordinate and integrate the work of branches, Youth Councils and College Chapters, and any other units which may be created.

He shall submit reports to the Regional Advisory Board at its regular meetings and to the Conference covering the status of the Region and its activities; shall serve as Secretary of the Conference and the Advisory Board; shall keep a record of the membership of the Conference and its minutes; shall give due notice of all meetings of the Conference and of the Advisory Board; and maintain and conduct the administration of the Regional Office.

FINANCING

To finance the Regional Office and the work of the West Coast Region, each branch in the region shall pay five cents (5¢) per member regional tax, collectible at the time membership reports are submitted to the national office (that is, 55¢ to the national office, 45¢ to the local branch) provided, however, no branch of the Association shall be required to pay more than .500 per year regional tax.

STATE CONFERENCES

State Conferences, where they already exist or are hereafter established, may tax member branches for maintenance of the State Conference. Such tax or assessment shall be in addition to the tax for the support of the Regional Office work and shall not in any way obviate the requirement that each branch in the West Coast Region support through the five cents (5¢) per member tax the work of the Regional Office.

To raise additional funds which may be necessary for financial operation of the region, the Regional Office in conjunction with the Regional Advisory Board and/or the Conference shall be empowered to raise such additional funds as may be necessary.

RATIFICATION

This plan, before taking effect, shall be submitted to each branch so branches may act upon the proposals within the next 30 days. It shall take effect immediately after ratification by a majority of the branches, and the branches will be notified.

REPORT TO WEST COAST REGIONAL CONFERENCE

Room 703, 916 Kearny Street, San Francisco 11, California

The \_\_\_\_\_ branch at a \_\_\_\_\_  
(Special or Call)  
meeting held \_\_\_\_\_ voted to \_\_\_\_\_  
(Date) (Approve or Disapprove)  
the Regional Office Development Plan which was accepted by delegates at the  
Regional Conference March 7-8, 1947, in San Francisco.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
President  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

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:crs



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ARTHUR B. SPINGARN

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. . . . . Special Counsel  
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# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION for the ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

## Alameda County Branch

466 - 10th Street

OAKLAND 7, CALIFORNIA

Highgate 4-1844

HENRY T. S. JOHNSON, Jr.

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*2/1/48  
(for in do only)*

B. S. C. P.  
1716 Seventh Street  
Oakland 7, California

Dear Sleeping Car Porters:

On Saturday, February 14th, at the International House, University of California, the Alameda County Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People will honor Jackie Robinson, star Brooklyn Dodger first baseman with its first Annual Merit Award. The occasion will be a banquet tended as a gesture of gratitude to the donors of the 1943 N A A C P fund raising campaign who become Sustaining Patrons, \$100; Sponsoring Patrons, \$50; or Contributing Patrons, \$25.

This drive has become necessary because recent demands have not netted a sufficient amount to underwrite the local office. The National Office does not sustain any local office.

We feel sure that you will appreciate an opportunity to make one contribution to the Association and know that no further appeals will be made during the year. This will be the only fund-raising drive for 1948.

The souvenir program will carry the names of all donors according to the patron classifications of the gifts. We will be very honored to have your organization represented by the president or such persons as delegated by the body. You may call me at BErkeley 7-1128 for further particulars, or make out your check to the N A A C P and mail to me, 2930 Grove Street, Berkeley 3, or to the office.

Announcements will be mailed to the patrons.

Very truly yours,

*Tarea H. Pittman*

Tarea H. Pittman, Chairman

C. L. Dellums, President

THP:dda

*\$ 88.00*



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# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

20 WEST 40TH STREET, NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

LONGACRE 3-6890

Official Organ: *The Crisis*

Please direct reply to:

WEST COAST REGIONAL OFFICE NAACP

N. W. Griffin, Regional Secretary

Sentinel Building

916 Kearny Street, Rooms 703-704

San Francisco 11, California

Telephone Douglas 8505

Feb. 4, 1948

Mr. C. I. Dellums  
1716 7th St.  
Oakland, 7, Calif.

Dear Mr. Dellums:

In planning for the NAACP West Coast Regional Conference to be held in Los Angeles March 5-6-7, 1948, we would like very much to have the benefit of your thinking in planning and outlining resolutions to be presented to the conference for its adoption.

We are asking you to serve on this committee and requesting committee to meet at the Henderson Community Center, 913 East 25th Street, Los Angeles (Conference Headquarters) one day prior to the conference, on Thursday, March 4th, at 10 a.m.

Please notify Regional Office immediately as to whether or not you will be able to serve on the Resolutions Committee.

Sincerely yours,

*N. W. Griffin*  
N. W. Griffin  
Regional Secty

## EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

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Roy Wilkins

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Assistant Secretary

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Administrative Assistant

Thurgood Marshall

Special Counsel

Robert L. Carter

Marian Wynn Perry

Franklin H. Williams

Edward R. Dudley (on leave)

Assistant Special Counsel

Leslie S. Perry

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West Coast Regional Secretary

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# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE 20 WEST 40TH STREET, NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

LONGACRE 3-6890

*Official Organ: The Crisis*



Please direct reply to:

WASHINGTON BUREAU NAACP

100 Massachusetts Avenue, N. W.

Washington 1, D. C.

Telephone National 5794

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March 3, 1948

Mr. C. L. Dellums  
President, Alameda County Branch  
1716 - 7th Street  
Oakland, California

Dear Mr. Dellums:

I would appreciate it if you would send to me a statement on the picketing of stores by your branch in an effort to obtain the hiring of colored clerks.

Cordially yours,

*Clarence Mitchell*

Clarence Mitchell  
Labor Secretary

CMM:mbh

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11/1/89  
~~12/31/89~~  
Dellums

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, in that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights..." Declaration of Independence. "Equal and exact justice to all men, of whatever state or persuasion..." Thomas Jefferson. "...Nor shall any state...deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of its laws". Constitution of the United States, Amendment 14. "With charity for all, with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right"....Abraham Lincoln.

Americans take for granted that every man should have a chance to live in freedom and enjoy the rights of citizenship. But do they? Colored Americans are still far too often unfairly charged with crime. Far too often beaten by officious police or bigoted by men who take the law into their own hands. Many are deprived of a livelihood because they are Negroes, others are driven from their homes because white Americans refuse to reside next to dark fellow citizens. Some are beaten and even killed for attempting to vote. Many are denied the right to study in our free universities to serve as doctors, lawyers and scientists. During 1948 the life, liberty and rights of more than 400 were defended by attorneys of the N. A. A. C. P. Not one could seek redress alone.

Of the many battles the Negro and other democratic and freedom loving Americans must fight, the most outstanding ones are the complete and total elimination of segregation and the guarantee that no one will be denied a job solely because of race, creed, color or national origin. Segregation is selfish, unfair, undemocratic, unjust, humiliating and cruel. The man you don't like is the man you don't know. The undemocratic problems of America can never be solved, under a system of segregation. The right to work is as fundamental as the right to live. The right to work IS the right to live.



In 40 years the N. A. A. C. P. has aided thousands of Americans denied justice solely on the basis of color. It has taken 27 cases of fundamental principle up to the Supreme Court of the United States and has won 25 of them.

To the more than 14 milian Negro Americans, equal justice under law would be an empty promise if there was no N. A. A. C. P.

The president calls upon you, yes YOU as an individual, as an American to take out your 1949 membership today and to see that every member of your family and your friends have 1949 membership cards.

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See 3/29/49  
Ltr Am  
McLaurin

April 5, 1949

Communist  
in Richmond  
W. H. R. C.

Mr. B. F. McLaurin  
Int'l Field Organizer, BSCP  
217 West 125th Street  
New York City 27, New York

Dear Brother McLaurin:

I am very familiar with the Hughes picketing case of Richmond, Calif. First, I want to tell you that Roy Wilkins tells us that the Richmond Branch is the most completely communist captured branch in all of the N.A.A.C.P. I knew that it was the most completely captured branch in California. The Civil Rights Congress is also quite influential out there. They picked out a grocery store and picketed for a percentage of the jobs, based upon the percentage of Negro patronage. We didn't agree with their philosophy, but Civil Rights Congress and the Richmond Branch of the N.A.A.C.P. carried on the picketing with banners calling for this percentage proposition. Pictures were made and are a part of the court record. The court was able to use this as the reason for not recognizing the Supreme Court decision in the Washington, D. C. case and the Joe James Marin Shipyard decision.

After their attorney served notice of appealing the case to the U. S. Supreme Court, he came to talk to me about it. Up to this point they had stayed shy of all the other Branches of the Association. This attorney drew a letter of explanation for me and attempted to show why we should support it. It is my opinion that they picketed the wrong premises and that if they won the case, it would do Negroes more harm than good and I urged them to abandon the case. I understand that the Regional Office and the National Office of the N.A.A.C.P. takes the same position. After I talked with the Attorney, I thought that they were going to abandon the case and not carry it to the U. S. Supreme Court. I think this in brief will supply you the information you desire.

With very best personal regards,

Faternally yours,

C. I. DELLUMS  
International Vice-President



A. PHILIP RANDOLPH  
International President

MILTON P. WEBSTER  
1st International Vice-President  
3456-58 South State Street, 5th Floor  
Chicago, Illinois

BENNIE SMITH  
2nd International Vice-President  
1308 Broadway, Room 305  
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March 29, 1949

Mr. C. L. Dellums, 4th Int'l. Vice-President  
Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters  
1716 Seventh Street  
Oakland, California

*See Dellums  
response 7/5/49*

Dear Brother Dellums:

It is my hope you are well and the work goes on as usual.

I am writing to secure some information at the direction of the American Civil Liberties Union board of directors. You, no doubt, are aware of the Hughes case involving picketing in support of a department store quota system.

As we understand it, the N.A.A.C.P. together with other liberals, picketed the store, demanding the employment of a percentage of Negroes in proportion to the percentage of trade, and the court issued an injunction prohibiting peaceable picketing on the grounds that California had no law against discrimination in employment, and secondly, there was no logical reason to demand a percentage employment for Negroes.

It is our understanding that this case is now being processed to the United States Supreme Court, and the American Civil Liberties Union is being requested to file a brief in support of the case. Because of a number of unpleasant surroundings involving the case, largely from political points of view, the League does not feel free to file such a brief unless it is recommended by you or someone they have confidence in in that area.

Will you, therefore, send me as quickly as possible a brief history of the case, any observations you wish to make, as well as any recommendations you think might be helpful in advancing the cause of civil liberties.

Fraternally,

*B. F. McLaurin*  
B. F. McLaurin  
Int'l. Field Organizer

BFM/bw



**PRESS RELEASE**

NAACP LABOR DEPARTMENT  
100 Massachusetts Ave., N. W.

Washington, D. C., September 26, 1949 - - Vigorous Republican  
opposition that followed strict party lines was responsible for the defeat  
of Fair Employment Practice Bills in five key states during the 1949  
sessions of legislatures, the NAACP Labor Department reported this week.

The report was compiled by Clarence Mitchell, the Association's  
Labor Secretary, from on the scene observations sent in by NAACP officials  
in nine states.

Republican Governor Luther Youngdahl of Minnesota was the only  
G.O.P. chief executive who was credited with making an active fight for  
the bill. It was defeated in the strongly Republican Senate of that state.

Support of Governor John O. Pastore and a democratic legislature  
was credited for the success of the measure in Rhode Island, where it was  
passed almost unanimously.

In Oregon, Washington, and New Mexico, the chief executives were  
listed as "not very sympathetic" although the laws were passed in these  
states. The Governor of New Mexico is a democrat while the other two are  
Republicans.

In Pennsylvania, the Republican Governor announced that he would  
support the measure, but it was killed in committee. Efforts to bring it  
out of committee were defeated by a vote which followed party lines with  
109 Republicans voting against 89 Democrats in the House and 35  
Republicans voting against 15 Democrats in the Senate.



In Ohio, a vote in the House showed 62 Democrats in favor of the measure as well as 8 Republicans. Fifty-six Republicans and 4 Democrats were against it in the House. In the Senate, 13 Republicans and 4 Democrats joined in defeating the bill by supporting an amendment which emasculated the House bill. There were 15 Democrats in the Senate who opposed this amendment.

Governor Adlai Stevenson, Democrat, was credited with giving the FEPC Bill support in Illinois where it passed the House, but was defeated in the Republican controlled Senate.

California reports blamed Republicans for defeating even a weak proposal by Governor Earl Warren to investigate discrimination in the state. This was killed in committee.

Reports were received from California, Illinois, Minnesota, New Mexico, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Washington.



*Drum*

24 August 1949

Mr. Maschand, Personnel Mgr.  
Oakland Chevrolet Plant  
Foothill Blvd. at 69th Avenue  
Oakland, California

Dear Mr. Maschand:

I have tried very often to get you by telephone to discuss the hiring policy of your plant. Since our conference with you we have made it known among Negroes that you had assured us that a fair policy in employment would continue to be your policy. We have received, however, some reports which cause us to wonder if the policy which you have set down is being carried out by your sub-ordinates. We have in our files statements made by prospective employees, who happen to be Negroes, to the effect that they were not treated fairly by the personnel office. The report that one Negro had been hired by the Chevrolet plant as a janitor leaves us at a loss for explanation to the numbers of skilled Negro applicants who came to you.

As you no doubt know, ours is but a branch of a national organization and we are bound to a policy of continuing our efforts to assure complete first-class citizenship for all people. We have been asked also to make a report on the local Chevrolet plant to President Charles Wilson in Detroit as well as Mr. William Oliver of the U. A. W. in Detroit. We have refrained to make any statement as to our success in your plant until we are assured by you that the facts that we have at present are, or are not, correct.

Our confidence in you makes us refrain from making any statements until we are able to talk with you again. A conference with you may be called at your convenience by calling me at TW 3 0894. We trust that in dealing fairly with you that we may continue the good relationship which exists between us.

Very truly yours,

COPY  
EARL SWISHER, Chairman  
Labor and Industry Committee

*Alameda City Branch*

ES/pam



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FEP ballot  
Initiative  
defeated by  
Republicans

August 19, 1949

Mr. Clarence Mitchell  
Labor Secretary  
Washington Bureau N.A.A.C.P.  
100 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.  
Washington 1, D. C.

Dear Mr. Mitchell:

FEP Initiative on ballot, defeated

The Governor of California is Earl Warren, a Republican. We have never been able to get an endorsement from Mr. Warren for either a national or state F. E. P. law. A few years ago through the use of the initiative we place a proposed F. E. P. C. on the ballot. This was the first initiative that had secured sufficient signatures to qualify through voluntary solicitors in more that fifteen years. The bill was defeated at the polls by the Republican Party. The state Democratic Party endorsed the bill, the Republicans did not. Hundreds of Republican billboards throughout the state were used with Anti-F.E.P.C. signs. A vice-president of the Bank of America, who was an official of the Republican Party, raised the money and led the campaign against it. They were on the air all hours of the day and night speaking against it. All of the daily papers with the exception of two or three opposed the bill with unashamed front page lies about its provisions. With practically no campaign in favor of the bill, some 35% of the people still voted for it.

There have been several attempts made to get a state F. E. P. C. and everyone has been killed by some over-whelming to unanimous Republican vote. Governor Warren just this year proposed a bill to create a commission for the sole purpose of studying the employment picture of the state in order to find out whether or not there is any discrimination in employment in California. He did nothing to help get this little mild measure through and it was killed in committee, with every Democrat voting for it and every Republican voting against it. I

It was very good to see you and have a few minutes together at the National Convention in Los Angeles.

Very sincerely yours,

C. L. DELLUMS, President  
Alameda County Branch N.A.A.C.P.



discrimination  
49 - for index only  
8/11/49  
STATEMENT

Mr. Glen Mapps, 812 33rd Street, Oakland went to the L. A. Young Company, East Oakland, on July 12 or 19 seeking work. Apparently there was an opening for a welder and a company representative asked if any of the fellows at the gate had any experience in spot welding. Mapps, being the only one, was admitted, but one of the white workers at the gate heard the gate man say that Mapps wouldn't be given the job because they were hiring no more Negroes. Mapps was not given the job and a white fellow by the name of Frieden, Piedmont 5-2061-W who had no experience was hired.

After working a few weeks, Mr. Frieden says that he went into the office and spoke to them about a run-around the Company gave Mr. Mapps. Mr. Frieden got the distinct understanding and feeling from this conference that the Company did not intend to employ any more Negroes, that they only had about a dozen left and that they would ease them out at the first opportunity.

The Company seems to blame all Negro workers for the short-comings of a few that they had during the war. Mr. Frieden also tells me that he reported this matter to the shop committee as well as the officers of the Automobile Workers who hold the contract.

I think the labor and industry committee should contact the union, and try and get the Fair Employment Practice Committee to work with us in trying to straighten this company out.

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C O P Y



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9/28/49

28 Sept 49

**Loyalty Review Board**  
**~~U.S. Civil Service Comm.~~**  
**Washington, D. C.**

Gentlemen:

It has been called to my attention through members of the Beth Eden Baptist Church, Oakland, that one of their members, Mr. Wilson Maddox, has been discharged by the Naval Air Station, Alameda on a disloyalty charge. I understand that the charges against this man who has a wife and five minor children are (1) that he attended meetings sponsored by the communist party (2) that he once subscribed to the Peoples World (3) that he advocated to the Russian form of government (4) that he signed a "form" postal card protesting the prosecution of Ray Thompson, a Negro Communist and (5) that his wife is allegedly a communist and that since he has not deserted his wife and five minor children that he must also be a communist.

I have had considerable experience with such charges, since I am President of the Local Branch of the N. A. A. C. P. I have known several other Negroes charged with charges similar to those listed above. From my knowledge of the Negroes of this community and the activities insofar as such charges are based upon, I think that their Government finding them guilty and discharging them from their job is one of the most disgraceful chapters in governmental history. If our Government has become so weak that even if these very people were 100% guilty of the charges, that they are a threat to it, then it will "fall" next week anyway.

There isn't a single charge listed against this man that was proven at the hearing. Our constitution provides for one to be faced by his accuser, yet this man was denied that right. From what I can get out of this case the man could only clear himself by deserting his wife and five minor children on the grounds that she is a communist and then be sent to jail under the state law for desertion.

I urge you sincerely to review this case, baring in mind this man's civil liberties, constitutional rights and down-right humane decency to him and return him to his job.

Very sincerely yours,

C O P Y

C. L. DELIUMS, president  
Alameda County Branch N.A.A.C.P.

CLD/pam



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discrim

October 13, 1949

Barts  
17th & Telegraph  
Oakland, Calif.

Dear Sir:

It has been reported to us that Mrs. Florence Peachy, 6939 Lockwood, Oakland learned of a vacancy in your store as a salesgirl and made an application. She was given a very polite "run around" but had a feeling she was being denied the position because of her color. A few days later she again learned that such a vacancy existed and telephoned in about it. She asked about her application and apparently it could not be found so she was told to come in, not knowing she was colored of course. When she got there and was found to be colored she again was given the run around.

✓ We naturally wonder if this is the position of the company or is it the prejudice of the personnel manager. But at any rate we know that it is undemocratic, unchristian and unamerican and we sincerely request that you discontinue the apparent policy of not employing Negro salesgirls. If Barts had the courage to be the first first-class store to employ a Negro salesgirl, I believe based upon our knowledge of what happened in other cities where store people had the courage and the decency to employ Negro salesgirls, that you no doubt would be surprised at the healthy response you would receive from the general public.

Very sincerely yours,

C. L. DELLUMS  
President

CLD/pam

COPY



*dishonorable discharge*

December 2, 1949

Congressman George Allen  
House Office Building  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Congressman Allen:

I understand that Mr. J. Munroe Warner of the American Brotherhood has called your attention to the dishonorable discharge of Edward L. Thompson, 1620 Adeline Street, Oakland, Army Serial Number 39-724-966. Our Organization has investigated this man and his discharge. It is our opinion that he was too severely dealt with and that he has been punished sufficiently now and that the dishonorable discharge should be changed to an honorable one so that he may take advantage of the GI Bill of Rights in order to pursue his education.

We therefore wish to hereby sincerely request that you use the power of your good office and your influence in getting this matter adjusted for the benefit of this young man.

Very truly yours,

C. L. DELLUMS, President  
Alameda County Branch

CLD/pam

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C O P Y



*red banner*

22 December 1949

Mr. Hugh Baillie  
United Press Associations  
222 East 42nd Street  
New York City, New York

Dear Mr. Baillie:

Quite a number of persons have called my attention to the United Press release on or about November 28th in which they felt that an attempt was being made to put the "red label" on the Nation-wide Civil Rights Campaign started by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and now sponsored by more than 20 national organizations, none of which could truthfully be labeled even communist front organizations.

We therefore wish to hereby go on record as protesting against such a release and since we're certain that the National Office of the N. A. A. C. P. has supplied you with adequate information concerning this movement that it is up to the United Press to correct the impression it has spread.

We hope that in all fairness and common decency that you will make every effort to bring about such a correction.

Very sincerely yours,

C. L. DELLUMS  
President

CLD/pan

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*Murder Case*

23 December 1949

Miss Streater Fountain  
251 Goldleaf Alley  
Rocky Mount, North Carolina

Dear Miss Fountain:

Yesterday I received a communication from Mr. J. B. Harren of your city seeking information on your behalf relative to Attorneys Rupert Crittenden and Gordon K. Williams who are representing your son, W. T. Cocfield who is in trouble here in Oakland.

I am very sorry to have to inform you that your son is in rather serious trouble and it doesn't look good for him at all. I can advise you though that I just happen to know the two attorneys personally and can vouch for their sincerity and ability. I just finished talking with Mr. Crittenden and he tells me that the case looks plenty bad but that he is hopeful of saving the boy's life. He sees only two possible verdicts, one would be death in the gas chamber and the other one life imprisonment. This is about all I can say, so if it is possible for you to give some financial help you need not worry about the attorney not doing his best. However, I wouldn't advise that the family be put in too much of a strain in raising money. If you can raise the \$300 alright, but if you can't raise it all without too much strain then send Crittenden what you can and tell him that that's the best you can do now. I am confident that he would understand that and still do his best under the circumstances.

Very truly yours,

C. L. DELANEY  
President

CID/pem

C O P Y



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# NORTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

Official Organ: *THE CRISIS*

245 Atlantic Avenue Phone 2-1913  
Rocky Mount, N. C., Dec. 19th, 1949

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## CHAIRMAN-LEGAL REDRESS

Atty. J. S. Bowser  
420 1/2 E. Second St.  
Charlotte, N. C.

Mr. C. L. Bellums, President,  
Alameda County Branch NAACP,  
1718 7th Ave.,  
Oakland, Calif.

Dear Mr. Bellums:

I am writing to you on behalf of Miss Streater Fountain,  
251 Goldleaf Alley, Rocky Mount, N. C., whose son, William  
Thomas Coefield, age 22, First Class Steward's Mate (?) U.S.  
Navy at Oakland, California, is in trouble.

Coefield is accused of a hold-up murder, along with a group  
in a hold-up-murder-robbery attempt in Oakland. It looks bad  
for the youth who is in jail in Oakland and is seeking the as-  
sistance of his relatives here.

Attorneys Rupert Critenden & Gordon K. Williams, 1216 Latham  
Square Bldg. (Templebar 6-1271) Oakland, Calif., are asking \$300 as  
an initial fee to start work on the case. They feel that if the  
medical and service records can be obtained along with the family back-  
ground, it may save the boy's life.

The family is hesitant about sending money to strangers so far, even,  
if they can obtain it. Therefore, we desire that your office make an in-  
vestigation of this case and advise us promptly what is best to attempt.  
Since we understand the case is to come up early in January, we'd greatly  
appreciated PROMPT ACTION on your part. Correspondence may be directed to  
the youth's mother whose address is shown above. This office would also  
appreciate a copy of same.

Very truly,

J. B. Harren, 2nd Vice President  
N. C. Conference of NAACP

Copy: Miss Lelia Taylor, Secy, Alameda Co. NAACP,  
5413 Manila St., Oakland, Cal.

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NATION-WIDE NAACP MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN  
TOTAL MEMBERSHIPS 1949 & SUGGESTED MEMBERSHIP GOALS FOR 1950  
FOR BRANCHES IN WEST COAST REGION  
CALIFORNIA

Branch	Total 1949	Suggested Membership Goal 1950
Alameda County	592	1,000
Bakersfield	<del>92</del>	150
Delano	58	75
Del Paso Heights	30	50
Dos Palos	74	75
Fresno (Dead Branch)	35	50
Imperial	48	50
Indian Wells Valley	64	75
Indio	38	50
Long Beach	<del>55</del>	150
Los Angeles	3,939	5,000
Madera (Dead Branch)	9	
McCloud	52	50
Marin City	19	50
Monrovia	49	50
Monterey Penin.	62	75
Needles	26	50
Oroville	None	50
Oxnard	None	50
Palo Verde Valley	22	50
Pasadena	695	650
Peninsula (San Mateo)	55	100
Pittsburg	54	75
Redding	50	50
Richmond	48	250
Riverside	36	50
Sacramento	185	250
Salinas	62	75
San Bernardino	58	100
San Diego	209	500
San Francisco	<del>449</del>	1,000
San Luis Obispo	127	150

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## NATION-WIDE NAACP MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN

TOTAL MEMBERSHIPS 1949 &amp; SUGGESTED MEMBERSHIP GOALS FOR 1950

FOR BRANCHES IN WEST COAST REGION

CALIFORNIA - CONT'D.

Branch	Total 1949	Suggested Membership Goal 1950
San Pablo	63	150
Santa Ana	10	50
Santa Barbara	43	150
Santa Clara Co.	238	300
Santa Cruz	81	100
Santa Monica	89	100
Stockton	153	200
Tulare	49	50
Vallejo	209	250
Ventura	None	50
	<u>8,213</u>	<u>11,625</u>

NEVADA

Branch	Total 1949	Suggested Membership Goal 1950
Elko	None	50
Las Vegas	87	150
Reno-Sparks	89	100
	<u>176</u>	<u>300</u>

OREGON

Branch	Total 1949	Suggested Membership Goal 1950
Klamath Falls	54	75
Portland	534	600
	<u>588</u>	<u>675</u>

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*Oakland Alameda Union*

1950

*11/15/50 (for index only)*

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772 20th Street  
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1904 Adeline Street  
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1015 Pine Street  
Oakland, California

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Berkeley, California

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535 San Luis Road  
Berkeley, California

Mrs. Leila Taylor  
5313 Manila Street  
Oakland, California

Rev. L. S. White  
815 37th Street  
Oakland, California

Mr. Mas Yonemura  
2231 Union Street  
Berkeley, California

Miss Alice Tims  
876 37th Street  
Oakland, California



# NEWS RELEASE

## OAKLAND FIRE CHIEF CHARGED WITH BAD FAITH

### N.A.A.C.P. Confers with City Manager and Fire Chief

Oakland, Aug. 26:- The Labor and Industry Committee of the Alameda County Branch N.A.A.C.P. met yesterday with the City Manager Hassler and Fire Chief Burke in reference to the proposed intergration of the Oakland Fire Department. Even though Fire Chief James H. Burke had issued a statement to the press that the Fire Department would be intergraded, he stated to the Committee in the presence of the City Manager that he was opposed to intergration and did not intend to see the Fire Department intergraded. The N.A.A.C.P. called for this conference because of its dissatisfaction with the statement Chief Burke issued to the press in which he referred to the Association as "outside agitators". The Association objected to this reference, pointing out that the Association had periodically protested against the segregation of Negroes in the Fire Department for nearly 30 years. The City Manager still said that the Fire Department would be intergraded but that it would take time. He refused to tell the Association how much time. The Fire Chief took the position that intergration wouldn't work and that he was not in favor of trying to make it work. The Association charged him with bad faith in that he was attempting to mislead the public by giving a statement to the press that the Fire Department would be intergraded and yet he was telling the Committee that he would not say when the program of intergration would be carried out nor when or where he planned to start.

### No Whites under Negroes

The Chief stated that he would not put any white firemen in a position where they would have to take orders from a Negro officer. The committee charged that he could not carry out a policy of intergration with that attitude. The Association served notice that although they had periodically protested against discrimination and segregation in the Fire Department for many years that this time they planned to see it through and that if they exhausted all avenues provided by the City Government without success that they would then seek justice in the courts.



Details  
an's Hospital ward  
to the Children's  
the East Bay.

K. M. ROBINSON AND "BUGS"  
He's Still Itchy for Action

## Man Sues for Back Wages

B. French, 55, retired fire battalion chief, today for a writ of compel the city to \$19.50 back pay and an amount for injuries. stated in the petition to Court that his heart while on duty as a April 19, 1949, and been under medical since.

the city refused to pay treatment and also to full salary from July 9 7, 1949, while he was half pay. The \$319.50 is the difference full salary and what

lives at 737 Brook- as granted a serv- the city on Sep- action are the the City Council Oakland.

## Fire Chief Orders End to Segregation in Department

Oakland Fire Chief James H. Burke today ordered an end to what the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People called "unlawful practice of segregation in the Oakland Fire Department."

Burke said he will assign Negro firemen to vacancies as they occur in companies throughout the city.

For some 30 years, Negroes entering the department have been assigned to Engine Company No. 22, and more recently to two companies in the hill area.

### DEMANDS MADE

"In all that time, there were no complaints until about a month ago," Burke said. "Then agitators got busy and demands were received, mostly from outside of the department."

Burke said that not more than four or five Negro firemen have requested transfers and all of them came within the past few weeks. The department now has 27 Negroes on the staff.

"We had hoped by grouping these men to develop an esprit

de corps and pride in their company," Burke said. "This has not developed, but the men appeared to be satisfied and there were no complaints of 'segregation' until recently."

### NO DRASTIC CHANGES

Burke said he will make no drastic changes in present assignments but will make transfers and new appointments without regard for color.

Segregation charges came from Mrs. Tarea Hall Pittman, Northern California field secretary for NAACP, and the Rev. Edward Stovall, president of the Alameda unit of the organization.

Mrs. Pittman said many of the Negro firemen have been opposed to such segregation, and have induced the Labor and Industry committee of the Alameda County NAACP, headed by Earl Swisher and C. L. Dellums, to pledge an "all out fight" to eliminate the practice.

Reverend Stovall said the matter has been referred to Atty. Clinton White, chairman of the NAACP legal redress committee, for possible suit against the city.

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Kiwanis  
SAN L  
Card game  
refreshmen  
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8 p.m. at  
house, 561

MON'S

ME IMPROVEMENT



## HOUSING

Racial residential segregation is the general rule in all cities and towns in the Far West. It is a heritage of the past, solidified, strengthened and given legal sanction by the unconstitutional judicial enforcement of race restrictive covenants that prevailed from 1919 to 1948. All manner of social evils trail in the wake of such segregation. High incidents of crime, of disease, of juvenile delinquency can be correlated with the overcrowding and bad living conditions that are the inevitable concomitants of the exclusion of Negroes, and other so-called non-Caucasians, from all but limited sections of our cities and towns. Racial residential segregation has bred species of separate institutionalism that flowers in the very face of public policy and state laws that frown on separate public and semi-public facilities. The child must attend the school nearest its home and if his home is located in the midst of a "Negro neighborhood" that school will be a "Negro school", in fact if not in name. The churchgoer who chooses a nearby church will find that his is a "Negro" church or a "white" church, depending on his color and where he lives. These examples could be multiplied. Thus kept apart, kept separate, western American citizens are being taught to mistrust each other, and to dislike and hate each other and violence has flared when Negro veterans, returning from campaigns to defend democracy, have had the hardihood to move into what residents have been taught are "white" neighborhoods.

In 1948, the United States Supreme Court, in suits pres-



sed by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, forbade further judicial enforcement of race restrictive covenants. Only last year, in a case arising out of Los Angeles, that Court held that suits requesting damages for sale of race restricted property to Negroes could not be maintained in state or federal courts. This ruling was made in a suit defended by this Region of the NAACP. Today, there is no legal impediment to prevent any American citizen from owning or occupying property wherever he may choose. But there are practical barriers to the exercise of that right---barriers erected and maintained by home builders, developers, real estate boards and by banks and financial institutions. The federal government, to its everlasting disgrace, extends its aid to these proponents of racial residential segregation. That governmental aid is extended through the device of mortgage guarantees by Federal Housing Administration and Veterans Administration. In its earlier years, FHA actually required insertion of racial restrictive covenants on all lands where it was asked to guarantee loans sought by builders. It abandoned that practice reluctantly and after a long campaign by the NAACP. Finally, it announced a new rule to the effect that it would not guarantee loans for home construction on any land where a racial covenant was levied after February, 1950, and that it would require that all builders covenant with it that no race restrictive covenant would be laid on the land during the life of the loan. Veterans Administration followed the same course. This fair-on-its face rule is easily evaded because neither FHA nor VA requires the builder or developer to refrain from refusing to sell



or rent homes, constructed with the aid of governmental mortgage guarantee loans, to Negroes, or other so-called non-Caucasians.

The practical result is that all but an infinitesimal percentage of housing developments constructed in the Far West in the past two decades are closed to non-Caucasians occupancy. Negroes can buy or rent very few of the new homes that lie on the outskirts of all of our cities and towns. Great new cities, such as Lakewood, have arisen, entirely closed to all but whites, which have been made possible by governmental guarantee of construction loans. Negroes, and other non-Caucasians, are hemmed in in the centers of our towns and cities in depreciating neighborhoods, or, in other cases, are living in shack towns in the undesirable outskirts of those cities and towns. In many instances, the lack of decent housing has the practical result of excluding Negro workers from industries in particular cities, and from employment in governmental installations, such as Bremerton, Washington.

Since the invalidation of judicial enforcement of race restrictive covenants, real estate boards have entered into agreements not to sell specified properties to Negroes. Many such agreements are in full force and effect today. Banks and financial institutions also observe agreements not to extend needed financial assistance for the purchase of homes in certain areas by Negroes. Proponents of segregation began, and still continue, to finance so-called neighborhood associations which some times try to intimidate, sometimes use violence in varying degree, against prospective Negro home buyers.

Racial segregation in private housing is one of our prime targets for the immediate future. We are firm in our con-



viction that government should not, and must not, offer its aid, either direct or indirect, to shore up this segregation. If practicable, we will test <sup>the right of government to</sup> ~~guarantee~~ loans for the construction of homes where the builder or developer does not give the proper assurances that such homes will be open to all citizens without reference to race or nationality. We will lend every possible support to the nation wide campaign of the NAACP to require a change in FHA and VA rules so that no such guarantee of loans will be extended unless the builder or developer covenants that he will not discriminate on racial, religious or national grounds.

We are exploring the possibility of taking action, under appropriate federal civil rights statutes, against real estate brokers or other persons who enter into agreements not to sell or rent to Negroes. We believe that it is entirely probable that such agreements may fall under the ban of such laws which forbid conspiracies to deprive citizens of rights guaranteed by the constitution--and we regard the right to own and occupy property as such a right.

Racial segregation in public housing is a reflection of the residential segregation that obtained when the slum clearance program was projected in the 1930's. It is clearly illegal and has been held so wherever it has been tested in recent years. Nevertheless, there is a high degree of racial segregation in public housing in the Far West. In some cities, it is covert, the product of administrative rules and regulations that are fair on their face but which can be manipulated to achieve segregation. In other cities, <sup>particularly in</sup> ~~such as San Francisco, and~~ all Arizona cities, racial segregation is required by rules of appropriate Public

#



Housing Authorities. We recently challenged such segregation in a law suit in San Francisco, and we emerged victorious in every court, in the lower courts and in the appeals court. There was unanimous agreement among the judges that racial segregation in public housing violates the guarantees of the Fourteenth Amendment. However, San Francisco is still enforcing racial segregation in its public housing developments, under this legal pretense that no final order has been made in the case. We shall certainly take every possible step to enforce the order in this case and we will challenge every attempted administrative evasion. As soon as practicable we will file similar actions to the San Francisco suit in other Far Western cities where segregation is enforced in public housing.

We have been successful in some cities, notably Sacramento, in arriving at agreements with Housing Authorities under which segregatory practices have been terminated. Obviously, we will continue that kind of action. In other cities where administrative practices, notably in Oakland, California, have resulted in racial segregation in the face of apparently fair policies by Housing Authorities, we will certainly seek to end such practices through negotiation and where that is unsuccessful, we will have no hesitancy in taking appropriate legal action.



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Executive Secretary  
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Director of Branches  
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Special Counsel  
THURGOOD MARSHALL

# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

## BERKELEY BRANCH

2152 Oregon Street

Berkeley, California

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L. B. DUMAS

Treasurer  
PEARL BLANDIN

October 1, 1954

Dear old friend "C.L.",

I was attempting to reach you by phone when your letter got to me about Matt Crawford. There had been no answer when I called. Then when I did get your office, you had left, to return October 2nd.

I decided to read the letter to the Berkeley Board that a clear understanding and precedent might be set and there would need to be no repetition of the Crawford incident.

To my amazement the Board members, 16 of 24 were present, did not know that Matt was an acknowledged Communist, not one of them! Some doubted it. Others felt that if he had been, he was not one now. His personality and friendliness made others feel that he couldn't possibly be one. So, despite my assurances of your knowledge and experience, the Board voted unanimously (I don't vote usually except to break a tie) to direct me to write this letter to you asking for the information which would make Board action possible. They wish to know what specific evidence we have that would show this to be true.

In discussing it with Frank Williams we jointly compiled a case on the need for noting his reputation with the general public, which we both thought could have the connotation of the proverbial "kiss of death" for the Berkeley Chapter. Further we knew of no evidence to indicate that Matt had denied Communist affiliation and was working actively against Communism in this area.

Frank felt as Tarea had originally that you might possibly deal directly with Matt on this matter. I did return the check of Ray Thompson during our early Steering Committee Drive for Charter Members for Berkeley. But at the time Matt's membership came in, I was under the false impression that he was a Caucasian AFL labor leader and was accordingly overjoyed to receive the membership. The idea that one of the white AFL leaders wanted to be a Charter Member of the Berkeley Branch seemed most encouraging to me.

I have no desire to dodge responsibility on this, however, and if proper procedure involves taking it through our Board or dealing with Mr. Crawford as President of the Branch, I will, of course, carry out my responsibility.

It was very pleasant seeing you again at the Josh White-Sam Gary Folk Singing affair. We made over \$200!

Warmest personal regards!

## EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Leo Brown  
Stanley E. Brown  
Mrs. Wm. J. Davis  
Dr. Wendell Cotton  
Nellie Foster

Roxianna Gammage  
Ura Harvell  
Howard Jeter  
Frankie Jones  
Eugene P. Lasartemay

Dr. Joel E. Lewis  
Herman McMillan  
Tarea Hall Pittman  
Leova R. Rainey  
Rev. Edward Stovall

Barbara Tabler  
Daniel T. Tyler  
Attorney Lionel Wilson  
Sandy Wright



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Director of Branches  
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Special Counsel  
THURGOOD MARSHALL

# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

**BERKELEY BRANCH**

2152 Oregon Street

Berkeley, California

**BRANCH OFFICERS**

President  
DR. FRED STRIPP

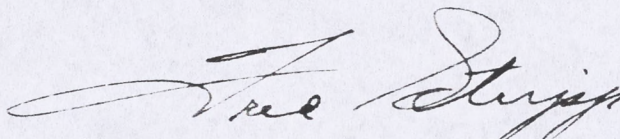
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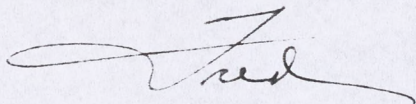
Corresponding Secretary  
L. B. DUMAS

Treasurer  
PEARL BLANDIN



Fred Stripp, President  
Berkeley Branch, NAACP

P.S. We are getting new stationery with the Union Bug. Just using this up in  
"inter-NAACP communications".


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Stanley E. Brown  
Mrs. Wm. J. Davis  
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Rev. Edward Stovall

Barbara Tabler  
Daniel T. Tyler  
Attorney Lionel Wilson  
Sandy Wright



MEMORANDUM

TO: Franklin H. Williams

FROM: Tarea Hall Pittman

DATE: January 25, 1955

RE: Richmond Branch Controversy

As you know the Richmond Branch has been in a state of great unrest since the election of officers. As reported to you this controversy stemmed not only from events that transpired during the election but have a history of dissatisfactions between several factions in the community that have appeared in the Richmond Branch and have manifested themselves in various phases over a period of years.

On December 10 we received in this office a copy of an election complaint that had been filed with the National Office. Since that time we have been notified by conversations both face-to-face and over the telephone, with various members of the Richmond Branch, of many errors in connection with the election and other dissatisfactions with the administration of the Branch. The Richmond Branch was informed by me that this matter (even though the Regional Office had a copy of the complaint in its files) had been referred to the National Office and that the National Office would act in the matter. I further informed the branch that not until the National Office ordered us to act could we, the Regional Office or staff, move forward in the controversy. Some days ago I gave to Gloster Current, our Director of Branches, a statement in regard to this matter and informed him that I had intimate knowledge of the Richmond Branch and the problems thereof. I further pointed out to Mr. Current that it was my opinion that the breach in the Richmond Branch was becoming deeper since the complaint was sent to the Regional Office in connection with the election. Lofton Fowler, the president, stated to Joseph Kennedy and me that administration of the branch has become very difficult and he has found it almost impossible to deal with a number of problems which have arisen.

One of the problems that has arisen at this time is a challenge to the membership of one, Cleophus Brown, a former president of the Richmond Branch. It will be remembered that Cleophus Brown was president during the time that the Richmond Branch was under attack for extreme Left-wing activity. Mr. Noah Griffin, then the Regional Secretary, conducted hearings in this case and as you know it was contemplated that perhaps the only course open to the Association was to lift the charter of the Richmond Branch. Mr. Griffin was able to resolve the controversy, have an election of new officers and move forward eliminating the Left-wing element in the Richmond Branch so that it was possible for the charter to be retained. Mr. Cleophus Brown has returned to Richmond from the Los Angeles area where he was active, in fact, the president of the Los Angeles chapter of the National Negro Labor Council. The Richmond Branch Executive Board returned Mr. Brown's check for membership refusing it on the grounds of his former disruption of the Richmond Branch and his affiliations and activity in organizations such as that just stated. Since the Richmond Branch is in such a state of ferment at the present time this controversy about the membership of Cleophus Brown is one of the factors that has been introduced to further cause conflict within the membership ranks of this Branch. Both Mr. Bailey and myself have placed in the files documents and information in regard to Cleophus Brown. However, it was the opinion of our staff, in consultation with Regional Chairman, C. L. Dellums, that this matter not be gone into at this time and not until



such time as we had clarified the election dispute.

On January 22 at the Northern California Area Conference, Joseph Kennedy, the president; the president of the Richmond Branch, Lofton Fowler; the secretary of the Branch, Hazel Hall; the chairman of the Executive Board, Marshall Turner; held a conference at the conclusion of this meeting in regard to the matter of Cleophus Brown and the election dispute. It was brought out at this time that members of the Richmond Branch were very dissatisfied with the lack of activity of the Regional Staff. It is charged by members of the Richmond Branch that the Regional Office is "purposely stalling" in the matter of resolving their election dispute. It is believed that the Regional Office should move forward, that it is within their power to do so, that the policy of the NAACP is clear and they now feel that they have been misused. It is also believed by many members in this Branch that the Regional Staff is "siding" with the present administration and so is holding up any decision in the matter of the election. For instance, one member of the Executive Board, in a personal telephone conversation on January 24, charged that "the Regional Staff has not been carrying out their duties, that when Noah Griffin was the Regional Director he came directly into the Richmond Branch, made a decision and that was the end of matters referred to him."

It is very clear today that the Richmond Branch matter must be speedily resolved or we will practically have to reorganize the Branch. You have charged me with the responsibility of getting the facts and to give you confidential recommendations on the Richmond Branch matter. I am filing this written memorandum with you to call to your attention the condition of the Richmond Branch, which, if not rectified in the near future will result in the complete demoralization of the membership which will make it almost impossible for a new administration to succeed regardless of how the election dispute is adjusted.

I feel that this is a serious matter because the Richmond Branch is located in one of the strategic areas of the state. Indeed Richmond is the 9th largest city in the state with an overall population of about 100,000 people, over 15 per cent of which are Negroes. This city has problems that are very acute in the field of housing, employment and education and there is no place in the state where a Branch is more needed to carry out the program of the NAACP. Therefore, I feel it is our obligation to work with the leadership in the community and to do everything possible to set this Branch on a good firm footing clarifying its administration and program.

Joseph Kennedy, the Area president, is also intimately acquainted with the details of the Richmond Branch controversy as he has talked to several delegations that have come to him on the matter. It is his opinion, as expressed to me as late as January 22, that some direct action must be speedily taken in this matter. I recommend that from this confidential memorandum to you that one be drawn to go to Joseph Kennedy, C. L. Dellums and the National Office, to Gloster Current and Roy Wilkins.



# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

690 MARKET STREET, SUITE 332

PHONE YUKON 6-6992

SAN FRANCISCO 4, CALIF.

## NAACP

### WEST COAST REGION

Franklin H. Williams, Esq.  
*Secretary-Counsel*

C. L. Dellums  
*Chm'n, Advisory Com.*

Dr. Claude Hudson  
*Nat'l Board Member*

Loren Miller, Esq.  
*Chm'n, Legal Redress*

Tarea Hall Pittman  
*Field Secretary*

Lester P. Bailey  
*Field Secretary*

*Area Presidents*

Nathaniel F. Colley, Esq.  
*Central Area*

Joseph Kennedy, Esq.  
*Northern California*

John Dial, Jr.  
*Southern California*

James T. Hollin  
*Southwestern Area*

William Underwood  
*Northwestern Area*

February 3, 1955

Mr. Thurgood Marshall  
NAACP Legal Defense & Educational Fund  
107 West 43rd Street  
New York 36, N. Y.

Dear Thurgood:

I received, while in Pasadena, your communication concerning the proposal to speak for the Los Angeles Branch on the night of May 19. I hope that it will be possible, without embarrassment for you, to cancel this appearance.

As you know, we do not have state conferences in this region, but rather, have organized on a similar basis with Area jurisdictions. These conferences have within them both the large as well as the small branches. As in Illinois and elsewhere, oft times the large Branch in a conference feels that it must receive particular attention--sometimes to the detriment of the smaller groups. This is particularly true when it comes to the question of appearances of and visits by our National personalities. To prevent such unfairness, whenever in the past we have been able to get you, Roy or Walter to come into the region we have tried to set up meetings sponsored jointly by all the Branches in a particular area. This was true in the Korea meeting held for you some years ago in Oakland, as well as in both meetings at which Walter spoke and when Gloster and Roy attended our conferences.

As you know, when word got out that you would be with us in May we received requests from Riverside, Las Vegas and Sacramento as well as San Diego for your appearance. Obviously you can't appear at all of the places that would like to have you. To meet this situation, and recognizing that you had recently appeared in the Northwest, we arranged for two meetings; one in Pasadena where all the Branches in that Southern Area could co-sponsor you and one in Oakland where all of the Branches from the Valley and in the Northern Area could co-sponsor your appearance. Now, if in addition, you appear under the sponsorship of the Los Angeles Branch it will cause a great deal of dissatisfaction among such groups as San Diego, Riverside, etc.

### NATIONAL OFFICERS

Arthur B. Spingarn  
*President*

Dr. Channing H. Tobias  
*Chairman of the Board*

Dr. Alan Knight Chalmers  
*Treasurer*

### Executive Officers

Walter White  
*Executive Secretary*

Roy Wilkins  
*Administrator*

Thurgood Marshall  
*Special Counsel*

Henry Lee Moon  
*Dir. Public Relations*

Gloster B. Current  
*Director of Branches*

Lucille Black  
*Membership Secretary*

Herbert L. Wright  
*Youth Secretary*

Clarence Mitchell  
*Dir. Washington Bureau*

Walter P. Offutt, Jr.  
*Church Secretary*

Herbert Hill  
*Labor Secretary*

James W. Ivy  
*Editor, The Crisis*



Mr. Thurgood Marshall

Page 2

February 3, 1955

When you mentioned the possibility of a small appearance in Los Angeles on Thursday, May 19, during our discussion at the Statler I was of the impression, as I think you were, that it was to be a small Mason sponsored dinner or reception. Had I known that the proposal was for a public meeting, sponsored by one Branch, I would immediately have seen the damage that would result and would have shared my concern with you.

We have gone so far now in our planning for the Pasadena meeting--of which Los Angeles leadership will be an equal sponsor--that we could not, without great financial loss, change the plan. I hope that you will understand the need for our building broad support in every community, which we are trying to accomplish. It will be a very bad situation if the smaller branches from San Luis Obispo south to San Diego find themselves competing with one large Branch for attendance at a meeting to hear your address.

It is the unanimous feeling of our Area leadership as well as of our Regional leadership that you ought not permit such a competitive situation to be created.

I hope you will follow my best judgment in this case and refuse to appear at any public gathering that may detract from the success of the previously planned meetings on May 20 and 22.

Fraternally,

Franklin H. Williams  
Secretary-Counsel

fhw:db

cc: C. L. Bellums ✓  
Frank Barnes  
Charles Johnson



1 March 55

Mr. Thurgood Marshall, Special Counsel  
National Association for the Advancement  
of Colored People  
107 West 43rd Street  
New York City 36, New York

Dear Thurgood:

The Executive Board of our Regional Policy Committee met on February 12-13. At the meeting, our Southern California Area people presented the question of your speaking in Los Angeles the night before the Regional meeting in Pasadena. I was instructed to write you the position of the Committee, but realizing the great sorrow which you were experiencing, I thought it proper to wait a while before writing. Yesterday, just as I had finished dictating the letter to you, Frank called and shared with me your letter to him concerning the Los Angeles meeting.

I can certainly appreciate that your commitments to our Masonic Order are of such a nature that cancellation of the meeting at this time would be embarrassing and may endanger the relation existing between our two groups. We are only sorry that arrangements were made in the first instance with such little co-ordination with the Regional leadership that we have this present conflict. We are certain that such situations can be avoided but only if we recognize the need for closer co-ordination, co-operation and clearance in the future. We have a big job ahead of us out here and we are confident that with Frank Williams' dynamic and capable leadership we will be able to do it. As you know, we have created a structure out here to fit our particular, and I may even say peculiar, needs and we think that proper utilization of this structure will enable us to succeed on every front. Don't underestimate the nature of the opposition which confronts us out here. Our present strong leadership faces constant opposition not only from the bigots on the right, but also from the well-organized, well-financed and deeply entrenched elements on the left. Many of us are convinced that these groups are determined to destroy our Regional leadership because of their strong and continued anti-communist policy and activities. I don't believe



Mr. Thurgood Marshall

-2-

1 Mar 55

we are victims of hysteria but believe that we know what we're doing and we're not going to permit the Regional leadership to be destroyed for if we do, the Organization will be weakened, maybe beyond redemption in this Region.

Coming here from the East makes it impossible to fully weigh the situation without first fully obtaining the advice and opinion of those primarily responsible for guiding the Organization in the Region. Nevertheless, people will try by devious methods to get our National Officers to express opinions or take positions with inadequate and uncomplete statement of fact. We plan to have two good meetings for you and we know that you will be pleased with the turn-out.

The Regional Committee was very much opposed to the Los Angeles meeting, particularly with it being held before their Pasadena meeting, and instructed me to so notify you, but under the circumstances I feel that I can explain to them why I am not carrying out their instructions in toto. I am in Los Angeles quite often and from my personal observations and connections there I believe I have some knowledge of the situation and I think it is extremely difficult and that much lies beneath the surface which does not immediately appear.

I am looking forward to seeing you in the not too distant future but since I was instructed to write you, I had to, but I also desired to share these personal observations with you before that time.

Sincerely and Fraternally yours,

C. L. DILLMS, Chairman  
West Coast Regional Policy Committee

cc: Mr. Franklin Williams

CLD:w



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

20 WEST 40th STREET, NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

LOngacre 3-6890

March 7, 1955

Mr. C. L. Dellums, Chairman  
West Coast Regional Policy Committee  
NAACP  
c/o Brotherhood Sleeping Car Porters  
1716 Seventh Street  
Oakland 20, Calif.

Dear "C.L.":

Thank you for your letter of March 1st. As to the Los Angeles meeting I told Frank Williams during the time I was in Los Angeles for the C.I.O. Convention last year that I had made a definite commitment to the Los Angeles branch and the Prince Hall Masons to speak to a joint meeting for them on my next trip to the West Coast. This I considered to be a binding commitment and I told Frank Williams it was a binding commitment. I cannot understand why, if this was made clear to the area conference, the area conference would have adopted the resolution they did. It is unbelievable to me that any individual or group of individuals or representative of the NAACP would take it upon themselves to recommend that a national officer not speak at an N.A.A.C.P. sponsored meeting for the purpose of raising money for the NAACP. As a national officer of the Association I am bound to recognize as legitimate the claims to any branch in good standing in the NAACP family.

I am particularly distressed by the overtones of your letter in which you start out by talking about the commitment that I made "to our Masonic Order." I made the commitment to representatives of our Masonic Order and to the Los Angeles branch. It was a joint commitment. You also explain that "our present strong leadership faces constant opposition not only from the bigots on the right, but also from the well-organized, well-financed and deeply entrenched elements on the left." I am sure you do not realize that this can be construed as giving the impression (which I know you do not intend) that our Masonic Order is either deeply entrenched on the left or would be foolish enough to be misled by elements on the left. I know you do not mean that but I think it is time we get more clearer meaning on this whole point.



March 7, 1955

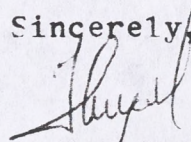
Insofar as the Masonic Order is concerned, I, for one, could not be convinced that they were on the left of anything that is un-American and, when you realize that this proposed meeting is sponsored jointly by our branch and Prince Hall Masons there must be some reason other than left wing charges which would bring about this strong opposition to holding the meeting. I, for one, am positive that my Masonic Order is not to the left. Any other objections that anyone else may have which would prompt them to oppose efforts of my Masonic Order to raise money for the N.A.A.C.P. are automatically rejected by me.

All of which simply adds up to a need for a reevaluation of the structure and purpose of the NAACP and a reconsideration and a rededication to the principle that this Association has existed all of these years and will continue to exist until so long as it remains above individual personalities and petty bickering. As you no doubt know, I have deliberately stayed out and far away from local matters on the West Coast and have refused to take part in any of the bickering of one sort or another. Whatever I have done has always been with the idea of building the NAACP and now, the first time I have been drawn into a controversy it was done by the area conference in my absence without my consultation and without any knowledge on my part. My first opportunity to give my views on the matter came after the area conference had decided what is best for me to do without even taking the trouble to hear either my side or the national office's side of the picture.

The West Coast Region of the NAACP is not only a fine area but is one of the best areas of our NAACP family. There are some who rightfully or wrongfully think that it is the very best area of our NAACP family but please believe me, when I say that even if it is the very best area of the NAACP family, it is still a part of the family and not a separate and distinct autonomous organization in and of itself.

I hope you will read this much too long letter and accept it for what I intend it to be, namely, the pouring out of how I feel about a most difficult situation in which I have been made the goat.

Sincerely,



Thurgood Marshall  
Special Counsel

TM:abs



10 March 55

Mr. Thurgood Marshall, Special Counsel,  
National Association for the Advancement  
of Colored People,

20 West 40th Street,  
New York 18, New York.

Dear Thurgood:

When I read your letter of March 7th I had to check my letter to you of March 1st. After doing that, I could understand your observations in regards to our Masonic Order. Sorry that I didn't make myself clearer. Since the Los Angeles meeting is co-sponsored by the Masonic Order and the Los Angeles Branch of the N.A.A.C.P., I intended to refer to the Masonic commitment as the binding commitment and then forget the Masonic Order insofar as my letter was concerned. Everything else was said with the Los Angeles Branch and the apparent infiltration of the branch by the left-wing elements. So, forgive me for not making that clear because my feeling towards the Masonic Order is as strong as yours.

For some unexplained reason the Los Angeles Branch has not supported the Area structure nor have they cooperated with the Regional Office as they should have. You, no doubt, know of the experience of Lester Bailey down there. I can appreciate the feeling of a National Officer in dealing with a Branch of the Association, but I too have some knowledge of National Organizations and how they function, or at least how they should function, and I know then that sometimes it takes a little pressure from the national people to make some of the local people respect and go along with intermediate structure and leadership. I am not unmindful of the loose structure of the Association since I have a thirty-year background of activity in the Association. But, it is not unbelievable to me that a group of N.A.A.C.P. representatives would recommend to a National Officer not to speak to a



10 Mar 55

meeting sponsored by a Branch of the Association. I can think of many reasons why such a thing would be done. As a matter of fact, I think that such a committee as ours has the right to make any recommendation they want to to any National Officer. After all, it is only a recommendation and it is up to the National Officer to use his own judgement as to whether or not he wants to be guided by it. It was our understanding that Frank Williams understood that the Masonic meeting would be a banquet or something more in the order of honoring you. We didn't get the understanding that Frank knew from the beginning that it was to be a joint-sponsored public mass meeting. If we had then we would have no doubt reacted differently.

I believe that I can express the unanimous opinion of the lay and professional leadership of the West Coast Region in that it is a part of the N.A.A.C.P. family and wouldn't have it any other way. However, I think that I can also say that our Region looks upon the structure of the Association as one family with no big "I am's" or little "stechildren". Rightly or wrongly, our Southern California Area leadership felt that the Los Angeles Branch leadership was definitely trying to push the Regional meeting in second place and to show that they are bigger than the Area. The rest of us, not being in a position to take issue on their feeling and understanding since they are on the scene, went along with them.

I do not agree that you have been made the goat of the situation at all, because our committee felt confident that you could not get out of the commitment but wanted you to know how we felt for what effect it might have on future visits to the Region. I doubt that a single member would have the slightest feeling in the matter insofar as you are concerned. All of us certainly know that you would do nothing in the world to hurt a single branch of the Association and I am sure this matter will be pretty largely confined to the discussion we had in the committee and then forgotten. I anticipate that all of our people who can possibly attend both meetings will do so, out of their love for the Association and respect and admiration for you. I am most certainly looking forward to seeing you myself.

Sincerely yours,

C. L. DELLINGER

CLD:pw



MEMORANDUM

TO: Messrs:  
Roy Wilkins  
Gloster B. Current  
H. Claude Hudson  
C. L. Dellums✓  
Frank H. Barnes

FROM: Franklin H. Williams

RE: MONROVIA, CALIFORNIA, BRANCH NAACP

DATE: March 11, 1955

For over a year this office has been concerned with the possibility that our Monrovia, California Branch had been infiltrated and was being substantially influenced and directed by individuals who follow the Communist Party line.

On December 21 I wrote to James Wilson, the president of the Branch calling to his attention what this office considered several serious violations of policy. Copies of these previous communications have been forwarded to you. In summary they were:

1. That the Branch had failed to communicate with other subdivisions of the organization or participate in the Area Conferences or regional program directly or indirectly from October 1953 forward.
2. That in spite of a policy position having been adopted in the region concerning "hands off" the Wesley Robert Wells Case (sponsored by the Civil Rights Congress) which policy had been communicated by mail and in person to the Branch leadership, a great deal of activity in the name of the Association in support of this case was carried on by the Monrovia Branch. This activity included the use of the Branch president's name in publicity and propaganda in support of the case as well as the participation of the Branch in an official Wesley Wells Defense Committee of which several "front groups" were a part.
3. The participation by Branch in an organizationally unauthorized and condemned FEP drive in the County of Los Angeles.
4. The consideration and subsequent enactment of motions in support of persons called before the California Un-American Activities Committee in spite of direction and personal advice by an Area officer that such matters lay beyond the jurisdiction of a local Branch.

On February 17 pursuant to my direction, Frank Barnes, Charles Johnson and I, president and vice president of the Southern Area Conference respectively, met with the Executive Committee of the Monrovia chapter. At such meeting I confronted the Committee with these charges and requested an explanation thereof. No satisfactory explanation of any was made but, rather, the following appeared that the Branch had participated in obtaining signatures to Civil Rights Congress petitions in the Wells Case. That the Branch had officially instituted and participated in the San Gabriel Valley Wells Defense Committee. That the Branch had passed a resolution condemning the California Un-American Activities Committee investigation of several doctors accused of being Communists, that such action had been taken following receipt of information from a properly designated officer, that it was beyond their jurisdiction. That the Branch had passed resolutions and communicated them to the press and government officials concerning the Wells Case, following information that such was opposed to policy position adopted by the Association in this region.



As a matter of fact, even though material prepared by this office had been received by the Branch months previously containing information that the National Negro Labor Council was an organization with which this Association would not co-operate, the Branch had, in the week prior to my visit, extended an invitation to Frank Whitley, director of the Los Angeles Negro Labor Council, to speak at their National Negro History Week Observance.

At the meeting I requested that the minutes of the Branch be turned over to me for perusal. Upon reading these minutes in the presence of the Executive Committee the following examples not previously known to this office of what we consider a clear effort to misdirect and mislead the thinking and activity of the local NAACP leadership became apparent.

April 5, 1953--"Brother Bissey suggested that we...read literature on Rosenbergs and better acquaint ourselves on their problem and help if possible."

"Brother Wilson made a report on the Dubois dinner..."

April 13, 1953--"Brother Bissey brought in one new member in person of Dr. William Eisman." (Dr. Eisman one of the doctors investigated by the Un-American Activities Committee here.)

August 2, 1953--"Brother Bissey spoke briefly on Wesley Robert Wells Case, also gave group some leaflets on same."

August 10, 1953--"It was moved by Dr. Eisman and seconded by Brother Large..." (there was no explanation as to how Dr. Eisman suddenly started attending Executive Committee meetings and making motions, etc.) It was proposed that a letter be written to the regional office to find out their stand on the Lester Bailey stand against the Railroad Porters and Bartenders Union. The action that he proposed caused quite a few men to lose their jobs. (This apparently was in connection with a statement that the Association, in Lester's name, had made in Los Angeles concerning the effort of a Left-wing union to take over the Dining Car Waiters members. No such letter was ever received in this office.)

January 11, 1954--The minutes reflect lengthy discussion concerning the Wesley Robert Wells Case.

February 8, 1954--The minutes reflect again a lengthy discussion concerning the Wells Case and then states "Brother Bissey stated that we should write more letters and he favored organizing a Committee in San Gabriel." (Subsequently a San Gabriel Wells Defense Committee was organized with leading CIO personalities involved.) Then, Dr. Eisman moved that "we write congressmen in behalf of Robert Wells," etc.

March 7, 1954--The entire meeting apparently was taken up with Brother Wilson explaining "many new things on the Robert Wells Case..."

April 4, 1954--"We had a discussion from Brother Wilson concerning Robert Wells...it was moved and seconded that we write all letters at Executive Board meetings. Mr. Large made a report on a meeting that was being held...in behalf of Wells freedom."

Brother Wilson presented a letter he received from National Union of Marine Cooks and Stewards. (One of the unions kicked out of the CIO because of Communist domination.)

May 2, 1954--There was a discussion on "whether we should send money to the Marine Cooks & Stewards Union. It was moved and seconded that the business that was taken up in Executive meeting be adopted in order that we should send \$10 to the



Marine Cooks Union. Brother Bissey made a wonderful talk concerning the Negro Labor Council, How They Fight Against Discrimination."

June 5, 1954--The minutes reflect further discussion concerning the national union of marine cooks.

December 12, 1954--"Brother Wilson gave a brief report on his pleasure at the dinner in honor of candidate Mr. Horace Alexander." (Alexander who was well known to us in the NAACP, was the IPP candidate for Secretary of State this past year in California. His campaign as well as the personalities involved in it were almost without exception the hard core Left-wingers.)

December 13, 1953--"Dr. Bedlman then gave the meeting a brief account of the Un-American Activities Committee in regards to his being brought before the Committee. The report was well received. The meeting was advised by Attorney Johnson (Area vice-president) that the body should write to Mr. Williams, regional NAACP secretary in Frisco (sic) for advice for policy action." The minutes then reflect that a motion was made by Mr. Bissey, putting the Branch on record supporting the doctors then being investigated.

January 2, 1955--"Mr. Large made the report for the three delegates to the mass meeting....," in support of FEPC Committee which had been boycotted by NAACP, organized labor and other legitimate groups in this area.

As a result of the information thus brought forth at the meeting and from the minutes, I advise the Executive Committee that in my opinion their charter should be lifted, and that I would so recommend to the national office unless they voluntarily agreed to cease any public action or program in the name of the NAACP until such time as a properly authorized officer is able to come in and direct a complete resolution. The choice between such voluntary suspension was submitted to the Executive Committee in writing with copies to the National Office.

By communication dated February 22 the Executive Committee, over the signature of James Wilson, president, stated that they had voted to accept the voluntary cessation of activities pending reorganization.

Within the next few weeks we hope to be able to undertake a membership drive in Monrovia with the idea of calling a general election for new officers and completely reorganizing the Branch. In the recess, it is our intention to try to "freeze out Bissey, Large and Wilson." If we are unsuccessful, it maybe necessary to file direct charges against the three of them, though this is an alternative which, in my opinion, should not be followed if there is any other way for us to accomplish the elimination of their influence from the Branch. Your comments and observations are solicited.



**CANDIDATE FOR GOVERNOR QUESTIONNAIRE**

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

1. What is your position on a state Fair Employment Practices law?
  - A. Should such law have enforcement powers?
  - B. Would you support such law as Governor?
  - C. Would you sign such law, if passed?
2. What is your position on private and public housing discrimination in this state?
  - A. Should there be a law prohibiting such practices?
3. What is your position on the proposal to establish a state commission to administer existing and future civil rights statutes?\*
4. What is your position on strict enforcement of existing state codes prohibiting employment discrimination connected with public works and state civil service?
5. What is your position relative to actions you would take, as Governor, to abolish unsanitary housing and poor working conditions confronting migratory farm laborers in this state?
6. What, as Governor of California, would your program include to improve the general status of this State's large minority population, wherever this status is affected by discrimination?

\*Such a commission has been proposed by Assemblyman Augustus Hawkins for consideration at the special budget session, March, 1958.

Please reply to:  
West Coast NAACP  
690 Market Street  
San Francisco 4, California



**CANDIDATE FOR UNITED STATES SENATOR QUESTIONNAIRE**

1. What is your position on the Civil Rights Act passed by the last Congress?

Do you consider it:

- A. Adequate.
- B. Needs strengthening (explain).

2. What is your position on Senate Rule 22?

Do you consider it:

- A. Adequate to limit debate and effect cloture.
- B. In need of revision (explain).

3. What is your position on Federal Aid to Education?

Should there be anti-segregation provisions (explain)?

4. What is your position on segregation in National Guard units?

Should there be federal laws to end such segregation (explain)?

5. What is your position on the need for additional federal laws in the fields of public and private housing and employment?

6. What action would you take, if any, as Senator on each of the foregoing issues (explain)?

Please reply to:  
West Coast NAACP  
690 Market Street  
San Francisco 4, California



# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

690 MARKET STREET, SUITE 332

PHONE YUKON 6-6992

SAN FRANCISCO 4, CALIF.

## N A A C P

### WEST COAST REGION

Franklin H. Williams, Esq.  
*Secretary-Counsel*

C. L. Dellums  
*Chm'n, Advisory Com.*

Dr. Claude Hudson  
*Nat'l Board Member*

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Nathaniel F. Colley, Esq.  
*Central Area*

Joseph Kennedy, Esq.  
*Northern California*

John Dial, Jr.  
*Southern California*

James T. Hollin  
*Southwestern Area*

William Underwood  
*Northwestern Area*

June 23, 1955

The Honorable,  
Goodwin J. Knight, Governor  
State of California  
State Capital Building  
Sacramento, California

Dear Governor Knight:

Thousands of citizens and voters of this state were bitterly disappointed when every Republican on the Senate Labor Committee voted recently to table three bills designed to insure the principle of fair employment practices throughout the State of California. Two of these bills had previously been passed by the Assembly, thus giving hope to the hundreds of thousands of minority persons in California that finally their Legislature would secure for them equality of opportunity in pursuing and seeking their livelihoods. These hopes were cruelly dashed by the party line action of the Labor Committee in tabling each of the measures.

It is with great disappointment that our members present noted that every Republican on the Committee indicated opposition to the principle of FEPC. As Governor of the State of California, and as the titular head of the Republican Party, I hope that you will find a way between now and the next regular session of our Legislature to bring Republican Party support behind our efforts to obtain fair employment practices in public and private industry in this state. As you know, on March 14, 1953, the Republican State Federal Committee enacted a resolution calling upon the Legislature to enact FEP legislation. Further, the state Republican Party platform of 1952 similarly called for action to eliminate discrimination in employment. Is there no "Party Responsibility" in the Republican Party?

The failure of the Senate to protect California citizens in their efforts to seek and obtain employment was unfortunate. It is our feeling that an expression from you favoring such legislation would go a long way toward insuring its enactment in the next session of the Legislature. I hope that we may count on your public support of our program in the future.

Very sincerely yours,

Franklin H. Williams  
Secretary-Counsel

C. L. Dellums

Chairman

Official Organ, THE CRISIS

### NATIONAL OFFICERS

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Dr. Channing H. Tobias  
*Chairman of the Board*

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*Editor, The Crisis*



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October 28, 1955

**Mr. Manuel Dias, Pres.**  
**CIO-Calif. Industrial Union Council**  
**117 West Ninth Street**  
**Los Angeles 15, California**

**Dear Mr. Dias:**

The West Coast Region of NAACP is sponsoring a series of Emmett Till Protest Meetings throughout the state. You are invited to be a platform guest at any or all of these meetings. The time and place of these meetings is as follows:

November 11--Sacramento, Masonic Temple, 8:00 P. M.  
November 13--San Francisco, Cow Palace, 3:00 P. M.  
November 15--Los Angeles, Olympic Auditorium, 7:30 P. M.  
November 17--Riverside, 8:00 P. M.  
November 18--San Diego, San Diego Arena, 8:00 P. M.

The principal speaker for the occasion will be Mrs. Mamie Bradley, mother of Emmett Till, and Mrs. Ruby Hurley, Southeast NAACP secretary, who will speak on the recent slayings and terror in Mississippi.

Because of your position in the field of labor and your long record of interest in civil rights we feel you are especially deserving of a place of honor on our platform. Our two largest meetings will be in Los Angeles and San Francisco and we would be especially pleased if you could attend these meetings. Would you please let us know at your earliest convenience whether you or your representative will be present.

Through you we extend to all members of the CIO in your state an invitation to attend these meetings that are open to the public and without admission charge.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

**C. L. Dellums, Chairman**  
**West Coast Regional Advisory Committee**

cld:db



November 1, 1958.

Dear Sir and Brother:

May I share with you the NAACP activities against  
"Right to Work."

The Association has mobilized its entire resources to crush "Right to Work" in California and elsewhere. Our National body passed a resolution condemning so-called "Right to Work" laws which every branch within the Association has been vigorously carrying out as a matter of policy. A copy is enclosed for your benefit.

During the recent campaign we not only took public forums to oppose "Right to Work" laws, but we conducted intensive registration campaigns in order to insure defeat of this vicious proposition. According to William Becker, who coordinated our registration drive, "NAACP Registrars were responsible for the registration of over 50,000 voters."

Our pamphlet "Keep Mississippi out of California" has been widely and effectively circulated. A copy of this is also enclosed.

The NAACP fight is not finished, however. We have the important Civil Rights front.

We are once again asking for a contribution to our Annual Freedom Fund Drive and to the Petition to Eisenhower Drive. A copy of each is enclosed. We are hoping to secure signatures of over 100,000 Californians before Christmas. We will be happy to send more if requested.

Faternally yours,

C. L. DELLUMS  
Chairman, West Coast Region NAACP. X

X P.3. My International President, A. Phillip Randolph, President of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, has just phoned that the Petitions are vitally needed in order to move President Eisenhower into more aggressive action toward democracy.



# NAACP

## WEST COAST REGION

Franklin H. Williams, Esq.  
*Secretary-Counsel*

C. L. Dellums  
*Chm'n, Advisory Com.*

Dr. Claude Hudson  
*Nat'l Board Member*

Loren Miller, Esq.  
*Chm'n, Legal Redress*

Tarea Hall Pittman  
*Field Secretary*

Lester P. Bailey  
*Field Secretary*

*Area Presidents*

Nathaniel F. Colley, Esq.  
*Central Area*

Joseph Kennedy, Esq.  
*Northern California*

Frank H. Barnes  
*Southern California*

James T. Hollin  
*Southwestern Area*

William Underwood  
*Northwestern Area*

January 4, 1956

Re: West Coast Advisory Committee Meeting-February 10 & 11, 1956

Dear NAACP Officer:

A meeting of the West Coast Regional Advisory Committee will be held in San Francisco, February 10 and 11, 1956, at the YMCA, 220 Golden Gate Avenue. The first session will begin Friday afternoon, February 10, at 2:30. There will be a night session February 10 and morning and afternoon sessions Saturday, February 11.

### NATIONAL OFFICERS

Arthur B. Spingarn  
*President*

Dr. Channing H. Tobias  
*Chairman of the Board*

Dr. Alan Knight Chalmers  
*Treasurer*

### Executive Officers

Roy Wilkins  
*Executive Secretary*

Thurgood Marshall  
*Special Counsel*

Henry Lee Moon  
*Dir. Public Relations*

Gloster B. Current  
*Director of Branches*

Lucille Black  
*Membership Secretary*

Herbert L. Wright  
*Youth Secretary*

Clarence Mitchell  
*Dir. Washington Bureau*

Herbert Hill  
*Labor Secretary*

James W. Ivy  
*Editor, The Crisis*

All Branch presidents, area and regional officers are urged to be present. Reservations may be made at the YMCA Hotel, 351 Turk Street, adjoining the meeting place. Accommodations may be had for as low as \$2.50 per night. These reservations should be made directly with the YMCA.

The West Coast Regional Advisory Committee Meeting will be climaxed by the 47th Anniversary Banquet which will be held at the Claremont Hotel in Berkeley, Saturday night at 6:30. Guest speaker for the occasion will be Clarence Mitchell, director, Washington Bureau NAACP. This banquet will be \$10.00 per plate.

Please indicate on the enclosed card whether or not you will attend this meeting and/or banquet.

Very sincerely,

*Franklin H. Williams*

Franklin H. Williams  
Secretary-Counsel

C. L. Dellums  
Regional Chairman

fhw:db

enclosure



December 28, 1956

# NAACP

## WEST COAST REGION

Franklin H. Williams, Esq.  
Secretary-Counsel

C. L. Dellums  
Chm'n, Advisory Com.

Dr. Claude Hudson  
Nat'l Board Member

Loren Miller, Esq.  
Chm'n, Legal Redress  
Nat'l Board Member

Rev. L. Sylvester Odom  
Regional Convention  
Chairman

Tarea Hall Pittman  
Field Secretary

Lester P. Bailey  
Field Secretary

Area Presidents

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Central Area

Joseph Kennedy, Esq.  
Northern Area

Frank H. Barnes  
Southern Area

Hayzel B. Daniels, Esq.  
Southwest Area

William Underwood  
Northwest Area

Mr. C. L. Dellums, Chairman  
Advisory Committee NAACP  
1716 Seventh Street  
Oakland, California

Dear C. L.:

Again I am writing to express my deep and sincere appreciation to you for your unselfish support and leadership during the past year.

While we did not accomplish all that you and I would like, we did carry the civil rights fight a long way down the road during 1956.

The NAACP here in the West stands today as the outstanding region in our Association. We hold that position because of you and the other lay leadership who have so loyally sacrificed time, energy, and money for the program.

I don't always manage to remember to thank people for the things that they do. I was determined, however, that the new year would not be too far gone before letting you know how much I and the rest of the staff have appreciated all that you have done with us.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Fraternally,

*Franklin H. Williams*  
Franklin H. Williams  
Secretary-Counsel

FHW:bl

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Special Counsel

Lee Moon  
Public Relations

Current  
Branches

ary

Bureau

ary

Jones  
Assistant

ousing

mes W. Ivy  
Editor, The Crisis



Remember - - SEPTEMBER 20, 21, 22 - - 1957  
NAACP WEST COAST REGIONAL CONFERENCE, ASILOMAR, CALIF.



AUGUST 28, 1967

TELEGRAM

C. L. DELLUMS, REGIONAL CHAIRMAN  
LESTER P. BAILEY, FIELD SECRETARY, WEST COAST  
REGION NAACP, 690 MARKET ST., SAN FRANCISCO

RECEIVED YOUR LETTER AUGUST 26, APPRECIATE HAVING INFORMATION  
YOU PROVIDED ON EVIDENCES OF DISCRIMINATION AMONG MIGRATORY  
AGRICULTURAL WORKERS IN CALIFORNIA. AS YOU KNOW, I DO NOT HAVE  
FACILITIES FOR HANDLING SUCH CASES, BUT I AM BRINGING YOUR COM-  
MENTS TO THE ATTENTION OF THE APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS IN THE  
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR. I AM SURE THEY WILL GIVE THEM PROMPT  
AND SERIOUS CONSIDERATION. REGARDS--

RICHARD NIXON



August 29, 1957

Mr. Frank Guilford, President  
Santa Cruz Branch, N.A.A.C.P.  
214 Continental  
Santa Cruz, California

Dear Mr. Guilford:

As you know Senator Grunsky, from your district, voted against F.E.P. I have been writing him, giving him information on discrimination in an attempt to win him over to our side. I have a long letter from him in which he states that if he can be convinced that discrimination in employment is wide spread that he will support our legislation in the 1959 session. He also points out that he has no evidence of racial or religious discrimination in employment practices in his counties, Santa Cruz and Santa Bonita and that the minority groups in his district are generally very happy without agitation and would like to keep it that way. Now I thought it would be helpful if your branch would compile some information for me proving discrimination in employment in these two counties so that I could submit it to him. It will no doubt also be helpful if you organized a local committee for the purpose of conferring with Senator Grunsky and place this information before him. I am sure he will want some documentary proof and not just general statements. I would like for you to have a special committee to work on this matter so that we can swamp this guy with evidence.

Very sincerely yours,

C. L. DELLUMS

CLD:aw



August 29, 1957

**NAACP**

WEST COAST  
REGION

Franklin H. Williams, Esq.  
Secretary-Counsel  
C. L. Dellums  
Chm'n, Advisory Com.  
Dr. Claude Hudson  
Nat'l Board Member  
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Clarence Mitchell  
Dir. Washington Bureau  
Walter P. Offutt, Jr.  
Church Secretary  
Herbert Hill  
Labor Secretary  
James W. Ivy  
Editor, *The Crisis*

Honorable Richard Nixon  
Vice President  
United States of America  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Nixon:

We are grateful to receive your prompt reply to our telegram regarding complaints originating in Yuba and Lutter Counties with reference to conditions confronting migratory fruit pickers. We sincerely hope that your intervention with Department of Labor officials will effect immediate alleviation of serious employment problems in that area.

With reference to further information in this case, we have been advised that documentation of the employment situation has been filed with the Department of Labor, Washington. We are requesting that the National Agriculture Workers Union, AFL-CIO, forward you a copy of this report.

Following our telegram to you, Mr. C. L. Dellums, West Coast NAACP chairman, and I made a personal tour of the area in question. We talked with fruit pickers, housing authorities, and toured labor camps and other facilities.

Never have I observed more unsanitary conditions than did I in the several housing areas visited. More than 40 persons, including women and children, were, as of yesterday, sleeping, cooking and eating along the banks of the Feather River at Marysville and Yuba City. These people, most of whom are Negroes, had been living under these conditions for the past three weeks in some cases. The disproportionate number of Negroes living along the river is accounted for by the fact that trailer camps and other privately owned housing operators have refused to accommodate them. These people have built makeshift stoves of rocks, oil cans, and any other materials available. Their beds consist of mattresses brought along from their homes.

Many of these people, as in the cases of hundreds of other pickers gathered in that area, had been without adequate food and bed clothing as a result of their displacement, prior to the peak,

Official Organ, *THE CRISIS*



peach-picking period, by Mexican and Japanese Nationals. (Labor leaders estimate that there are some 2000-odd imported pickers in the two counties.) During this unemployment period, local county welfare authorities provided food vouchers or checks for some of the more destitute families.

However, as soon as the peak picking period came in, August 12, following an announcement by the Fruit Growers Association that all available pickers would be employed immediately, the welfare aid was abruptly cut off. Wages depressed by the presence of imported labor made it impossible for most of the American pickers and their families to earn enough to sustain themselves, not to mention building up a reserve. Some workers reported that they were offered as little as 12¢ per 80 lb. lug of peaches. Since this fruit had to be graded while being picked, and due to the fact that much of the fruit was too small, the pickers found that they could not make a living wage under these standards.

This necessitated the union making food money available to many families.

These conditions, in addition to displacement charges, have been documented in affidavits received from American fruit pickers. Complaints filed with the Department of Labor are being supplemented by these signed statements.

Further, on the question of housing and sanitation, we observed one workers' dwelling in an orchard from which imported labor had been ordered evacuated by health authorities. A crew of 10 Negroes had replaced the foreign labor, both in terms of picking peaches and occupying the one room quarters.

In another orchard labor camp, occupied solely by Negroes, more than 25 families were living in dirt-floor tents. There was one water faucet for all purposes, and the two showers provided for men and women were situated in a small sheet-iron shed for which there was no sewer outlet. Toilets there were outside affairs set up in a ditch about 25 yards from the tents. All families prepared their food on makeshift stoves in the open. Refuse and debris in this camp was running over the sides of several large oil cans provided as receptacles. There were no laundry facilities provided. We also learned that the children in this camp will not be provided with transportation to schools located beyond normal walking distance.

It was reported that flu and disentary had struck most of these camps a week or so before we arrived. A number of persons were still suffering the affects of these attacks.



These were generally the conditions we observed in the labor camps, including the Yuba City Labor Camp maintained by the local housing authority. In the case of the latter, the filth and privations approached, in some instances the privately owned camps cited above.

At the Yuba City Camp there was reported a long waiting list of white, Negro and Mexican-American families seeking shelter. All families were being accommodated on a first come first served basis. However, there had obviously been little or no preparation of facilities prior to the arrival of the migrant workers. Bathing, washing and toilet facilities at Yuba City were in as poor condition as those noted in the privately run camps. One entire section of the Yuba City camp had not been renovated for human habitation since the devastating floods of 1955.

In that many of the labor camps in that area are located far into private property, we did not attempt to tour them. However, even when viewed from afar, they seemed to correspond in conditions and facilities with those we inspected closely.

Relative to the charge of discrimination, we had reference to the usurping of Negro and Mexican-American workers (who form the bulk of migratory fruit pickers) by imported labor in violation of federal requirements. Imported labor was observed yesterday in numbers in the staging area, where they are assigned to fruit growers. The employment of these nationals early in the season and the regular increase in their numbers throughout the peak picking period has displaced available American workers. As the peach season closes and other crops, namely plums, tomatoes, almonds, and walnuts, mature the employment conditions created by the fruit growers will be repeated. The latter crops will mature between now and October.

Our complaint is hoped to bring about correction of the health, sanitation, housing, and employment problems. We suggest the following:

1. Establishment and strict application of acceptable minimum sanitary standards in camps accommodating migratory agriculture workers.
2. Establishment and strict application of acceptable minimum housing standards in camps.
3. Enforcement of federal regulations affecting the importation and employment of foreign labor.



August 28, 1967

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Honorable Richard Nixon

Honorable Richard Nixon

Page 4

August 28, 1967

4. Establishment and enforcement of minimum wage provisions so as not to depress the economic status of American workers.

Respectfully submitted,

C. G. Bellamy  
Regional Chairman

Lester P. Bailey  
Field Secretary

cld-lpb:db





GOODWIN J. KNIGHT  
GOVERNOR

State of California  
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE  
SACRAMENTO 14

RECEIVED  
SEP 2 1957

August 30, 1957

Mr. C. L. Dellums, Regional Chairman  
Mr. Lester P. Bailey, Field Secretary  
West Coast Region, NAACP  
690 Market Street  
San Francisco, California

Gentlemen:

Upon receipt of your telegram regarding denial of employment to Negro and other minority group workers in the Marysville area, I requested an up-to-date report from Mr. Harry W. Stewart, Director of the Department of Employment. Mr. Stewart and his staff have been in close touch with the situation in Sutter and Yuba Counties since the beginning of the peach harvest this year and have first-hand knowledge of the needs for agricultural labor and the action being taken to meet these needs.

Mr. Stewart has informed me that all agricultural workers contacting the local office of the Department of Employment for work in the peach harvest are promptly being referred to jobs. He also reports that the non-discriminatory policies of my administration and of the Department of Employment are being enforced.

The fact that a shortage of labor does exist in the Marysville area is substantiated by the recruitment efforts being made by the local office of the Department through the use of radio and newspaper publicity in the area urging additional workers to contact the office for referral to jobs. In addition, workers are being transported on a daily basis from Sacramento to overcome the shortage.

The laws under which foreign workers are permitted to be employed in agriculture in the United States contain provisions protecting the job opportu-

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Mr. C. L. Dellums  
Mr. Lester P. Bailey

August 30, 1957

-2-

ities of domestic workers. They require that domestic workers receive priority in employment and that foreign workers be released if necessary to provide employment for our citizens.

Representatives of the Department of Employment have contacted the welfare directors for Sutter and Yuba Counties and have been informed that the welfare department in Yuba County had not had a single request from transient workers for the past ten days or more. The director for Sutter County reported two emergency requests within the last seven days from families which had just arrived in the area without funds. These requests were honored.

In view of these facts reported by responsible county officials, it would seem that the information given you regarding "many families being extremely destitute" was without foundation.

Housing provided on farms for agricultural workers, as well as farm labor camps, are subject to inspection and approval by the Division of Housing of the Department of Industrial Relations. Minimum standards established by state law or federal regulation must be met, prior to occupancy by either domestic or foreign workers. General housing, on the other hand, is subject to regulation by the county or community in which it is located. Likewise, health and sanitation within a particular county or community is subject to regulation primarily by local authorities.

The heavy influx of migratory agricultural workers in the Marysville area has undoubtedly caused a temporary strain on available community facilities. However, it appears from the reports which I have received that all available domestic workers are being utilized in agricultural pursuits and a shortage of labor continues at the present.

I wish to thank you for your telegram and to assure you of our interest and vigilance in this matter.

Cordially,

Governor

GJK:vp



C O P Y

TELEGRAM

AUGUST 30, 1957

C. L. DELLUMS, REGIONAL CHAIRMAN  
LESTER P. BAILEY, FIELD SECRETARY  
WEST COAST REGION NAACP  
690 MARKET STREET  
SAN FRANCISCO

VICE PRESIDENT NIXON HAS REFERRED TO ME YOUR AUGUST 26 TELEGRAM CHARGING DIS-  
CRIMINATION AMONG MIGRATORY FARM WORKERS IN THE MARYSVILLE AREA. REPORTS TO  
THIS OFFICE ARE THAT AMERICAN WORKERS ARE NOT BEING REFUSED EMPLOYMENT IN THE  
PEACH HARVEST AND THAT THERE IS NO EVIDENCE OF FAMILY DESTITUTION. I AM IN-  
FORMED THAT THE SUTTER COUNTY WELFARE OFFICE HAS HAD NO RECENT REQUEST FOR  
ASSISTANCE. IN VIEW OF THIS SITUATION I SUGGEST YOU FURNISH SPECIFIC DETAILS  
OF ANY CASES KNOWN TO YOU AND I WILL ARRANGE FOR AN APPROPRIATE INVESTIGATION.  
THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT HAS REQUESTED THE STATE HOUSING  
DIVISION TO INVESTIGATE THE HOUSING SITUATION IN THE MARYSVILLE AREA.

JAMES T. O'CONNELL, ACTING SECRETARY OF LABOR



# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE NEGRO

332 MARKET STREET, SUITE 332

PHONE YUkon 6-6992

SAN FRANCISCO 4, CALIF.

November 21, 1957

**N A A C P**

## WEST COAST REGION

Franklin H. Williams, Esq.  
*Secretary-Counsel*  
C. L. Dellums  
*Chm'n, Advisory Com.*  
Dr. Claude Hudson  
*Nat'l Board Member*  
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Clarence Mitchell  
*Dir. Washington Bureau*  
Walter P. Offutt, Jr.  
*Church Secretary*  
Herbert Hill  
*Labor Secretary*  
James W. Ivy  
*Editor, The Crisis*

**Honorable Goodwin J. Knight**  
**Governor**  
**State of California**  
**Sacramento, California**

**Dear Governor:**

Since the defeat of A. B. 2000 in the Senate of the last Legislature, an additional economic factor, which may be described in some areas as a crisis, is confronting this state. The curtailment of certain defense activities has resulted in concomitant layoffs among large numbers of California wage earners. Alarming reports received from the Los Angeles area, in particular, indicate that Negro and other minority employees are being disproportionately struck from payrolls.

In the absence of an enforceable Fair Employment Practices state statute, we can reasonably expect unemployment to drastically increase among minority groups under present conditions. Too often lacking seniority, because they were generally the last to be hired, these workers, who form a sizeable segment in our labor force, are now being thrown into competition in a shrinking job market where they must run the severe handicap of discriminatory hiring practices.

Moreover, the great migration to the West continues with an estimated 750 Negroes arriving each week in the Southland, and 1,100 per month in the Bay Area. Coupled with layoffs and employment bias, the latter sums up the tragic economic consequences in store for this state and its minority labor forces.

Therefore, it is with utmost urgency that we petition you to add the defeated Fair Employment Practices measure to the agenda of the Legislature's special budget session.

Respectfully submitted,

**Lester P. Bailey**  
**Field Secretary**

**C. L. Dellums**  
**Regional Chairman**

lpb/db

Official Organ, THE CRISIS



A. PHILIP RANDOLPH  
International President

MILTON P. WEBSTER  
1st International Vice-President  
3947 Drexel Boulevard  
Chicago 15, Illinois

BENNIE SMITH  
2nd International Vice-President  
1308 Broadway, Room 305  
Detroit, Michigan



Train, Chair Car, Coach Porters and Attendants

**AN INTERNATIONAL UNION**  
Affiliated with the A. F. of L. - C.I.O. - C.L.C.

**PACIFIC COAST HEADQUARTERS**

1716 SEVENTH STREET  
OAKLAND 20, CALIF.

Tel. Twin Oaks 3-0894



ASHLEY L. TOTTEN  
International Secretary-Treasurer

C. L. DELLUMS  
3rd International Vice-President  
1716 Seventh Street  
Oakland, California

J. P. McNEAL  
4th International Vice-President  
111 North Jefferson Street  
St. Louis 3, Missouri

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APR 14 1958

April 10, 1958

Mr. Franklin H. Williams, Esq.  
Secretary-Counsel, N.A.A.C.P.  
690 Market Street, Suite 332  
San Francisco 4, California

Dear Frank:

Enclosed you will find a draft of a letter which I think would be helpful to us. I would like to see it go to all of our California Branches. If it was possible I would send this letter to each of the Branch Presidents personally, but don't know when my office could find time to do it so I thought I would send it over to you and ask you to have it run off the machine and sent out for me when it is possible to do so.

Very sincerely yours,

C. L. DELLUMS

CLD:aw

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April 10, 1958

PRESIDENTS, CALIFORNIA BRANCHES, N.A.A.C.P.

Dear Branch Presidents:

We have a great chance to put F.E.P. over next year since we now have to concentrate on the State Senate only. We are preparing for a real all out drive for next year. Therefore, in order to involve as many Negroes as possible I would like to have the names and addresses of the Negro lawyers, doctors, dentists and at least the pastors of the larger churches in your city. We would also like to have the Fraternal Organizations, teachers, and as many other organizations as possible with the names and addresses of their presiding officers.

Our branches should have all of this kind of information in their files for mailing purposes any how and since I know that by and large we don't have them, I would like to suggest that you have one of your committees, possibly the Coordination Committee make a special project of compiling such a mailing list for your branch and you can then send me a copy of it.

Very sincerely yours,

CLD:aw

C. L. DELLUMS  
1716-7th Street  
Oakland 20, California

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Zimmerman, Muravchik Seen as 'Targets'

# Will Negro, Jewish Labor Leaders War Over Civil Rights?

By HAROLD L. KEITH  
(Courier Managing Editor)

Negro and Jewish labor leaders are on the "brink" of outright war between themselves with the civil rights issue spread out before them as a prospective field of battle.

- Deeply involved in the conflict which threatens to break out into open warfare within the next two weeks, are the NAACP, the newly formed American Negro Labor Committee and the Jewish Labor Committee.

Names of some of the chief architects of this struggle include Charles Zimmerman, chairman of the AFL-CIO Civil Rights Committee; Herbert Hill, NAACP labor secretary, and Manny Muravchik, staff leader of the Jewish Labor Committee.

- Already concerned are Roy Wilkins, NAACP executive secretary, and A. Philip Randolph, AFL-CIO international vice president, and one of the founders of the American Negro Labor Committee.



CHARLES S. ZIMMERMAN  
... one of the main targets of attack?

NOW ZIMMERMAN is reportedly angry about this state of affairs and is said to have accused Mr. Hill with "creating dissension between the Negro community and the labor movement."

But Negro leaders have maintained that prominent white trade union leaders have been trying to "ignore the mounting bitterness in Negro communities of every section of the nation over 'scandalous racial discrimination' by local industrial and craft unions.

Hill says that he is merely performing his NAACP duties when he passes on to AFL-CIO officials documented cases of race discrimination from NAACP local branches located in every section of the nation. And those of the trade union movement who support the NAACP's stand on this issue charge that there is a more vital reason for Zimmerman's angry mein.

IN NEW YORK CITY many community leaders have openly charged that Negro members of Zimmerman's own international union, the Ladies Garment Workers Union, are not safe or well in security.



Flowers for a King—His Royal Highness, George Rukidi III, the Omakama of Toro (Uganda), is presented a bouquet by pianist Philippe Duke Schuyler, at a reception given in his honor by the African Academy of Arts and Research at African House in New York City. In the center is Mrs. Alta Kalibal, the hostess for the occasion.—Cecil Layne Photo.

## Deerfield Choosing Sides for Showdown

DEERFIELD, Ill.—For 124 years the village of Deerfield has nestled quietly on the northern fringe of Chicago, a typical suburb of some 10,500 souls, all of them white, going about the daily business of living, confident that nothing short of atomic war could shatter their peaceful existence.



unimpeachable sources who say the coming warfare will probably necessitate a complete overthrowing of the present fight for civil rights within the ranks of American trade unions.

ALTHOUGH THE NAACP, the American Negro Labor Committee and the Jewish Labor Committee have been ostensibly united against racial discrimination, the failure of the AFL-CIO Civil Rights Committee to move against jim-crow practices within the trade union movement has irked Negro leaders.

Officials of both the NAACP and the American Negro Labor Committee have complained bitterly about the AFL-CIO Civil Rights Committee's failure to "deal effectively" with a memorandum filed in 1968 by Mr. Hill which cited "specific instances" of union jim-crow practices.

Another thing which is ranking Negro leaders is what one has termed the "reckless effort" by certain staff members of the Jewish Labor Committee to "assume the primary role" of leadership in the labor movement's civil rights sphere of activity.

THESE ACCUSERS charge that these efforts have served to "slow down" the campaign which seeks to force unions to correct jim-crow practices.

Another charge leveled at Jewish labor leaders asserts that some of them have adopted a "paternalistic and missionary" attitude towards Negroes. These "missionaries" have, in turn, accused Negroes of being Negroes first and trade unionists second, which is not denied by Negro leadership.

As if to buttress this latter policy, Negro unionists assert that the fight to eliminate trade union bias takes precedence over many other domestic and foreign policy union issues. They are "deeply resentful" of the stand that certain Jewish leaders have taken on this issue.



HERBERT HILL

... from him an "indignant" call for action?

When the NAACP's Board of Directors meets within the next two weeks, it will receive a unanimously adopted report from its subcommittee on labor which will call for immediate corrective actions from the AFL-CIO on the Hill memorandum.

One of the main targets of attack will most certainly be Mr. Zimmerman, who happens to be chairman of the Jewish Labor Committee and a vice president of the Ladies Garment Workers Union. Certain NAACP leaders have voiced out loud their displeasure of Mr. Zimmerman's leadership of the AFL-CIO Committee on Civil Rights.

The NAACP's "call for action" will voice "indignation" over Zimmerman's efforts to have Mr. Hill barred from a meeting which the JLC chairman is seeking with Roy Wilkins of the NAACP, and A. Philip Randolph, NAACP leaders are "indignant" over what they claim is an effort of Zimmerman to "dictate the composition of a meeting with another autonomous organization's head."

ing official and staff positions. Prior to the 1968 general election in New York State, Mr. Hill was widely quoted on this point regarding the shortcomings of Mr. Zimmerman's own union, an "incident" which has kept Mr. Zimmerman near the "boiling" point.

The dissatisfaction of Negro Trade Unionists also dwells on another point. They claim that the Jewish Labor Committee exists primarily for the benefit of 500,000 Jewish workers, whereas there are well over a million Negroes who pay union dues. They are quick to point to staff representatives of the Jewish Labor Committee who have been criticizing militant Negro leadership.

Arch-villain in the shenanigans is reputed to be Mr. Muravchik. In fact, an "all-out break" between Negro leaders and Mr. Muravchik is being contemplated.

Mr. Randolph, currently abroad in Europe, has been appraised of these developments and will probably confer with top advisers of the Negro Labor Committee as soon as he returns from Europe in the next few days to discuss further development of the new organization's functions.

Mr. Randolph is one of six AFL-CIO officials attending the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions' world conference in Brussels.

## Police Sergeant Accused of Attack On Memphis Editor

WEST MEMPHIS, Ark.—Kermit Tullio, desk sergeant in West Memphis, was suspended on a charge of attacking a Negro newspaperman, L. E. Palmer, editor of the Tri-State Defender.

Palmer said he was thrown out of the police station when he tried to post bond for an employee, with the warning: "The next time you come to West Memphis, act like a n—r is supposed to act."

—More for our readers in The Courier—

Now, all that is changed, not by war, but by the knowledge that in the near future Deerfield will come to be all-white. When this fact became known, there were strange reactions from this usually quiet, calm suburb.

When the citizens of the town heard that a New Jersey firm planned to sell homes in a new subdivision to Negroes, they were stunned and incoherent. But the shock has worn off and the people of Deerfield are choosing sides for a showdown.

ONE OF THE most startling developments was the resignation of Mrs. Willard J. Loarie from the board of the North Shore Human Relations Committee, an organization formed 12 years ago to fight racial discrimination.

Mrs. Loarie, one of three Deerfield residents on the board of the anti-bias group, resigned in protest after the committee endorsed the proposed interracial housing project.

She was apparently unable or unwilling to explain the obvious discrepancy created by the opposing facts that she had worked against segregation, then changed sides when she came face-to-face with the imminent integration of her own community.

MEANWHILE, THERE was furious activity in Deerfield. Polls were being taken, statements were forthcoming in reams, rival organizations were being formed—and the bullder who started the controversy was going ahead with his plans to build houses and sell some of them to Negroes.

The possibility of another Trumbull Park lessened somewhat this week when some 75 residents who favor integration formed themselves into a group to oppose the North Shore Residents Association, which had been organized to stop integration.

The new group, called the Deerfield Citizens for Human Rights, is headed by two attor-

neys, Aaron K... man, and Bern... chairman. The opposing group is headed by Harold C. Lewis, an investment broker.

THIS WEEK, some 50 volunteers were knocking on doors in the town, asking the citizens their views on the controversial subject. The poll is sponsored by the citizens committee, but without opposition from the rights group.

However, a spokesman for the latter organization said Deerfield citizens should beware lest they find themselves signing a "blank check encouraging unlawful interference with civil rights."

Meanwhile, the village board has adopted a wait-and-see attitude, declaring that it will take no action until the will of the people has been determined.

It appears that this will be done in short order.

## THE PITTSBURGH Courier

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20 West 40th Street  
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December 17, 1959

Mr. Harold L. Keith, Managing Editor  
The Pittsburgh Courier  
Center Avenue at Francis Street  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Keith:

I have noted your news story in the issue dated December 12, 1959, headed "Will Negro, Jewish Labor Leaders War Over Civil Rights?"

The complaints about racial discrimination in organized labor which have been submitted from time to time by the NAACP are not against "Jewish labor leaders," but against certain international labor unions, including International Association of Railroad Telegraphers; International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers; United Association of Journey-men and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry of the United States and Canada; Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees; Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers of America; Brotherhood of Railway Carmen of America; Brotherhood of Railway Employees; International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders, Blacksmiths, Forgers and Helpers; International Union of Pulp, Sulphite and Paper Mill Workers; Sheet Metal Workers' International Association; United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America; and United Brotherhood of Paper Makers and Paperworkers.

The Courier story of December 12 did not mention any of these unions but gave the distinct impression that the NAACP was "about to declare war" on "Jewish labor leaders."

The Courier story also failed to mention that the two unions cited by A. Philip Randolph in his determined action at the San Francisco convention of the AFL-CIO were the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen; and the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainment.

Where is the conflict with "Jewish labor leaders" in this protest by Mr. Randolph?

The Courier story states that the whole matter will "break out in open warfare within the next two weeks" and then says "when the NAACP's Board of Directors meets within the next two weeks... one of the main targets of the attack will most certainly be Mr. Zimmerman... The NAACP's 'call for action' will voice 'indignation' over Mr. Zimmerman's efforts to have Mr. Hill barred from a meeting..."

The NAACP Board of Directors met December 14. It did not "attack" Mr. Zimmerman or anyone else in the labor movement.



Mr. Harold L. Keith  
The Pittsburgh Courier

December 17, 1959  
Page Two

Whoever wrote the Courier story was either badly informed, or was trying desperately to stir up intergroup strife on the lowest level by inventing a "Jewish-Negro" conflict.

There is a long, complex struggle ahead against racial discrimination in the ranks of organized labor. The big offenders against whom both the NAACP and A. Philip Randolph have trained their guns would like nothing better than to have the spotlight turned off of them and onto a fake "Jewish-Negro" fight. The Courier is allowing the big boys to get away while it whips up "Negro-Jewish" feeling.

The NAACP has worked closely with Charles Zimmerman over many years. He is a member of the board of the National Urban League and has spoken at NAACP protest meetings. He helped stage a huge civil rights rally in New York's garment district sponsored by District 65 and the NAACP.

When the NAACP called for deposits to be made in a Memphis Negro bank in order to enable the bank to expand its loan service to Negro Mississippians who were being denied credit, Mr. Zimmerman's union was one of the first to deposit \$10,000.

Mr. Zimmerman's union has invited NAACP speakers to address the forums at Unity House in the Poconos so that the union members could learn more about the program of the Association. The Jewish Labor Committee has cooperated actively on the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights.

The NAACP, of course, has had its differences with Mr. Zimmerman, but we are not "at war" with him. Our differences involve procedures in fighting discrimination in the labor movement. They are real, but do not constitute a "Negro-Jewish" conflict. The NAACP, which has spent fifty years fighting racial and religious prejudice, cannot descend to anti-Semitism or to the stirring up of tension between Negroes and Jews.

It must be understood that all organized bodies have their primary and secondary purposes. The primary purpose of the NAACP is to combat discrimination against Negroes. The primary purpose of labor organizations is to protect the wages, hours, and working conditions of its members. Civil rights activity for them is desirable but must be secondary. Inevitably, these differences in emphasis will produce tensions in greater or lesser degree.

To interpret the occasional stresses between civil rights allies as a "Jewish-Negro" conflict gives comfort to the enemies of both the labor movement and the cause of Negro rights.

The Detroit Free Press editorially chuckled with glee recently over the prospect of a split between organized labor and the NAACP. The editorial throws rocks at both organized labor and the NAACP and does not conceal its relief at



Mr. Harold L. Keith  
The Pittsburgh Courier

December 17, 1959  
Page Three

the possibility that the public will not have "arrayed before it allied organizations" fighting for Negro civil rights.

There are certain elements in this struggle which are seeking to manipulate occurrences for small and personal purposes and it would seem that the Courier, wittingly or unwittingly, has permitted itself to be used by them.

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Very sincerely yours,  
Roy Wilkins  
Executive Secretary



The Pittsburgh Courier, December 19, 1959

(Minor Headline on Front Page)

JEWISH LEADER  
DENIES 'SPLIT'  
WITH NEGRO  
TRADE UNIONISTS

\* Story on Page 8

-----  
Says He's 'Dedicated'

MURAVCHIK DENIES  
'SPLIT' BETWEEN  
NEGROES AND JEWS

by Harold L. Keith  
(Courier Managing Editor)

Emanuel Muravchik, Director of the Anti-Discrimination Department of the American (sic) Jewish Labor Committee, has issued a flat "no" to the question, "Will Negro, Jewish Labor Leaders Split Over Civil Rights"?

Mr. Muravchik's statement was contained in a release sent to the Courier in answer to a story under this writer's by-line in the Dec. 12 issue which quoted responsible Negro leaders on the alleged schism between them and Jewish trade unionists.

Mr. Muravchik's full statement was as follows:

"The answer to the question posed in the front page headline of the Pittsburgh Courier of Dec. 12, 'Will Negro, Jewish Labor Leaders Split Over Civil Rights?' is, 'No'.

"We, at the JLC, are not at 'the brink of outright war' with the Negro labor leaders. The Jewish Labor Committee has never been, is not now, and does not intend to become involved in any 'conflict which threatens to break out in open warfare...(with the NAACP) (and) the newly formed American Negro Labor Committee.

"We have always cooperated closely with the NAACP and look forward to continued cooperation with it in the important fights for civil rights which lie ahead.

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Dec. 19, 1959

"Your third paragraph refers to Charles Zimmerman, Herbert Hill and myself as 'the chief architects of this struggle.' I know that neither Mr. Zimmerman nor I have projected or now have any intentions of engaging in any such struggle. I cannot speak for Mr. Hill.

\*

"Your fourth paragraph says that 'already concerned are Roy Wilkins and A. Philip Randolph.' If we were in fact on the brink of such a struggle, it would be a cause for concern of Mr. Wilkins, Mr. Randolph, Mr. Zimmerman, and myself--as it should be for any responsible activist in the work for civil rights.

"But there isn't a particle of truth in the rumors of an impending struggle.

"Any attempt to provoke antagonism between the NAACP and the JLC, or between the Negro labor leaders and Jewish labor leaders is a disservice to the cause of civil rights. The publishing of provocative and I believe misleading headlines such as those of the story can only serve the cause of the enemies of civil rights.

\*

"The year of 1960 will see important problems for the civil rights field. We want to have a successful campaign for the adoption of new Federal civil rights legislation--a campaign in which the Jewish Labor Committee and the NAACP, together with 90 other Negro, Jewish, labor and civic organizations are united through the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights.

"We have much work to do in this year ahead in many areas--towards integration of schools in the South, toward the elimination of housing discrimination in all parts of the country, and toward the elimination of segregation in those segments of the labor movement where it still persists. For this crucial work we need the unified efforts of all sincere advocates of civil rights.

"Occasional differences of opinion do arise among people who work together for a common cause--differences not along racial lines, but differences as to tactics and strategy.

"But this is no reason for breaking the united front of all organizations that stand unequivocally for the achievement of full equality for all Americans. My organization and I are dedicated to unified and we hope successful efforts in this common cause in the period ahead."

\* \* \* \* \*



A. Philip Randolph's Statement

The headlines of an article appearing in the Dec. 12, 1959 issue of the Courier, "Will Negro, Jewish Labor Leaders War Over Civil Rights?" are unfortunate and misleading, if not anti-Semitic. This is not to suggest that the Courier is anti-Semitic. Far from it. Your readers know better. Let me emphatically affirm that there is no war over civil rights between Negro and Jewish labor leaders and, in my opinion, such a thing is utterly unthinkable.

This does not mean that differences of opinions may not arise from time to time not only with Jewish leaders but also Catholic and Protestant labor leaders, on matters of strategy, method and approach involving the fight against discrimination and segregation in the labor movement. In fact, this is well-nigh inevitable but it is not to be construed as warfare or feuding among the aforementioned labor leaders.

For instance, some differences of opinions may not arise from time to time not only with Jewish leaders but also Catholic and Protestant labor leaders, on matters of strategy, method and approach involving the fight against discrimination and segregation in the labor movement. In fact, this is well-nigh inevitable but it is not to be construed as warfare or feuding among the aforementioned labor leaders.

For instance, some differences of opinion arose over a report on discrimination in trade unions by Herbert Hill, Labor Secretary of the NAACP. Some labor leaders, Jewish, Catholic and Protestant, condemned it as not entirely factual or constructive. I, on the contrary, approved of the report. I considered it timely, factual and constructive.

There was also a difference of opinion on the resolutions presented to the AFL-CIO Convention in San Francisco by the delegates of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters which called for the expulsion of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen and the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen. Only the Negro delegates at the convention spoke and voted for this resolution, but this does not mean that there is warfare between the Negro and white delegates. In fact, following the debate on the resolution, there was no manifestation of ill will on either side because of this difference of opinion with respect to the resolution.

The following statement appeared in the aforementioned article in the Courier:

"Deeply involved in the conflict which threatens to break out into warfare within the next two weeks are the NAACP, the newly formed American Negro Labor Committee and the Jewish Labor Committee."

This is purely fantastic; it is not true.

It is a matter of record that the leaders of these movements work closely together for civil rights within and without the labor movement. The youth marches on Washington, D.C. for integrated schools and the prayer pilgrimage for civil rights were projects initiated, supported and developed by an ad hoc committee of inter-racial and inter-faith composition, the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, the NAACP and the Jewish Labor Committee. Active in the leadership of the Jewish Labor Committee were Manny Muravchik and Charles Zimmerman, vice president of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union and chairman of the Civil Rights Committee of the AFL-CIO, who never



January 2, 1960

failed to lend cooperation morally and financially, and whose anti-racial discrimination position cannot be questioned.

There is truth in your statement:

"Officials of both the NAACP and the American Negro Labor Committee have complained bitterly about the AFL-CIO Civil Rights Committee's failure to 'deal effectively' with a Memorandum filed in 1958 by Mr. Hill which cited 'specific instances' of union Jim-Crow practices."

But it must be remembered that these complaints about discrimination in unions have been made by the delegates of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters on the floor of the AFL Convention for well-nigh a generation. Resolutions against racial discrimination were adopted, but they were, on the whole, a meaningless gesture.

But even if Jewish labor leaders were not active in opposition to racial bias, Negro labor leaders would be indulging in suicidal folly to foster or countenance the dangerous and poisonous doctrine and propaganda of anti-Semitism, the infamous altar upon which Hitler sentenced six million Jews to torture and death.

If I know the Negro trade unionist well, they will never dishonor their name and calling by playing the ignoble role of lending their energy and influence to a suggestion or promotion of any form of anti-Semitism.

I note the statement in the fourth paragraph of the article:

"Already concerned are Roy Wilkins, NAACP executive secretary, and A. Philip Randolph, AFL-CIO international vice-president, and one of the founders of the American Negro Labor Committee."

I think I can definitely say that the chief concern of Roy Wilkins, able executive secretary of the NAACP and myself is that the AFL-CIO get on with the business of cleaning out the house of labor of all forms of racism not only in the interest of Negro workers but for the strength and integrity of trade union democracy.

The article pointed out:

"Another charge leveled at Jewish leaders asserts that some of them have adopted a 'paternalistic and missionary' attitude towards Negroes. These 'missionaries' have, in turn, accused Negroes of being Negroes first and trade unionists second, which is not denied by Negro leadership."

My comment on this observation is that I have not recognized any such attitude among Jewish labor leaders. While I need hold no brief for Jewish labor leaders who have a long, distinguished history in the American labor movement beginning with Samuel Gompers, an English Jew, who was the first president of the AFL, certainly the characteristic paternalism towards Negroes is not peculiar to Jews.

Without a doubt, there is labor paternalism toward Negro workers in some circles of petty trade union leaders. While this is a manifestation of weakness of organized labor, it is primarily a sickness of our American culture. I am inclined to think that this paternalistic attitude towards Negroes is more general in non-trade union circles such as the press, church, business, government, sports, education and the stage.



Now, while it is a fact of common knowledge that some progress has been made in the fight against discrimination and segregation in the AFL-CIO, it is not enough and the pace of progress is entirely too slow. In this atomic age, racial discrimination is a socio-economic anachronism. It must be eliminated; not tomorrow, but today.

Negro trade unionists also know that success in the fight for civil rights in the labor movement, in the Congress, in state legislatures and city bodies largely depends upon maintaining unity between the AFL-CIO and independent unions representing some 16 million or more workers, and the NAACP and other movements that fight for civil rights.

Because of the reality of the indivisibility of liberty, I am convinced and confident that the powerful American labor movement can be brought around to understand that civil rights are tied up with labor's rights and that the enemies of organized labor are the enemies of the Negro, and that labor has no logical alternative than to join its forces with the forces of the Negro in the fight for racial equality, social justice and human dignity. White labor can never know freedom so long as black labor is in bondage. It is for this purpose that the Negro American Labor Council is being developed.

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January 5, 1961

Mr. C. L. Dellums  
Clark Hotel  
S. Central Avenue & Washington  
Los Angeles, California

Dear C. L.:

Enclosed is a rough draft of the minutes of the last  
Policy Committee meeting.

Would you please make any additions or corrections  
necessary and return minutes to this office at your  
earliest opportunity in order that we may put them in  
final form.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tarea Hall Pittman  
Acting Regional Secretary

thp/db

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October 11, 1965

Pending  
Dellums  
ASHLEY L. TOTTEN  
International Secretary-Treasurer

C. L. DELLUMS  
3rd International Vice-President  
1716 Seventh Street  
Oakland 20, California

T. D. McNEAL  
4th International Vice-President  
2906a North Union Boulevard  
St. Louis 15, Missouri

B. F. McLAURIN  
Eastern Zone Supervisor

FERC  
Case

0350 OCT 12 1965

Mr. Leonard H. Carter, Regional Director  
N. A. A. C. P.  
948 - Market Street  
San Francisco, California 94102

Dear Mr. Carter:

I have discussed the complaint filed by Mr. Miller Morris, Sacramento, with the consultant who is handling the investigation, and I have been assured that they will make every effort to dig out all the facts concerning this matter, and further, will do everything possible for him. They promise to keep me informed, and I in turn will keep you informed.

Sincerely yours,

*C. L. Dellums*  
C. L. Dellums

CLD:cs

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NEW

reduced

09 11 00 11 10 1965

September 30, 1965

Mr. C. L. Dellums, Commissioner  
Fair Employment Practice Commission  
455 Golden Gate Avenue  
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Dellums:

On September 27, 1965, a Mr. Miller Norris, of 3456 9th Avenue, Sacramento, California, filed a complaint in my office against the California Highway Patrol Academy.

Mr. Norris was hired as a Food Service Assistant by the California Highway Patrol Academy on August 16, 1965. On September 24, 1965, he was informed by the Food Service Supervisor that he was to be terminated immediately because of a report concerning him that they had received from the Atascadero State Hospital. Mr. Norris worked as a Security Officer at the Atascadero State Hospital from March, 1961 to November, 1964. Mr. Norris contends that though he had a satisfactory record; he continuously had problems with Lieutenant L. W. Resesner, Chief, Security Department. Mr. Norris contends that he was subjected to discrimination and that the Chief of the Security Department was prejudice against him because of his race.

Out of a Security Force of forty-eight, there was only one other Negro. He also stated that he was terminated from his position at the California Highway Patrol Academy because of statements made against him in a report by Lieutenant Resesner. Mr. Norris is a Negro.

I sent Mr. Norris to the Fair Employment Practices Commission Office where he filed a complaint on September 27, 1965. I am extremely anxious and concerned that this complaint be processed at the earliest possible date; because, he is a family man with four children and presently unemployed. Because Mr. Norris was a state employee; I have a special interest in this case because it appears he is being barred from further state employment as a result of actions on the part of Chief of the Security Department, at Atascadero State Hospital. As



Mr. C. L. Dellums

-2-

September 30, 1965

a member of the State Commission; I am hopeful that you will be able to insure a prompt investigation and settlement of this complaint.

I would appreciate hearing from you on this matter at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely yours,

Leonard H. Carter  
Regional Director

LHC:bw

cc: Mr. Miller Norris



9/17/65  
Complaint of EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION  
UNDER CALIFORNIA FAIR EMPLOYMENT PRACTICE ACT

File: FEP

TO: FAIR EMPLOYMENT PRACTICE COMMISSION, State of California

COMPLAINANT'S NAME Mr. Miller Morris

STREET ADDRESS 3456 - 9th Avenue

APT. OR ROOM NO.

CITY AND ZONE Sacramento, California

COUNTY Sacramento

PHONE 455-3354

I WISH TO COMPLAIN AGAINST California Highway Patrol Academy

STREET ADDRESS 1100 Meadow View Road

CITY AND ZONE Sacramento

COUNTY Sacramento

PHONE 425-2801


AND (OTHER PARTIES, IF ANY) Lt. L. W. Rescener, Chief, Security Department  
Atascadero State Hospital

Describe incident or reasons on which you base your complaint that discrimination was practiced because of your ☒ race or color;  
☐ religious creed; ☐ national origin; ☐ ancestry. Include date and place of alleged discrimination.

1. I was hired as a Food Service Assistant by the California Highway Patrol Academy on August 16, 1965.
2. On September 24, 1965, I was informed by the Food Service Supervisor that I was to be terminated immediately because of a report concerning me that they had received from Atascadero State Hospital.
3. I had been employed as a Security Officer at Atascadero State Hospital from March, 1961 to November, 1964.
4. Though I generally had a satisfactory record I continuously had problems with Lieutenant Rescener, Chief of Security.
5. I was told that Lieutenant Rescener did not want to hire me in the first place because I was a Negro and there were a number of other incidents which led me to believe that he was prejudiced against me because of my race.
6. Out of a security force of 45 there was only one other Negro.
7. I believe that I was terminated from my position at the California Highway Patrol Academy because of statements made against me by Lieutenant Rescener. I further believe that these statements were made against me because of my race.
8. I am a Negro.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct of my own knowledge except as to matters stated on my information and belief, and as to those matters I believe it to be true.

Dated \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_

INTERVIEWED BY	
COMMISSIONER	
CONSULTANT	

X

(COMPLAINANT'S SIGNATURE)





L. A. DOWNTOWN

TRAVELODGE

Leovan contact?  
(W.A.M.C.P.)

0925 MAR 24 '80

Dear Len,

I would like for you to answer the enclosed and sign it with both our names. Then send the letter and a copy of yours, or rather our answer to me.

If you think it advisable to meet with Mrs. Curran I will set up for both of us to meet with him.

yours,  
C.L.

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show?





KGO RADIO

0852 MAR 17 1966  
0036 MAR 13 1966

March 15, 1966

Mr. C. L. Dellums  
Regional Chairman NAACP  
948 Market Street, Suite 703  
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Dellums:

As fellow citizens of the Bay Area, we have our own ideas at KGO of what to broadcast to the people of this area -- now we want yours.

We appreciate your contribution in this community. Your thoughts on the way radio, and KGO in particular, can function in serving the people of the Bay Area, are important to us.

From our three-and-a-half hour news program "Newsbeat Morning Edition" (with our helicopter reports, weather, sports, etc.), our editorials, our telephone conversation programs and our three-hour evening news program "Newsbeat Evening Edition," KGO programs the type of radio that faces the real needs of our listeners, as well as entertains them. Our programming and every subject dealt with, represents decisions reached by our management after consulting with persons such as yourself -- the leaders of our community.

Your opinions are vital. We want to know them and evaluate them. Usually we can translate them into useful and meaningful content on KGO that will benefit the radio listening audience. I welcome the opportunity to meet with you and correspond with you in these areas.

Very truly yours,

Don B. Curran  
Vice President and  
General Manager

DBC: ac

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March 31, 1966

Mr. C. L. Dellums, Chairman  
West Coast Region, NAACP  
~~1716 7th Street~~  
Oakland, California

Dear Mr. Dellums:

The Northern Area Conference of the NAACP is holding a  
special strategy meeting on Saturday, April 2, 1966  
during the hours 9:30-12:00 noon. The meeting will be  
at Jones Methodist Church, 1975 Post Street, San  
Francisco, California.

The purpose of the meeting is to focus attention on  
BART, FEPC, the primary election and community economic  
opportunity programs.

The thought occurred to me that this is likely an ideal  
meeting for you to attend with respect to the discussion  
on BART.

At present it is unlikely that I will be able to attend,  
but; my plans may change making possible my presence.

Let me know if you do plan to attend.

Sincerely yours,

Leonard H. Carter  
Regional Director

LHC:bw

cc: Reverend Booker T. Anderson



NORTHERN AREA CONFERENCE MALCP  
3911 California Blvd.  
Richmond, Calif.

0947 MAR 28 '66

SUBJECT:  
POST CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE STRATEGY MEETING

TIME: 9:30 - 12 Noon April 2, 1966

PLACE: Jones Methodist Church  
1975 Post Street  
San Francisco, California

Attention All Presidents:

A special strategy meeting is called for Saturday, April 2,  
1966 -- 9:30 A.M. - 12 Noon.

The purpose of the meeting is to focus our attention on  
B.A.R.T., F.E.P.C., the Primary election and community  
Economic Opportunity programs.

Each president is urged to inform his Labor and Industry  
chairman, Political Action chairman, Youth president and  
Community Co-ordination chairman.

We will start promptly at 9:30 A.M., and will conclude at  
12:00 noon.

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B. T. Anderson, Jr.  
MALCP Area Conference  
President