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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
DIVISION OF RECORDS

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BY ORDER OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

ARCHIVES

See also Nos.

158260
SECTION 51
4-18-41 --8-1-41

WB:FGF:mbm

158260

August 30, 1941

J. Finley Wilson, International President,
Ethiopian World Federation Inc.,
1 West 125th Street,
New York, New York.

Dear Mr. Wilson:

This will acknowledge receipt, by reference from the President, of your letter of August 1, 1941, in which you call attention to certain conditions of racial discrimination in the United States. The contents of your letter have been carefully noted. As you point out, the President, by Executive Order, No. 8802, June 25, 1941, has condemned racial discriminations with regard to employment in national defense industries and has established a Committee on Fair Employment Practice in the Office of Production Management.

You are further advised that such discriminations as may constitute a violation of some federal criminal statute should be reported to the Civil Rights Section of the Criminal Division of this Department, where such complaints are receiving consideration daily.

Many of the matters you refer to may require legislative action and it is suggested that you may wish to call those matters to the attention of your representatives in the Congress of the United States.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General,

WENDELL BERGE,
Assistant Attorney General.

7.G.7.

SIGNED AND MAILED
AUG 29 1941
DIVISION OF RECORDS

Hon. J. FINLEY WILSON, President, LUCIUS L. DELANY, Exec. Secretary, Hon. W. C. HUESTON, Treasurer

UNITY STRENGTH

ETHIOPIAN WORLD FEDERATION INCORPORATED

Dedicated to the Freedom and Independence of Ethiopia. and the Cause of Right, Justice and Full Opportunity for Black Peoples Everywhere

(THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL IS THE GOVERNING BODY)

NATIONAL HEADQUATERS
I WEST 125TH STREET
NEW YORK, N. Y., U. S. A.

Phone: LEhigh 4-5658

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AUG 28 1941
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LIJ ANDARGUE MASSAI

Advisor on Ethiopian Affairs
LIJ ARAYA ABEBE

158260
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
AUG 27 1941 P.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
CRIM. DIV. - ROTNEM

RESPECTFULLY REFERRED
FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSIDERATION
Secretary to the President

August 1, 1941

TO HIS EXCELLENCY,
MR. PRESIDENT
Washington, D. C.

We, the officers and delegates of the Ethiopian World Federation, Incorporated, in our regular Annual Session assembled, speaking for the members thereof and those of our race who similarly think, respectfully represent that we believe that the expressions hereinafter set forth are the opinions of black people everywhere.

We pledge to the President, his Cabinet, the Congress and all those vested with authority, our unqualified support of the Defense Program now being developed, and to this pledge there is no limitation. We believe that it is the highest duty of the American people to support the President of the United States in the preparation, and if need be the defense, of this country and its way of life. And if it appears that offense is our best defense, we pledge our unqualified support whatever the exigences may be.

The members of this organization are members of the Black Race and take great pride in it. We are Americans. Of this we are also proud. We, therefore, feel that every right, privilege and immunity possessed by any other citizen of this country is justly ours and for it and them we contend. In pursuit of the fulfillment of this objective, we desire to call again to the attention of the President of these United States, the already well-discussed and known fact that members of the race to which we belong are being excluded from full participation in the Defense Program because we are black. We recognize that you, the President, have taken steps to adjust this matter and have appointed a Commission to make them effective. We urge that such additional instruments be created as will give this Commission power to remedy the conditions they find oppressive, both in fact and spirit.

FILED
BY JW
SEP 2 1941

Hon. J. FINLEY WILSON, President, LUCIUS L. DELANY, Exec. Secretary, Hon. W. C. HUESTON, Treasurer

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ETHIOPIAN WORLD FEDERATION INCORPORATED

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ATO LORENZ TEAZAZ
LIJ ANDARGUE MASSAI

Advisor on Ethiopian Affairs
LIJ ARAYA ABEBE

In this connection, in addition to the injury we suffer because of discrimination by employers, we desire to call to your attention that in matters of industry the government of the United States, as a matter of law, has placed the question of employment largely in the hands of organized labor known as unions. We desire to present that there are many of these organizations, which have in their constitution and By-laws, restrictions as to membership based on color, and that many actually provide, and others by indirection, that no member of the black race shall be a member thereof. Thus as it is now set up, we, as a race, are excluded, if not as a matter of law, at least with the sanction of our government, from employment in many of the skilled and unskilled trades. Moveover, it is now appearing that even in some of the unions where many of our race were covered, when an industry became organized by our labor unions, that the waiting lists, and apprenticeship rolls have been and are being so manipulated, that members of our race are being excluded from industries where they were formerly employed; so that in many of these industries all black people have been removed or displaced from key positions and in many instances from employment therein altogether.

We respectfully request, that the Congress, with the approval of the President enact Laws, as amendments to our National Labor Law, (a), which will declare that unions, which have constitutional barriers against black people, shall not be recognized as unions within the meaning of the National Labor Relations Law, and (b), which will provide a tribunal with power to remedy, to which members of this and other races may appeal when it appears that reasonable cause exists to believe that workers are being removed or excluded from employment, membership in unions or a place on apprenticeship rolls because of Race, Creed or Color.

We further represent, that in order to set up and carry out a proper defense program, that all of the peoples of these United States should be free, that each and all should be in full possession of all human, social and political rights. This is necessary in order to have one public mind supporting the efforts of the government to prepare.

Hon. J. FINLEY WILSON, President, LUCIUS L. DELANY, Exec. Secretary, Hon. W. C. HUESTON, Treasurer

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ETHIOPIAN WORLD FEDERATION INCORPORATED

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ATO LORENZ TEAZAZ
LIJ ANDARGUE MASSAI

Advisor on Ethiopian Affairs
LIJ ARAYA ABEBE

To this end, we urge that you issue immediately an Executive Order, forbidding discrimination against black people in all branches of the federal government and of the armed forces and auxilliary organizations of this country; and instructing the heads of the War and Navy Departments to remedy existing conditions as speedily as possible.

You, as the President, and the Congress of the United States offer as the reason for our aid to the Allies, that freedom must be preserved for all peoples, if the world is to survive. With this we agree. We, therefore, respectfully represent that consistency calls for the freedom of all peoples in this country. We, therefore, request that all public Laws and private inhibitions, which deny to members of our race the freedom accorded others be removed and that you use your great emergency powers to bring this about.

We respectfully represent, that the members of our race are being largely discriminated against in this country because of our color; we do not in any sense wish to appear either disrespectful or on the otherhand disgruntled, but we do wish to say to you, Mr. President, and to the majority in these United States that we are not satisfied with our treatment and condition.

We submit as a brief bill of particulars: we are tired of being deliberately excluded from the credit world and thus denied an economic life; we are weary of having so little a part in the industrial set up because of discrimination by employers and because of being excluded from many important labor unions; we protest vigorously against our disfranchisement in the "southern states"; we have been insulted too long by being shunted into "Jim Crow" cars, because of color, it being inferred thereby that we are unclean; we cry out against our civil inhibitions both public and private. The public inhibitions, those sanctioned by law, are cruel; those which are private, are to us, deadly. We protest against a public school enterprise, which prevents more than 65% of the black school children getting beyond the 4th grade; for ignorance is the curse of the Earth. We say, a system which provides

Hon. J. FINLEY WILSON, President, LUCIUS L. DELANY, Exec. Secretary, Hon. W. C. HUESTON, Treasurer

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Advisor on Ethiopian Affairs
LIJ ARAYA ABEBE

about $12 per annum, per pupil for a black child and about $50 for a white child is unfair, unjust and enslaving. We have been distressed by the increasing reports of brutality against and harsh treatment of black men now enrolled in the armed forces of this country; we cry out against the lynching of our people in the South.

We, therefore, respectfully request that as a matter of justice, as well as being an essential element in building an adequate defense program, that you set in motion an effort to correct the above mentioned and other discriminations inflicted on us because of our color.

We urge Mr. President, that the dignity of the world, and we believe the purposes of God require that somewhere, there shall be established a free, untrammeled government inhabited and governed by members of our race. It appears to have been the plan of God that this shall be true. We, therefore, respectfully urge that the government of the United States commit itself to this policy; that it make public announcement of the same. In this connection, we call to the attention of the President and our government the magnificent struggle of the Ethiopian Government to win freedom for itself and others, and is therefore within the rule of the announced policy of the President, under our Lease Lend Bill, to aid out of the treasury of the United States all governments so endeavoring. We respectfully request that our government under proper direction, aid the Ethiopian Government in every possible way to recover its independence, and that this aid go the full course as already adopted by our country in aid of governments so contending.

We urge that you use your good offices to effect speedy aid through the American Red Cross to the suffering people of Ethiopia.

We present with pride the efforts of the gallant Emperor Haille Selassie, I, and his subjects and those who have and are assisting him in this recovery.

Hon. J. FINLEY WILSON, President, LUCIUS L. DELANY, Exec. Secretary, Hon. W. C. HUESTON, Treasurer

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Uganda:
PRINCE AKIKI NYABONGO

ATO LORENZ TEAZAZ
LIJ ANDARGUE MASSAI

Advisor on Ethiopian Affairs
LIJ ARAYA ABEBE

5.

We urge immediate positive action on the matters hereinabove set forth in the interest of Justice and Freedom.

Respectfully submitted,

ETHIOPIAN WORLD FEDERATION, INC.

By J. Finley Wilson

L. L. Delany

W. C. Hueston

Wilford E. Lewin

M. Moran Weston

THIS FILE HAS BEEN REQUESTED BY

NAME	DIVISION	DATE
~~[illegible]~~	~~[illegible]~~	~~[illegible]~~
~~Martin~~	~~Crim~~	~~10-14-75~~
Manley	5524 Main CRS	7-9-76

CHECK YOUR NAME OFF BEFORE RETURNING
TO D. C. R. FOR FILING

WB:FGF:ekh

158260

August 27, 1941.

Mr. Bernard Scott,
2102 Charles Street,
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Dear Sir:

This will acknowledge receipt, by reference from the President, of your letter of July 31, 1941, in which you protest against racial discrimination in connection with your efforts to secure employment.

It does not clearly appear whether the position which you sought had any connection with any national defense contract. However, you are advised that on June 25, 1941, the President in Executive Order No. 8802 condemned the practice of racial discrimination on national defense projects and established a Committee on Fair Employment Practices in the Office of Production Management to handle complaints with regard to such discrimination.

The Department regrets that it cannot be of service to you but you may deem it advisable to communicate with the Committee on Fair Employment Practices, Office of Production Management, Washington, D. C.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General,

1.9.7.

WENDELL BERGE,
Assistant Attorney General.

FILED
BY JW
On AUG 28 1941

SIGNED AND MAILED
AUG 27 1941
DIVISION OF RECORDS

R

Justice

CRIMINAL DIVISION
AUG 8 1941
RECEIVED

RESPECTFULLY REFERRED
FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSIDERATION
M H McIntyre
Secretary to the President

2102 Charles St.
N.S. Pittsburgh, Pa.
July 31, 1941

To the Chief Executive Of the U.S.

Dear Mr. President:

I am an American and as an American I write this letter hoping that you in your integrity as Chief Executive will give said letter due attention as an American.

Mr. President, I need not state the attitude taken by certain prejudiced groups toward the Negro. You are well informed on the subject and I pray God that you, a man entrusted with the welfare of so many Americans, will be impartial in every Presidential Proclamation.

Mr. President, practices of gross discrimination are yet flourishing in our beloved country, in spite of the noble efforts that you and your colleagues have expended, endeavoring to eliminate this frightful ogre from our democratic way of life.

Mr. President, it is with deep regrets that we as Black Americans view this appalling condition in our so called Free Country and we are wondering every day whether this form of government will long endure or will America's doctrine of discrimination of Black Americans prove detrimental to our national security.

FILED
BY JW
On AUG 28 1941

FS
RECORD

158260
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
AUG 7 1941 P.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
CRIM. DIV. - ROTNEM

Mr. President I'm deeply moved when I meditate on the condition of millions of Black Americans like myself who serve their country in war as well as in peace and receive for their valiant service -- unwarranted persecution and satanic discrimination in every field.

Mr. President, it is in your power as chief executive to aid black Americans in their fight for self preservation in the progressive culture of this Democracy; and pray God Mr. President, that black Americans might live in this country as other free men and pursue his Democratic way of life so dear to all free people.

We know, Mr. President, that Rome was not erected in one day; neither can your inexhaustible efforts bear fullest fruit immediately but we urge you and your loyal co-workers to greater efforts and nobler sacrifices that a purer and brighter conception and application of Democracy might emerge from the present chaotic world conditions.

P.S. It has been pointed out that National Unity is the watchword of our defense.

I would like to point out a flagrant disregard of national unity.

I attempted to get employment on June 28, 1941 at the Pgh. Freight Terminal on 11 th St. in Pittsburgh, Pa. and was promptly evicted from the premises and told that colored Americans were not wanted.

This condition should be remedied and I beg as an American and in the name of Jehovah that you inform this terminal that such practices will not be tolerated in America.

Yours truly,

Bernard Scott

WB:FGF:ekh

158260

August 27, 1941.

Mrs. Katherine Hamilton,
8021 Alaska Avenue,
St. Louis, Missouri.

Dear Madam:

This will acknowledge receipt, by reference from the President, of your letter of July 31, 1941, in which you state that your husband and your brother have been arrested on some charge and you allege that they were forced to confess.

Your letter does not sufficiently disclose a violation of any Federal criminal statute. Unless facts showing such a violation appear the jurisdiction of this Department cannot be invoked.

If you feel that you know other facts and circumstances in this matter which do indicate that the police officers have violated a Federal law, it is suggested that you communicate those facts to United States Attorney Harry C. Blanton, St. Louis, Missouri. You may be assured that he will give this matter careful consideration.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General,

SIGNED AND MAILED
AUG 27 1941
DIVISION OF RECORDS

7.8.7.

WENDELL BERGE,
Assistant Attorney General.

R

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AUG 28 1941

NOTICE

PLEASE DO NOT
REMOVE THIS SLIP
FROM THE ATTACHED
CORRESPONDENCE
SINCE IT IS A
PERMANENT PART
OF THE RECORD.

DIVISION OF RECORDS

CRIMINAL DIVISION
AUG 7 1941
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158260

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
AUG 6 1941 P.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
CRIM. DIV. ROTNEM

Justice

St. Louis, Mo.
8021 Alaska Ave
July 31, 1941

Dear President:

I am writing to you asking for help. I am a colored woman age 24 with three small children. The baby is 6 months old, the next is 1 yr and nine months, the next is 2 yrs and eight months, my husband was picked up along with my brother and charged with a charge that never was committed by them, they were beat into a confession, God knows they are innocent. I am asking you for help since there is no income is coming in in my way. I live with my father and mother, he is 62 and is cripple she is 58 the little means that they have is not enough support for all of us. I have gone to bed amany of nights hungry so that my children can have enough. I am not able to take them to a doctor so I take them to a free clinic. The smallest baby was ordered to have Pet milk, and honey in a formula. The other two are ordered to have irradiated Homagenized milk which cost

more than I can pay. I have bad health and unable to work. I went to the relief place and was turned down flat. Because of my colos seemed as though they thought I wasn't telling the truth. Hoping in advance that you will help me. I really need help, so I am praying that you will help.

Yours truly
Mrs. Katherine Hamilton
8021 Alaska Ave

P.S. My husband had a job working for Scullin after he was picked up I don't know whether he will have any if he gets out. It is possible that you could see that they get out of it. I am telling the truth when I say they are innocent. This is killing my poor mother and father. They are in Clayton, picked up in Maplewood where a Negro is treated dirty without a fair trial.

Please help us both.

DAILY REPORT OF HISTORY-FILING SECTION DATE:

NUMBERS	CLERKS	Cards Filed	LETTERS Checked	LETTERS Left Over	LETTERS Filed	LETTERS Left Over	FILES Filed	FILES Left Over

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NAME	DIVISION	DATE	CHECK
ALIEN ENEMY UNIT		[illegible] 1944	
Sterns WBB	Comm	2-5-44	✓

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TO D. C. R. FOR FILING

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NAME	DIVISION	DATE	CHECK
ALIEN ENEMY UNIT		FEB 4 1944	

CHECK YOUR NAME OFF BEFORE RETURNING
TO D. C. R. FOR FILING

WB:FGF:we

158260

August 27, 1941

Mr. Frank W. Reed
500 East First Street
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Dear Mr. Reed:

This will acknowledge receipt, by reference from the President, of your letter and enclosures of July 30, 1941. You request to be considered as an applicant for a position apparently with the committee on fair employment practices of the Office of Production Management.

Your communications have been carefully noted and it is suggested that you make your application directly to the committee on fair employment practices of the Office of Production Management, setting forth your qualifications. Such procedure will insure proper consideration of your application. Your enclosures are returned herewith.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General

7.97.

VR

WENDELL BERGE
Assistant Attorney General

Enc. No. 240321

FILED
EX. JW.
On AUG 28 1941

SIGNED AND MAILED
AUG 27 1941
DIVISION OF RECORDS

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 6, 1941

Respectfully referred to the Department of Justice for consideration and return of the enclosures to Mr. Reed.

M. H. McINTYRE
Secretary to the President

CRIMINAL DIVISION
AUG 8 1941
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AUG 23 1941

158760
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
AUG 8 1941 P.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
CRIM. DIV. - ROTNEM

Justice

CRIMINAL DIVISION
AUG 8 1941
RECEIVED

7-30-1941.

Hon Franklin. Delano. Roosevelt
"Miss Marguerite Lehand." "Private Sec."
Your Excellency." President of the U.S. of America.
"Dear Sir." I have, a application on file, some where, in washington D.C. for one of the Investigator. Amongst the Colored. But To date, I have not heard Any thing. Concerning it. Hence I am writing you, in care of Miss Marguerite Lehand. your private. Secretary. of Course I am aware of the Responsibility you have on hand. During this trying Time. So that is the Reason, I am writing this Letter. in Regards. To, doing my part. Especially amongst the Colored. My Race. I know. as well as you that you can Depend. upon them 100% per ct. in any Crisis. when this America of ours. is in need. Another Reason. I am. writing you again through. Miss Lehand. I know. the Matter will be called. To your Attention. so that you can Draw your own Conclusion. in the

FILED
DIV. AUG 28 1941

Matter. that I Mention
1.st I have made application, To the Labor
Dept. for Membership on the Labor Board, Con-
Ciliation. To Look out after the Interest of
the Colored American. But I Rec.d a Letter from
the Secretary. That they were not any Vacancy
on the Board. That was in 1932. As you know
that our Greatest Trouble now, is Labor. I
want To Congratulate you now, upon what
I see through the Papers. the Selection of
your Administration. of Appointing Two Colored
on the Board. Against Discrimination. among
the Colored. in Defence. projects. May I Sugge
st. That one Come From west of the Mississippi
River. it makes. no difference to me, who
he is. Some one, that can actually Represent
& Talk of the Colored Labor, with Famers To
all. Concerned. now since calling Your-
Attention. To what I think Should be Done,
in behalf, of the Colored Labor, in all walks
of life. I Leave it To your wisdom. &
wise Judgement. now, As To my Democracy.
in the Indian Territory, now the State of Oklahoma,

you are at Liberty, To enquire, of any Member of the Oklahoma Delegation in Washington D.C. As To my Record, From 1888. To 1940. (Committ)

Hon. Elmer Thomas, U.S. Senator, Oklahoma.
" Josh. Lee. U.S. Senator "
Hon. Robt. L. Owen, Ex. U.S. Senator "
" T. P. Gore, Ex. U.S. Senator. "
Hon. Wesley E. Disney, M.C. 1st Dist. Okla
" Jack Nichols. M.C. 2nd Dist "
" Wilburn Cartwright. M.C. 3rd Dist "
" Mike Monroney. M.C. 5th Dist "
" Lyle Boren. M.C. 4th Dist. "
" Jed Johnson. M.C. 6th Dist. "
" Victor Wickersham. M.C. 7th Dist. "
" Will Rogers. M.C. at Large. "

As To my Record As a Elected Democrat from 1896. To 1940. Of Course some of them were not Born in 1896. But they Know of my Record since then in the party.

As To the Position, I have held, in the Indian Territory, & now State of Oklahoma, I Respectfully Refere you To, Ex U.S. Dist Attr. W.C. Lewis, Okla. City, Okla. Hon. John Brett, Asst. U.S. Dist Attr —

Oklahoma City Oklahoma. Ex. U.S. Dist Attys
R.P. Rampendahl. Muskogee Oklahoma. Ex. U.S.
Deputy Marshall. Ernest. H. Hubbard. Muskogee,
Okla Homa. Judge Criminal Court of Appeals. Hon
Thos. H. Doyle. Hon. Joe. S. Norris. Post Master of
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. As To my Length of
Service at the State Capitol Bldg. Since 8th Day
of January, 1915. To the 15th Day of July 1939. Hon
Governor. Jack. Walton. Gov. M.E. Trapp. Gov. W.S.
Holloway. All of Oklahoma City Oklahoma.
Gov. Henry. S. Johnston. Perry Oklahoma. I have
worked under the Following 8 Governors. Hon. C.N. -
Haskell. 1st Governor from. Muskogee Oklahoma.
Hon. Lee Cruce, 2d Governor. Ardmore Oklahoma,
Hon. R.L. Williams 3d Governor & ex chief justice of
the Supreme Court of Oklahoma. Durant Oklahoma
Hon. J.B.A. Robertson. 4th Governor Okla city Okla.
6 Months under The present Governor. Hon. C. Philips.
Oklahoma Oklahoma. Hon. Governor. Wm. H. Murray,
Tishimgo Oklahoma. Hon. Governor E.W. Marland.
Ponca City, Okla. So I have seen Service under
ever Governor. Since State Hood. Nov. 16- 1907.

As To my Experience at National Democrat Conventions. Appointed ASST Sergt at Arms. 1896. by National Committeeman Elect, Judge Thos A. Marcum. Also To 1900- nat Convention. 1904. Appointed 1908. by Hon. C.N. Haskell. Also 1912. 1916. Appointed 1920. by National Democrat Committeeman. Tom. L. Wade. Appt. 1924- 28- 32- 36. by Hon. Scott Ferris & Mrs D.A. McDougall 1940. by. Recommendation of Hon. Wilburn. Cartwright. M.C. (Oklahoma) And, Hon. Secretary of the National Democrat Committee Lawrence. W. Robert. Jr. Wash. D.C. I Guess you will Remember me at San Francisco. 1920- when Hon Joe- T. Robinson, U.S. Senate. Ex. Gov Al Smith. Made the Stampede. For you. & Ex Gov Cox. Also you Should Remember the N.Y. City Convention, when the Last Sunday Morning you. Call. on Chr. Cordell Hull before the Nomination. at Waldorf Astoria, Do Remember. a Colored Man, Standing at the Elevator Door. when you Stepped, on Two Occasions. I was the Man, delegated To Keep Eyes on you. From the Time you Came. until you left the Hotel.

I was Hon J.J. Hughes personal Asst. Sergt at Arms "Aid" at Both national Conventions. San Francisco. 1920. N.Y. City 1924. have Received some splendid Recommendation from Hon John W. Davis. also Ex Gov. Jim M. Cox, To the National Democrat Committee. If they or Every a Time you can use a good Colored Man. Down this Way, To Look after the Colored Sabagoes. Let me know. I am at your Service. Any Time

Yours. For Success. & the Lord be with you. Yours Very Sincerely

Frank. W. Reed

500-E-1-St Okla. City. Okla.

P.S. Asst Sergt at. National Democrat Conventions San Francisco Cal. 1920

N.Y. City 1924. Chicago Ill 1896. Baltimore Maryland. Houston Texas. by Appointment. Denver Colorado, by Gov. Haskell. Chicago Ill. 1940. by Laurence W. Roberts. Nat-Democrat Secretary. and a great Many other Democrat. Committeeman & Committee women.

Thanks To Return the Enclosures. when you have. made a note of them (Please.) For my Children To See. over

"Knock. & The Door Shall be open."
"Seek And you Shall Find."
"Ask And it Shall be given."
"The scripture"

150260

September 15, 1941

Mr. Theodore Quarmeley
Leland Powers School, Incorporated
31 Evans Way
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Sir:

We have your letter of July 29, 1941, addressed to the President and by him referred to this Department.

Your comments have been noted, and the interest which prompted your communication is appreciated.

Very truly yours,

T. D. Quinn
Administrative Assistant
to the Attorney General

kaf:fs

SIGNED AND MAILED
SEP 16 1941
DIVISION OF RECORDS

Justice

(3)

LELAND POWERS SCHOOL
INCORPORATED
OF THE THEATRE
31 EVANS WAY
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

15260

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
SEP 14 1941 P.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
Correspondence Section

ECR

RECORD

ack
9-13-41
KAT

7/29/41. 102 Camden St.
Boston Mass.

Dear Mr. President,
This is a letter to you in the name of Justis to all & in the benefit of National Defence. first of all I want to make my self clear I am a Negro. & registered in the armed force of the United state of America & born in the united State also.

SEP - 1941

LELAND POWERS SCHOOL
INCORPORATED
OF THE THEATRE
31 EVANS WAY
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

I was born in Virginia
I have had quite a few
Constructive ideas but was
afraid to present any of them
but after careful constration
in behalf of my Country
the only chance that I have
is to present this one to you
Mr. President. & Please give
it a careful Consideration
here the idea first this
idea will helps the Colored
People of the U.S.A.
(Yours)

(3)

LELAND POWERS SCHOOL
INCORPORATED
OF THE THEATRE
31 EVANS WAY
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

& it will help National Defence
Thats what we are after &
Colored People has been
an important factor in
the line of an about to
describe Namely sports!
& My sugestions is Base
Ball with the same
Prineleges all Over America
as White folks Now to
Make My Point Clear
say you Could Pave the
Way for Colored Orgnize

LELAND POWERS SCHOOL
INCORPORATED
OF THE THEATRE
31 EVANS WAY
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Base Ball sport the attendance would be 2/3rds more Gross receipts which would put more money in Circulation because I know that would be more for the Govement I would say with the Colored Population all over the Country the Yanks would half to enlarge quite a lot Well I know all of the leading ball players at least I do the managers & details on all

LELAND POWERS SCHOOL
INCORPORATED
OF THE THEATRE
31 EVANS WAY
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

I will scout around with your approval & get the best players. I know you will have to go through Legal procedings to accomplish this but you can do it & no for you have not lost a battle yet. I trust you Mr. president I have & always will regard be a 100 P.C. with you I believe you are the greatest man that ever lived on this earth

LELAND POWERS SCHOOL
INCORPORATED
OF THE THEATRE
31 EVANS WAY
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

& with your trusting help
together we will Organize
Colored base ~~ball~~ Ball
& believe you are just as
much a humanitarian as any
one else This idea is in
the name of the security
of American Freedom &
Tradition & too for the benefit
of the Colored Generation to
Come & please dont forget
to appoint me to work
this Act among the
Colored people

LELAND POWERS SCHOOL
INCORPORATED
OF THE THEATRE
31 EVANS WAY
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

The Negros are eager to Corporate Please bring this Out in Public I remain your Admirer & staunch friend for ever regardless in the Name of the President of the U.S.A.

Theodore Quarmiley
102 Camden St.
Boston Mass

Or in Care of the Leland Powers School
Theodore Quarmiley
Boston Mass

a/ Justice

CRIMINAL DIVISION
AUG 5 1941
RECEIVED

RESPECTFULLY REFERRED
FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSIDERATION

M H McIntyre
Secretary to the President

158260

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
AUG 4 1941 P.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
CRIM. DIV. - ROTNEM

FILED
BY L.V.M.
On AUG 27 1941

Higginsville Mo
Friday
Dear Mr President

Just a few lines are so wishing a little help from you in this german town so my people the colored people can get some thing to do hear. there are three mills a shoe factory a Bee hive factory and not a colored man at any of them. we dont have no kind of pleasure can't go to the show. there are a quiet afew of us trying to buy a

shack here to live in but how can we with out work and if we get behind in taxes they are ready to sell our places. now all we have to do is work in a coal mines and every body can't do that and not union either. and old one that aren't able for pension they are working ten to twelve hours on a farm for a dollar a day. now I live here and have to go to Kansas city before I can make a living. and we are

American citizens may have to go to the army at any time. Now we have mothers wives and children's now how can we provide for them we nothing to provide with. now there is a mill here the man told some of the colored boys that he would be working colored men but the Chamber of Commerce here didn't allow him to. now Mr. president I wish you would look into things here and

straighten this town out because the colored people here have got to have something to do. and I know that you can help us so please do so. I thank you.

yours truely

Carl Holmes

Higginsville Mo

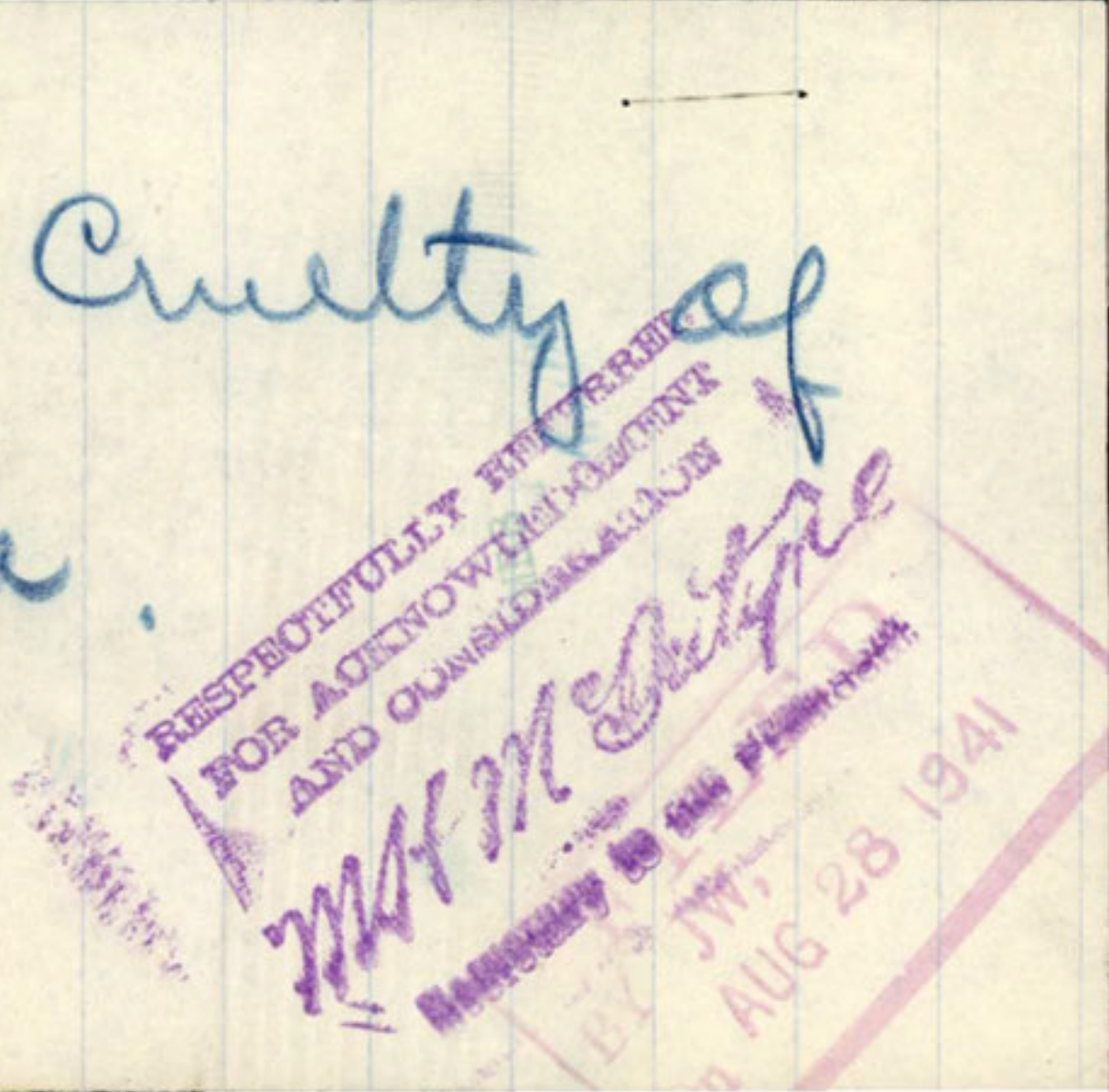
p.s. please help me to get a good job I am thirty seven years of age five foot eleven and a half can do any kind of common labor.

DAILY REPORT OF HISTORY-FILING SECTION DATE:

NUMBERS	CLERKS	Cards Filed	LETTERS Checked	LETTERS Left Over	LETTERS Filed	LETTERS Left Over	FILES Filed	FILES Left Over

Protest Cruelty of Police.

Amanda Peterson



To Justice

1

CRIMINAL DIVISION
AUG 5 1941
RECEIVED

St. Louis Mo.
July 28-1941.

158260
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
AUG 4 1941 P.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
CRIM. DIV. - ROTNEM

President - Roosevelt

The Great Honorable
head of this great united
States. I am a Colored
American citizen and
proud of it. We say
we are in the land of the
free and the home of the
brave. my problem is
this. Why do the police

in the city in which I
live beat and Kick Our
men and Throw them in
the patrol Wagon and
they are beat up so
bad some time they have
to take them to the hospital
for the very least little
things- just 2 days ago
my husband was the
victim of one such beating

he Works 5 days a week and on last Saturday he happen to be standing on the Corner and they picked him up and kicked him and beat him for Nothing just picked him up on suspect. Throwed him in jail would not even let me see him. Sunday after noon

I had to pay a bonds man $5.00 to get him Out. now he is at home laid up from his jot and unable to work under the care of a d. r. 2 stitches in head from a lick from the police Gun. now dear President- can eny thing be done to

prevent such Outrage attacks. We give Our husbands, Our Sons, Our brothers for the cause of protecting this great America, is there eny justice in those attacks on Our Citizens for nothing? Plase sir give this

your consideration I
beg of you. If a
person commit a crime
if the police are going to
take the law in their
hands just as well
burn up the law books.
please sir give this
your consideration

Amanda Peterson
1122. N. Leonard ave

WB:FGF:we

158260 FIR August 27, 1941

Harry C. Blanton, Esquire
United States Attorney
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Mr. Blanton:

The Department is in receipt of a letter from Mrs. Amanda Peterson, 1122 North Leonard Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri, a photostatic copy of which is enclosed, and is self explanatory.

Mrs. Peterson complains that her husband has been subjected to a severe beating by the St. Louis, Missouri police. She has been advised to contact your office and give you a detailed statement with respect to this matter.

It is requested that you consider Mrs. Peterson's complaint and advise the Department whether the facts warrant an investigation as a possible violation of Section 52, Title 18, United States Code. In this connection, you may wish to review the decision of the Supreme Court in Chambers v. Florida, 309 U. S. 227.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General

FILED
BY TW
On AUG 28 1941

WENDELL BERGE
Assistant Attorney General

7.27.

Enc. No. 240323

SIGNED AND MAILED
AUG 27 1941
DIVISION OF RECORDS

WB:FGF:we

158260 August 27, 1941

EJK

Mrs. Amanda Peterson
1122 North Leonard Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Mrs. Peterson:

This will acknowledge receipt, by reference from the President, of your letter of July 28, 1941, in which you state that your husband was arrested by the police of St. Louis and subjected to a beating.

Your letter does not advise the Department of sufficient facts to enable it to determine whether there may have been a violation of some Federal criminal statute. In the absence of facts showing such a violation, the Federal Government cannot intervene. It is suggested that you contact Harry C. Blanton, Esquire, United States Attorney, St. Louis, Missouri, and give him a detailed statement of the facts in this matter. You are assured that he will give your complaint careful consideration.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General

FILED
BY JWI
ON AUG 28 1941

WENDELL BERGE
Assistant Attorney General

7.G.7.
R

SIGNED AND MAILED
AUG 27 1941
DIVISION OF RECORDS

DAILY REPORT OF HISTORY-FILING SECTION DATE:

NUMBERS	CLERKS	Cards Filed	LETTERS Checked	LETTERS Left Over	LETTERS Filed	LETTERS Left Over	FILES Filed	FILES Left Over

Deacon Board
L. J. AVERY, CHAIRMAN
H. HOLLAND, SECRETARY
CELESTINE SHAMBREY,
BOOKKEEPER

Trustee Board
WM. BROOKS, CHAIRMAN
H. HOLLAND
P. ABRON

Finance Committee
T. H. THURMAN, CHAIRMAN
BESSIE BARRON,
SECRETARY

Pastor's Aid
MRS. M. WOODY, PRES.
MRS. P. TAYLOR,
GEN. SECRETARY

Pleasant Hill Baptist Church

REV. W. H. ROZIER, FOUNDER
261 North Bonnie Brae Street

REV. A. WENDELL ROSS, D. D., PASTOR
239 North Bonnie Brae Street Los Angeles, Calif.
Phone DRexel 6556 Res. Phone FAirfax 1501

TREASURER
T. H. THURMAN

CHURCH CLERK
ELSIE HUNT

Auxiliary Officers
E. TAYLOR,
SUPERINTENDENT S. S.
MRS. M. L. WOODY,
GEN. SECRETARY

Baptist Training Union
ELSIE HUNT, DIRECTOR

B. A. U.
L. E. HINES, PRES.

Senior B. Y. P. U.
THEODORE TAYLOR,
PRES.

Junior B. Y. P. U.
CELESTINE SHAMBREY,
LEADER
MARTHA SYDNEY, PRES.

MRS. P. ABRON,
PRES. MISSIONARY SOCIETY
MRS. M. L. WOODY,
GEN. SECRETARY

"Thy Word is a Lamp Unto My Feet and a Light Unto My Path" — Psalm 119:105

July 25, 1941

158260
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
AUG 1 1941 A.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
CRIM. DIV. - ROTNEM

CRIMINAL DIVISION
AUG 2 1941
RECEIVED

FILED
BY JW
On AUG 6 1941

Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt
White House
Washington, D.C.

Mr. President:

It is with a great degree of humility I address you. To me you have been the most illustrious and useful executive that has ever occupied the office of the chief of our nation. You have been so very helpful to my epople, the Negroes of America.

For thirty-one years I have been a leader of my race with but one desire, to direct my people to be true Christians and patriotic citizens. We know no land or country as our own but the United States of America, and we want no other. We love our land and nation. We have been ready to answer every call and on all battle fields on which we have had the opportunity to serve our bravery and loyalty is attested by blood.

But, now, Mr. President, I feel that you should know the true spirit of the American Negro. That spirit is that as a true patriotic and loyal citizen we feel that the time is now, when the Negro should be given all constitutionall civil, legal, political, and economic rights that all other Americans enjoy and exercise.

I feel that the 750,000 Negro boys that have been drafted to the Army or to the call of the Nation have the right to say to their President, the Commander-in-chief of the Nation, "We are ready", but not until the Nation has moved all national and state Jim Crow laws, all national and state segregation conditions can we take up training for a defense of that which is not our own to enjoy and exercise.

Mr. President, I am calling upon you in the name of Almighty God to speak to the Congress of our Nation, the Senate, and House of Representation, to the States of our Nation, to the peoples of our great Nation, requesting that the disgraceful laws ("Jim Crow Laws"), separate railroad cars, denial of civil rights, accommodations, public services, public schools, accommodations and all segregation legislations be abolished now and forever.

God will bring national destruction on our nation if this disgraceful ungodly, undemocratic condition is not immediately corrected.

We are made the mockery of the world. It is invoking the curse of Almighty God upon the American people. Mr. President, if you will lead us in this timely demand and just procedure, liberty and freedom will be reborn to mankind here and everywhere. God Almighty will have an opportunity to champion our cause, and no power on earth can withstand God.

Mr. President, the Negroes of America are not Defeatist, not subversive. He is not guilty of treason. He is not a slacker. He is loyal and patriotic and true to his country.

The nation cannot endure much longer and retain its place of honor in the world as leaders of true democracy when 12 million or more citizens are denied the privileges of America's program of full democracy.

As a representative of God Almighty, I call your attention to this condition. Now is the time for action.

Prayerfully yours,

A. Wendell Ross

Rev. A. Wendell Ross

AWR:ps

NOTICE

PLEASE DO NOT
REMOVE THIS SLIP
FROM THE ATTACHED
CORRESPONDENCE
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PERMANENT PART
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DIVISION OF RECORDS

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AUG 1 1941
CRIMINAL DIVISION

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
AUG 1 1941 A.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
CRIM. DIV. - ROTNEM

FILED
AUG 6 1941

10 Justice

RECEIVED
AUG 1 1941
CRIMINAL DIVISION

Corsicana Texas from
July 7.22.1941 Corsicana Texas
His Excellence Hon
Franklin D Roosevelt
my Dear President
of the United States
Your oner Sir
will you and my Dear Governer
Mr Lee o Donnel will you all
Please Please Help Help in
corsicana Help us Poor negro
mens if you Please They clame
That a negro Grab a White
Lady and They Have Got the
negro and They Give 18 monts
and What i Going to say now
They Wont Let the negroes see
Him But a White said That

RESPECTFULLY REFERRED
FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSIDERATION
W H McIntyre
SECRETARY TO THE PRESIDENT

They suck fire to Him
to make Him say That
He did it your owner it
is a Sham The Way That
The White mens Do Us
Down Here They take negro
Woman Rat Before negroes
face and it is nothing Dor
about it, and if White Woman
talks to a negro man He
Better Watch His step So if
you all Please Please Help
Us Poor negro mens not
only in Carsicana But all
over Texas. This Poor Boy
They Have Dun Him so Bad
to kill He Have try to cut His or
Throught so That all Please

Help This negro if you
all Please Sir The negro
Woman Where This negro
Lived Said She no This negro
was at Home That night
But She was a fread to
Tell The Law She was fread
they Wood Rest Her about
The Boy Liver there So
your onner Please This
negro Willie adkison is His
name, you send a man
Down Here and i Show Him
How Theses White mens Go with
negro Woman Before negroes
faces and They cant say nothing
about it. in The name of The Lard
and You Botht in You two and

Lard God above is all
my trust so Good night
i will close with ties
Please if you Please
i dont to Rite my name But
if i Do and my Letter Be sent
Back Here they will Kill
me so Please Let not my Ple and
ties Be in vain if you
Please Lard Please if you
Please the Boy is not Gelty
Help Him all the Rest Us in
That Line

DAILY REPORT OF HISTORY-FILING SECTION DATE:

NUMBERS	CLERKS	Cards Filed	LETTERS Checked	LETTERS Left Over	LETTERS Filed	LETTERS Left Over	FILES Filed	FILES Left Over

158260

August 4, 1941

Mrs. C. G. Eidson
President, Board of the Houston Council
of Church Women
2142 Chilton Road
Houston, Texas

Dear Madam:

We wish to acknowledge your letter of July 21, 1941, the contents of which have been given due consideration.

Very truly yours,

T. D. Quinn
Administrative Assistant
to the Attorney General

jrk:ms

FILED
BY JW
On AUG 8 1941

SIGNED AND MAILED
AUG 6 1941
DIVISION OF RECORDS

2142 Chilton Road
Houston, Texas
July 21, 1941

RECEIVED
JUL 29 1941
CORRESPONDENCE SECTION

Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Sirs:

The Board of the Houston Council of Church Women, an organization composed of representatives of women of fifty churches of Houston, believes that the shooting of Bob White, a negro, in a court room at Conroe, Texas, June 17, 1941, by W. S. Cochran, calls for an investigation by the Federal Department of Justice.

The act and the attendant circumstances constitute a grave threat to respect for the due processes of our courts and are a denial of justice to a member of a minority group, therefore, a negation of democracy. In addition, this will form another obstacle to the vitally necessary understanding between negroes and whites.

We, therefore, urge you to take steps as rapidly as possible.

With our appreciation of your attention to this pressing matter, I am

Very truly yours,

Margaret L. Eidson

Margaret L. Eidson, (Mrs. C. G.)
President

MLE:LP

FILED
BY JW
On AUG 8 1941

ask 8-4-41 JRK

158260
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
JUL 29 1941 A.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
Correspondence Section

RECORD

E.L.P.

NOTICE

PLEASE DO NOT
REMOVE THIS SLIP
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DIVISION OF RECORDS

158260

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
JUL 24 194 A.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
Correspondence Section

E. J. R.

RECORD

158260

July 30, 1941

Mrs. Nellie Fowler
758 Baltimore Street
Spartanburg, South Carolina

Dear Madam:

We have your letter of July 20, 1941, addressed to the President and by him referred to this Department, alleging that your son, William Fowler, was shot by someone.

The protection of one's person is a duty coming under the jurisdiction of the state and local law enforcement officers. The Federal Government, therefore, has no authority to intervene in such cases. We can only suggest, if you have not already done so, that you take up the matter with the department of police in your city.

Very ~~truly yours~~,

T. D. Quinn

T. D. Quinn
Administrative Assistant
to the Attorney General

gl:emb

SIGNED AND MAILED
AUG 1 1941
DIVISION OF RECORDS

FILED
BY
Qu
1941

nw

To
Justice

Spartanburg SC
718 Baltimore St
July. 20. 1941

JUL 26 1941

Dear President
This is Williams Fowler Mother
writing to tell you My trouble
WC Hays Shout My Son Down
and Kill him Williams Kill
July. 13. My child were running
for his life Shot Down like
a dog listen My Dont Were
wait to Serve in Camp I
dont No wahat to Do I am
Weary to My life is most
gone Dear President they Shot
My Son in the Head this
City offer is Kill Williams
and Now he cant go to Camp
So you Must look thaugth
Matter williams were waiting
to Serve in the Camp for No
My child hard No to Kill like That

Def. 1/30/41 gh.

Kill My Poor Child Just
like he were a ~~dog~~ dog
So will you please take this
matter up. listen So what
is you gonning to do about
My Boy when time to
Serve in Camp
I will have to let
you No a Bout Williams—
Fowler is Kill were Kill
By the Hand of W C Hase
City Offer

Poor child would Ben
home But he waiting on you
all to call him to Serve
in camp Please let me
hear from you at once
Nellie Fowler I am most crazy

Williams Fowler
Were Kill July 13. 1941
liden Willian haden
Kill No. Body they Said they
had a warnt for him
the diden Do my child
write he were Waiting
for for all to call him in
Comp the Poor child
Hope took Care of me
~~has~~ And she left a
wipe on me
I had the child
to Buried By my Selp

WC Kays haven offer
me not a Penny
Please take up this
Matter at once

NOTICE

PLEASE DO NOT
REMOVE THIS SLIP
FROM THE ATTACHED
CORRESPONDENCE
SINCE IT IS A
PERMANENT PART
OF THE RECORD.

DIVISION OF RECORDS

FILED
BY TMMac
ON MAY 12 1941

158260

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
MAY 6 1941 P.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
Correspondence Section

RECORD

E. J. R.

158260

May 8, 1941

FILED
BY NMMac
MAY 12 1941

Office of the Adjutant General
Department of War
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

Inclosed for such action as you deem proper is a letter from the Stewardess Board, Pleasant Hill A.M.E. Church, Prattville, Alabama, with reference to the case of a soldier at Fort Benning, Georgia.

The communication has not been acknowledged since it is addressed to the President.

Sincerely yours,

T. D. Quinn
Administrative Assistant
to the Attorney General

Inclosure No. 505936
mas:ms

MAILED
MAY 9 1941
DIVISION OF RECORDS

Lebbed NW
mas

WB:JJL:we

158260

August 1, 1941

Mr. Ancil Chapman
751 Gates Avenue
Brooklyn, New York

Dear Mr. Chapman:

This Department is in receipt, by reference from the President, of your letter dated July 18, 1941, and its enclosures, in which you state that your brother has been convicted for the commission of a crime in South Carolina and has been incarcerated on the chain gang. It is further noted that you express fear for your brother's life unless he is given police protection. In this regard you request the aid of the Federal Government in his behalf.

From the facts set out in your letter, it appears that your brother is in the custody of prison officials of the State of South Carolina. Unless and until it can be shown that he has committed an offense against the laws of the United States, or is otherwise held in the custody of Federal officials, this Department is without authority to act pursuant to your request.

It is suggested, therefore, that you address the law-enforcement officials of South Carolina to accord your brother appropriate protective custody.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General

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AUG 1 1941
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WENDELL BERGE
Assistant Attorney General

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BY JW
AUG 4 1941

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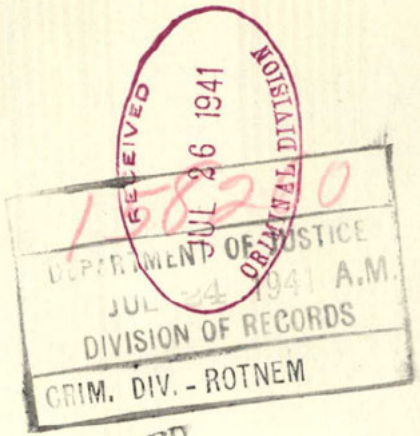

RECORD

E. J. R.

a
Justice

RESPECTFULLY REFERRED
FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSIDERATION

M H M Gilpre
Secretary to the President

July 18, 1941

Dear Mr. President:

I have been informed and am gratefully sorry about this disgrace to which my brother has brought on the Chapman ~~family~~ family I have done all I could do to save Bobe. Mr. President I have be informed that my brother & 5 men have been accused of mishandling a white woman at present my brother is on the Chain Gang in Greensville South Carolina. his life is hanging ~~on a~~ in balance. I have a wife and three (3) children if there is any way that you can help we would appreciate anything

RECEIVED
JUL 26 1941
CRIMINAL DIVISION

FILED
BY [illegible]
AUG 4 1941

that you may be able to do.
Dear Mr. President I am a
Colored man and have served
my country & flag to the best
of my ability. My brothers name
is Robert Chapman born 1908
I hope that you will give
him all attention & am sorry
about the disgrace he has brought
upon us.

Truly yours
Arell Chapman
751 Gates Ave
Brooklyn. N.Y.

(1) Greenville S.C.
July 4. 1941.

Dear uncle Ancial aunt Cora
received your letter Thursday
and also the $14 dollars to I had
aunt Cora to right and tell
you all about Ra. he is in
trouble him and 5 more mens.
about a white woman and
Ra have 3 monts, or $1.50 dollars
he is on the road working
now and he is sick with the
cromp. they is trying to
get to him and kill him.
the people wont let us have
know money to pay him out.
please try to get up the $1.50
dollars or much of it as you
can and try to save his life
please wright back and let

us know how much money you
sent because unt Cora had
don't cash the money and give me
$14. dollars. We want to know
did you sent any more or not.
and she said that was all you
sent. We dont have know money
to get him with and cant get
more from know Body. We is
seeing on you all to get him out.
the map is trying to find him
now to kill him, and you right
to me I am his son this is my
address 200. N Teach St.
Greenville S.C.
Earnest Chapman.
right back to me and let
me know at wonce on let us know
what you all is going to do.
We will close from your Brother
son Earnest Chapman. give love to
all.

(3.)

We are looking to here
from you at wonce.
and ask uncle William
did he Send any money
to aunt Cora Thursday.
Please Send it if you
can. are let us know if
you all is going to
Send it we are wanted
to death of aunt him.
answer at once and
let us know.

to
Earnest Chapman
200. N. Leach St
Greenville. S. C. bfl.

bf bf. right

Greenville S.C.

1 June 27th — 41

Hear Bud.

I Know you will be Surprised to hear from me. We all are well and dowg fine but Bob has got in Some real bad trouble and is now on the gang So we want to Know if we can get him off. if you all will

Send Some money and let
him come up there and stay
because his life is just
hanging on Threads and
we are going to try and get
him off before this time is
up because we believe
they will Kill him when he
gets off, he cannot stay
around here any more and
live and you Know these
white people are hot on
his trail to get him, so
you can guess the rest.
Blanche and The children
are well but they are afraid
to almost move.
my boy Earle is well and
living with me, he has four
children, and doing nicely
Earnest, Bob oldest boy is
here now and he is married and

lives right around the corner
from, please let Ansel and
Lula also know about it
and write me right back
what you can do because
we want to know at once.
my best regard to your wife
and tell her I am always
glad to hear from her.
Your devoted Sister
Cora K. Chapman
6 Douthit St.

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DIVISION OF RECORDS

AUG 1 1941

158260

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
JUL 19 1941 A.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
Correspondence Section

158260

AUG 1 1941

July 29, 1941

Mr. John P. Sneed
1916 - 3rd Street NW.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

We wish to acknowledge on behalf of the President your letter of July 13, 1941, the contents of which have been duly noted.

Very truly yours,

T. D. Quinn
Administrative Assistant
to the Attorney General

jrk:ms

SIGNED AND MAILED
JUL 29 1941
DIVISION OF RECORDS

Jenkins

S

RESPECTFULLY REFERRED
FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSIDERATION

1916-3rd St. N.W.
Washington, D.C.
July 13, 1941.

Mr. President,

I am a Negro 31 years of age, born and reared in New York City and a great admirer of your administration of the office of President of the United States of America for the past nine years. I am writing you to ask you to please do something towards abolishing Jim Crowism in the Country in general and in this the so-called capital of

RECEIVED
JUL 22 1941
CORRESPONDENCE SECTION

JRK Cut 7-29-41

democracy in particular. As the capital of a country that is supposed to be the greatest democracy in the world this city of Washington is one of the most flagrant violators of civil rights extant. I am not a Communist nor have I ever had any dealings with Communists but the disregard of the civil rights of the Negroes of this country is preparing a very fertile field for the seeds of Communism. Maybe you are not acquainted with the general attitude of the Negro as to the outcome of this

war so I will try to tell you. The Negro feels that no matter what the outcome is, his lot can not be much worse than it is at present. Such a feeling has bred a decided lack of patriotism among Negroes. And who can blame them for not feeling patriotic towards a country where they are insulted at every turn and treated as if they were enemy aliens? They are Jim Crowed in the Army, Navy, Air Corps and excluded from the Marine Corps. Mind you, these are not only my personal feelings

but the general feelings
of the entire Negro race
according to my observations
during the past 10 years.
Now the first radical
that comes along and
promises to abolish all
racial discrimination and
segregation and Jim Crow-
ism is going to have
a very decidedly large
following among the Negroes
whether he means to keep
those promises or not be-
cause Negroes are beginning
to think that their loyalty
is not appreciated. Hoping
that you will exert your
power to prove it is appre-
iated I remain Yours truly.
John L. Reed

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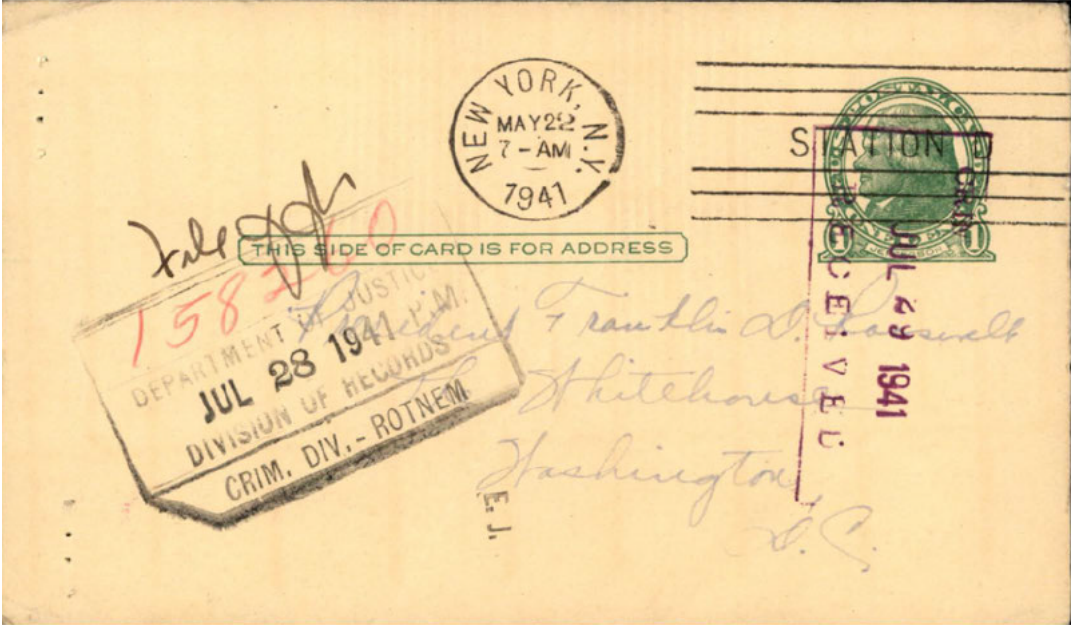
NEW YORK, N.Y.
MAY 22
7 - AM
1941
THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS
158200
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
JUL 28 1941 P.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
CRIM. DIV. - ROTNEM
STATION
JUL 29 1941
RECEIVED
Franklin D. Roosevelt
White House
Washington
D. C.
E. J.

Franklyn D. Roosevelt
The Whitehouse
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

This is to protest against Jim Crowism in the Army, the Navy and the defense industries in the United States.

I urge you to use your high office to help in any means at your disposal to give the American Negro his full democratic rights, especially thru elimination of the Poll Tax. Lincoln spoke for the oppressed Negro: I hope you will do likewise.

Sincerely - Elaine Eldridge

S.E. 15th St.

G. J. R.



Fdr

President F. D. Roosevelt,
White House,
Washington, D. C.

35 E. 12th,
New York, N. Y.
May 14, 1941.

Sir - While you have been talking about saving democracy 3,000 miles away, another Negro has been lynched in Florida. The life of A. C. Williams, a Negro American, is more important than the lives of foreign kings. Will you act to maintain democracy in the South?

J. C. Fleming.

DAILY REPORT OF HISTORY-FILING SECTION DATE:

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J. Grossberg
45 Wadsworth Ter.
N.Y.C.

E.J.R.

NEW YORK, N.Y. MAY 17 1 - AM 1941

BRONX CENTRAL ANNEX

RECEIVED JUL 29 1941 BRONX DIVISION

File

THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE JUL 28 1941 P.M. CRIM. DIV. - ROTUNDA DIVISION OF RECORDS

15536

Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt
White House
Washington, D.C.

5-16-41

File 9 [illegible]

FILED
BY JW,
On JUL 31 1941

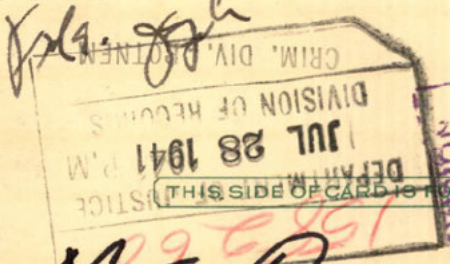
Hon. F.D.Roosevelt
White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir,

I would like to remind you that last week in Florida a young boy, A.C. Williams, was dragged from an ambulance and brutally lynched. It's hard to believe that it's democracy that you're asking us to defend in England when such disgraceful, Nazi-like things happen in our state of Florida.

Sincerely Yours
Judith Grossberg

E. J. R.







Mr. President
Washington
D. C.

Stop! Negro Lynching
in Fort Bennington and
Camp Lee. Give them
Jobs in Covernment
Indostry instead of
flagging them in
your Covernment
Camps. Shame on your
America.

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158260

E.J.R.

June 17, 1941

Bureau of Internal Revenue
Department of the Treasury
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

Inclosed for your attention and reply is a letter of June 10, 1941, from Mr. Sherman S. Furr, 157 West 125rd Street, Apt. 2, New York, New York, which letter is self-explanatory.

Mr. Furr has been advised of this reference.

Very truly yours,

T. D. Quinn
Administrative Assistant
to the Attorney General

Inclosure No. 335144
gl:ms

SIGNED AND MAILED
JUN 17 1941
DIVISION OF RECORDS

FILED
BY JW
On JUN 18 1941

98

"Justice

RESPECTFULLY REFERRED FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND CONSIDERATION
M H McKay
Secretary to the President

31[illegible] Farmer St.
Houston, Texas.
July 17/1941.

AUG 2 1941

File

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JUL 23 1941
CRIMINAL DIVISION

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
JUL 22 1941 P.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
CRIM. DIV. - ROTNEM

Hon: Franklin D. Roosevelt
The White House.
Washington, D. C.

Greeting's Sir: I shall began my subject now and I am hoping you will do what ever you think best. - What we (the negro's of american) are wondering is something to crow about. Are we American citizen? If so, when will we began to live as american citizen's? Will there for ever be hatred towards us because our skin is dark.? - Mr. President I can say with out fear that no negro is a spy, nor any thing of the sort, we are loyal to america, while America is treating us as if we were her worst enemy.

American's have no right to think that it was a disgrace for the Germans to turn the tide on the jews. Why? Because America's heart and mind is as deity as the very earth we live on. - Negro's are being hung, burn, shot and every thing else, but only a few people feels as if it was a disgrace.

America is sending ~~aide~~ aid to England and the other Nations that suffered defeat from Germany. We the Negros are being forgotten. Hon. President I could bring all the darkness to light, but you know all about the Negros struggle for freedom and legal rights, as Americans.

The blood that the Negros gave in the last world war, was lost in vain. Negros died across the pond to help save america and our thanks for playing our parts, was a rope and no chance. We don't care about England, France, Russia, China nor any other Nation. - Let them fight. If they lose, we can't ~~lose~~ anything. We as negros are ~~in~~ fighting a war of words, prayers, and pleads. Our fight is greater than those across. - Negros have fought in every war the U.S.A. has been in, and yet we are still the last. America is Germany and we are Jews.

Mr. President we know your power as President. Why don't you do something? - Do you thing I wants to go to war with another country, to help save a Nation, where I can't vote

where I am afraid to speak for my rights?

Negro has always been the most loyal and dishonored citizen of America. All of the U. S. A. is not the same but ¾ of America is not worthy of me and my people lives. We are trying to be fair and right in our every move, but what would or could america do if all negroes refuse to enter training for N. D. (national defense). What if negro america would rebell. All these things can come to pass. Because you are not a negro, you do not know just what is in the Negro's mind and heart. What would happen if America goes to war and the negro's refuse to fight? What would happen if we would fight for america, not Germany nor Japan?

What cause the war between the states? Could america stand another war between itself?

Mr. President if we are trained to fight & if we are armed, do you think we are going to lay down our arms? No. Not until every state, jim crow and southern cracker in the south is done away with. When I speak of america, I am speaking of the south.

Mr. President - We will fight in a war.

But it will be a war for our rights, There shall be no more South.

But unless something is done quick, nothing can save the south and the wrong doers. Mr. President we have on our side, White citizen of the northern states.

American can not stand to enter the war as long as the southern states exist and not be afraid of a war on the America soil.

The America I can tell, and I really mean the south. - There shall be ~~a~~ another Civil war. God is not sleep.

What is freedom? ~~What is~~ ~~before~~
" " liberty?

America is a Germany. and the negro's are gone. Why must we fight Germany? When we have something to fight here? - No Germany can not be much worst than 3/4 of America. and answer would be thankful. God bless Northern America. and may the south bake in hell.

Tilton C. Carothers.

THANK You.

155260

JUL 29 1941

July 28, 1941

Mr. John Thomas
Box 25
County Jail
St. Johnsbury, Vermont

Dear Sir:

We have your letter of July 11, 1941, addressed to the President and by him referred to this Department, relative to your confinement in jail.

The Federal Government has no control over offenses committed against state laws. It is regretted that this Department, therefore, is unable to be of any assistance except to suggest that you might ask advice of an attorney as to any legal recourse available.

Very truly yours,

T. D. Quinn
Administrative Assistant
to the Attorney General

jrk:emb

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JUL 28 1941
DIVISION OF RECORDS

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JUL 29 1941

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
JUL 17 1941 P.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
Correspondence Section

RECORD

St. Johnsbury Vermont
Box 25. July, 11, 1941.
Country Jail.

RESPECTFULLY REFERRED
FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSIDERATION

Justice

Mr. President

Secretary to the President

Dear, Mr. President Roosevelt. of the United States

I am writting this letter, because I cant Get help From any one. I am a negro Boy. And have not been Givening Justice. I only ask For Justice that is do to me. Here in St. Johnsbury thire is no. negroes I am the only one. I was working at a club, and I ask for two Days. leave to Go, to New York. they Said no, if I Go. I may not come back, and they hade too much money invested in me to let me Go. So I tryed to leave, and they put me in jail, they said I stole some money. I did not. steal any money. they put me in Charge of the Beer Money. and I was to turn it over at the end of the month. this is the only way. to keep me here, by putting me in charge of the Beer money. and when I try to leave, they said I stole the money. in this state you have to be of age be fore you sell Beer.

RECEIVED
JUL 21 1941
CORRESPONDENCE SECTION

7-28-41

I am only twenty years old. I wrote the F.B.I. For help, but did not get it. I can prove myself not in the wrong, with help, please, I dont no, if I can hole out or not, they are treating me verry Bad as if I was a Dog. I cant explain every thing in this letter, please sen me help, — please

Yours trueley

Mr. President Roosevelt

Of the United States.

From. John M. Thomas

John Thomas

St. Johnsbury, Vermont,

Box, 25-

Country Jail

July. 11. 1914

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JUL 16 1941
CRIMINAL DIVISION

Justice

The Washington Canoe Club,
3700 K Street N. W.,
Washington, D. C.,
July 10, 1941.

File 158200

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
JUL 15 1941 P.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
CRIM. DIV. - ROTNEM

Honorable Franklin D. Roosevelt,
President of the United States,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

In the hope that this letter may reach your attention to lay before you a viewpoint of a problem of present and pressing significance, I am venturing to suggest the consequence of a series of events which, I am sure, has not been considered by men in public life who recently have made statements on the subject.

That problem, to state it at the outset, is a misconception of the "equal rights" movement under which legislation is now before the Congress to compel white and colored citizens to share alike all public facilities for recreation, dining, lodging, etc. The white men who sponsor it for the sake of colored votes evidently depend on their wealth, official position and exclusiveness to insulate themselves against what citizens of humbler station would undergo as a result.

I emphatically do not favor oppressing or helotizing anyone whose skin is colored differently from mine. A university graduate myself, I would like to see every negro capable of absorbing it receive a college education. For through enlightenment the problems of this world eventually will be solved; and further, the intelligent person of any race will understand that since the law does not compel him to associate with obnoxious members of his own people, it should not seek to force those of another race to accept his company.

It is apparent that many men in public life, whose statements may seem based on abstract justice, do not understand the psychology of the uneducated colored person. I do, having lived approximately five-sixths of my life in or near the South. As one example, in several parts of this city immediately after the recent conviction of "Phantom Sniper" Eklund, groups of large, muscular negroes roamed white neighborhoods in the evening, deliberately occupying the entire width of the sidewalk, and, pretending not to see some single white man, would accidentally-on-purpose shove him off into the gutter. I personally was surprised and shoved off once; but on a second attempt a night or two later, I stood my ground and the nearest negro, when less than 18 inches away, swerved aside and passed by. Several of my friends mentioned similar occurrences.

What the Eklund conviction meant to the ignorant negro was not that equal justice prevailed as between colored and white, but that a negro could go into court and swear away a white man's life. This sense of power was aggravated by the fact that shortly before, a negro,

duly convicted of murdering a white woman and sentenced by a court of competent jurisdiction to life imprisonment, had received executive clemency and been set free.

And within a few days after the Eklund conviction, there ensued the horribly brutal Strieff rape-murder, followed by a wave of criminal assaults by negroes on white women. Those who, through ignorance or disregard of the mental processes of the colored man, implant in his mind the idea that he can ravish white women with impunity, cannot avoid sharing the responsibility for his crimes.

During the summer of 1940 the canoe club from which this is written was obliged to obtain police intervention to drive away a gang of negro youths who repeatedly molested girl guests by accosting them in familiar, amorous, and on one occasion highly indecent terms. I predict with utter certainty that if the bill now before Congress to compel admission of negroes to white amusements becomes a law, the first result will be a mass descent of negroes on white dance halls and demands that white hostesses or guests be compelled to dance with any negro who has the price of a ticket.

Mr. President, I lived here during the race riots of 1919. They were not a pretty sight. One group of negro men and women dashed through the white neighborhood where I lived, whooping and yelling, blazing away with guns in the air (a leak in the roof of our house later proved to be a bullet hole), while my own family, law-abiding and therefore unarmed, watched through darkened windows hoping against hope that the rioters would go away. Fortunately they did.

I hope we never have another race riot. But if any law, or any distorted conception or misinterpretation of law, says that I must stand idly by while negroes insult and molest white women, I say: "To hell with the law." And any other white American with a backbone in his body will say the same--and act. So did the American people act against the once-sacrosanct Eighteenth Amendment, which you personally helped to purge from the Constitution.

However potent that negro vote, they constitute only ten per cent of our population. And the great ninety per cent, when aroused, may make fur fly in a most disquieting fashion.

With the hope that this will be accepted not as a "hymn of hate" against colored people--for I know quite a few fine ones--but as a constructive criticism of policies calculated to bring disaster to the very objects they seek to achieve, I am,

Most respectfully yours,

Wilfred A. Betikofer

Wilfred A. Betikofer.

DETROIT OFFICERS
DR. JAMES J. McCLENDON
PRESIDENT
FRED A. ALLEN
1ST VICE-PRESIDENT
HELEN WILSON
2ND. VICE-PRESIDENT
ROBERT J. EVANS
SECRETARY
ADA SUMMERS
ASS'T SECRETARY
MAMIE L. THOMPSON
TREASURER
CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
REV. M. G. DADE
LEGAL REDRESS
ERNEST MARSHALL
MEMBERSHIP
RUTH ELLIS
ENTERTAINMENT
EMELLA N. CABULE
EDUCATION
EUGENE HALL
YOUTH COUNCIL
MARTHA BACON
MARY BEASLEY
V. A. BRISTOL
L. C. BLOUNT
BEULAH CARTER
PRINCE CLARK
ZELMA COLLIER
ELEANOR DeVERE
CARLTON W. GAINES
ROBERTA GARNETT
GEORGE HAWKINS
REV. CHAS. HILL
THEODORE JONES
JUDGE GUY A. MILLER
MATTIE MONTGOMERY
CASSIE ANDERSON MORRIS
JOHN B. MORRIS
LEONARD NEWMAN
IDA PETTIFORD
CARRIE RILEY
DR. W. A. THOMPSON
JUDGE ROBERT TOMS
L. W. TYRELL
MOSES L. WALKER
DR. J. D. WILSON
REV. H. R. WHITE
W. C. WOODSON

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

(N. A. A. C. P.)

DETROIT OFFICE

WARGREEN BUILDING · 446 E. WARREN AVE.

TEMPLE 1-3609

NATIONAL AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS
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NANNIE H. BURROUGHS
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GODFREY LOWELL CABOR
BISHOP JOHN A. GREGG
REV. JOHN HAYNES HOLMES
PROF. MANLEY O. HUDSON
JUDGE IRA W. JAYNE
REV. C. CLAYTON POWELL
OSWALD GARRISON VILLARD
VICE-PRESIDENTS
MARY WHITE OVINGTON
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WALTER WHITE
SECRETARY
ROY WILKINS
ASSISTANT SECRETARY
WILLIAM PICKENS
FIELD SECRETARY
DAISY E. LAMPKIN
REGIONAL FIELD SECRETARY
RUTH MARVIN
FINANCIAL SECRETARY
MADISON S. JONES, JR.
YOUTH DIRECTOR

July 7, 1941

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
RECEIVED
JUL 9 - 1941

Mr. Robert H. Jackson
Attorney General
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

CRIMINAL DIVISION
RECEIVED
JUL 11 1941

Dear Mr. Jackson:

The enclosed Affidavit is self-explanatory of the case concerning Mr. Marshall Fennell of Detroit, Michigan

We feel that the type of racketeering in this case carried on by the Sheriff of Lauden, Tennessee, warrants investigation by your office.

The fine of fifty-seven dollars and fifty cents, extorted from Mr. Fennell, who was not booked under his proper name, although he showed his Michigan drivers license, indicates that the law enforcement of this particular place, is preying on innocent colored drivers, who under the constitution of the United States should have protection, and the use of the public highway without molestation.

May we expect some early action in this matter?

Very sincerely yours,

James J. McClendon, M.D., President

RECORD

Gloster B. Current
Executive Secretary
Detroit Branch, NAACP

GBC:bh
Enc.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
JUL 10 1941 P.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
CRIM. DIV. - ROTNEM

JUL 16 1941

RAL

WB:FGF:we

158260

August 27, 1941.

Mr. Earle S. Horton
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Mr. Horton:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of July 6, 1941, concerning your inability to secure a position with the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Your letter has been carefully noted and it is suggested if you wish to pursue this matter that you request an application blank from the Division of Personnel of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Washington, D. C.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General

WENDELL BERGE
Assistant Attorney General

FILED
In JW.
On AUG 28 1941

SIGNED AND MAILED
AUG 27 1941
DIVISION OF RECORDS

7.9.7.
R

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
RECEIVED
JUL 15 1941

July 14, 1941.

Respectfully referred to the Department of Justice for consideration and acknowledgment.

RECEIVED
JUL 16 1941
CRIMINAL DIVISION

EDWIN M. WATSON
Secretary to the President

File

158260
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
JUL 15 1941 P.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
CRIM. DIV. - ROTNEM

FILED
BY JW
On JUL 18 1941
RECORD

Justice

CRIMINAL DIVISION
AUG 12 1941
RECEIVED

July 6, 1941
New Orleans, La.

To The President Of The U. S. And The House of Senate

RESPECTFULLY REFERRED
FOR ACTION
AND INFORMATION
M. H. McIntyre
Secretary to the President

Dear Sirs:

According to my birth certificate and registration credentials, I am an American citizen entitle to certain privileges and civil rights alloted to me by the state in which I reside. Ignoring the constitution of the State and United States, I was informed by the Sec't. in the Fed. Bureau of Investigation office that regardless of positions being opened not any was for Negroes. If a Negro has the qualification necessary for a government job shouldn't he be considered? Aren't we supposed to sacrifice our lives just like any other nationality? Why should we be studying military methods and tactics? If our opportunities are denied us because of Race, what shall we be fighting for?

The Democratic form of government means of the people, for the people, and by the people. Since we have been slighted by a group, aren't we supposed to be human beings. As a Race we have the largest minority, but has any of our group been tried for treason against his country? Every since America has been America haven't we stood, worked and fought in the progress and best interest of this country? This is what hurt so bad, in the preamble there are several steps which are the basic principles and foundation of the constitution and practically everyone of them has been denied us? Why?

Article I of the Bills of Right gives every citizen the privilege to petition the government for a redress of grievances therefore, now and forever more I am sending my appeal for thoughtful consideration.

Respectfully yours,

Earle S. Horton

FILED
BY JW.
On AUG 28 1941

156260
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
AUG 11 1941 P.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
CRIM. DIV. - ROTNEM

July. 2nd 1941
2947 Laclede Ave

RESPECTFULLY REFERRED
FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSIDERATION
Secretary to the President
RECEIVED
JUL 24 1941

President Roosevelt

Dear Sir

Sir William Stalling
of St. Louis Mo. Address
2947 Laclede ave
Sir a Colord Man 44 years
of age
Mr Roosevelt Will you
Please take Steps in aiding
my nineteen-year old
Son Who Name is Johseph
Stalling the Son of
Mattie Stalling, of
Starkville Mississippi
610 Glaspie St. He was taken
from his bed at two o'clock
tuesday night June 25 by
the laws of Starkville Missis-
sippi and We haven't Seen
or heard of him Since,

158260
Correspondence Section
JUL 14 1941
CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE SECTION

I'm leaving it to you
Mr. Raabult Please
take care of the matters.
thank you,
Sincerely
William Stalling

158260

JUL 24 1941

July 21, 1941

Mr. William Stalling
2947 Laclede Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Sir:

We have your letter of July 2, 1941, addressed to the President and by him referred to this Department, stating that your son, Joseph Stalling, was taken into custody by the authorities of Starkville, Mississippi, in June 1941.

The Federal Government has no authority to intervene in cases before the local courts or to release persons held in local jails who are charged with offenses against state laws. We regret, therefore, that we are unable to help you except to suggest that you consult an attorney for advice in this connection.

Very truly yours,

T. D. Quinn
Administrative Assistant
to the Attorney General

gl:emb

SIGNED AND MAILED
JUL 22 1941
DIVISION OF RECORDS

Fight For Democracy Here and Now!

JOIN

RESPECTFULLY REFERRED FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND CONSIDERATION
M. H. McIntyre
Secretary to the President

NEGRO MARCH

FOR

JOBS and JUSTICE

IN

NATIONAL DEFENSE

JULY 1st

NATIONAL AND LOCAL HEADQUARTERS
7th and S Streets, Northwest

Meetings at Headquarters Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday

RECEIVED JUN 28 1941 CRIMINAL DIVISION

158 260
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
JUN 28 1941 A.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS

Why We March....

Headlines Tell the Story

Navy Bars Negroes Except As Messmen

Army Announces Segregation Policy

Negro Aviators Refused Assignment

Martin Aircraft Works Jobs for Whites Only

Colored Civil Service Eligibles Not Appointed

Ten Thousand Negro Draftees Report for Fighting Service

How We March . . . .

On July 1, 50,000 Negroes from all parts of the country will march from the Capitol down Constitution Avenue, past the White House and the War Department to the Lincoln Memorial where President Roosevelt has been asked to answer the mightiest protest ever made by loyal American citizens.

The march will be a silent, dignified, determined challenge to the democracy for which we have fought through the centuries.

All Negroes will march! Laborers, Domestics, Mechanics, Professionals will join together that America and the world may know and heed a solemn and determined FIGHT FOR REAL DEMOCRACY!

JOIN

Negro March

FOR

Jobs and Justice

Join
NEGRO MARCH
FOR
JOBS & JUSTICE
JULY 1

Register Now! March! Buy Buttons!

LOCAL COMMITTEE

Thurman L. Dodson
Chairman

W. S. Anderson
Vice Chairman

Jennetta Welch
Secretary

Velma G. Williams
Treasurer

NATIONAL SPONSORS

Walter White
Frank R. Crosswaith
Dr. Rayford Logan

Rev. Wm. Lloyd Imes
Layle Lane
J. Finley Wilson

Lester B. Grange
Richard Parrish
Rev. Adam C. Powell

NATIONAL OFFICERS

A. Phillip Randolph
Director

Henry K. Craft
Treasurer

Eugene Davidson
Assistant Director

6/5/47
Newark N.J. 5

Asks Segregation In Newark's Pools

The City Commission yesterday was asked by Archie McCorkingdale, president of the Newark Workers' Association, to make provisions in the four city swimming pools for segregation of white and Negro bathers. He said in two of the pools mixed bathing should be allowed and one should be restricted to white persons and another to Negroes.

Mayor Murphy told McCorkingdale to present his plan to Commissioner Villani, who has control of the pools.

Charles Dioyonski, a member of the association, urged the commission to force bathers to obtain health permits before being allowed in the water.

44th on Last Lap of Trip

Rain-Soaked Division to Bivouas 75 Miles South of Washington

BY TOM O'BRIEN

Staff Correspondent.

WASHINGTON—Rain-soaked and travel weary soldiers of the 44th Division pushed through this city in truck convoys early today in the final lap of their trip to Caroline County, Virginia. Their destination is a bivouac area 75 miles south of here, where they will base

27 Ninth Avenue
East Orange, N.J.
June 10, 1940

Mr. Franklin D. Roosevelt, President
The White House

Washington, D. C.

Mr. President:

Enclosed you will find a clipping which appeared in The Newark Evening News on Thursday, June 5, 1941. As you can see, a city official has asked the City Commission for the segregation of two races, both of which are citizens of these United States.

As President of the United States, you have asked for national unity of all races, particularly during the present crisis which calls for the cooperation of any and everybody, singly and as a whole, in and out of politics. If such a thing as this as allowed to appear in print before the eyes of those with a meager education, as well as those of higher learning, especially at this time, results can be very disastrous.

I, personally, think that very poor diplomacy has been used on the part of this official. What he expects to gain by this move can be told by him only as it is a fact that by trying to jeopardize the rights and privileges of others, you are also doing likewise by yourself, for by trying to hold a person or people down, you must stand guard to see that they stay down.

I should like very much to have you answer me directly, publicly, or in an open letter to The Newark Evening News, as I feel sure that if you knew such conditions existed you would positively do all you could to rectify them.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter.

Very truly yours,

C H Nelson

Charles H. Nelson

CHN:mm

RECEIVED JUN 26 1941 CRIMINAL DIVISION

File 7.4.7.

158260

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE JUN 26 1941 A.M. DIVISION OF RECORDS

RESPECTFULLY REFERRED FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND CONSIDERATION

M H McIntyre

Secretary to the President

RECORD

E.T.R.

156260

July 9, 1941

Mr. C. F. Porter
Secretary, Dallas Branch
National Association for the
Advancement of Colored People
2516 Thomas Avenue
Dallas, Texas

Dear Sir:

We have your letter of June 20, 1941, the contents of which have been noted.

Very truly yours,

T. D. Quinn
Administrative Assistant
to the Attorney General

jrk:fi

SIGNED
JUL 11 1941
DIVISION OF RECORDS

FILED
BY JW
On JUL 14 1941

98-

Dr. B. E. Howell, President
3016½ Thomas Ave., T-3-3130
Rev. E. C. Estell, First Vice-Pres.
Wm. P. Vaughn, Second Vice-Pres.

Mrs. J. W. Anderson, Treasurer
1718 Jackson, R-1511
Mrs. M. A. Flanagan, Third Vice-Pres.
Mrs. C. Bishop, Ass't Sec'y.

DALLAS BRANCH

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

W. L. Robinson, Chairman
818 Good, Ph. T-9991
Dr. B. E. Howell
Rev. E. C. Estell
Wm. P. Vaughn
Mrs. M. A. Flanagan
G. F. Porter
Mrs. C. Bishop
Mrs. J. W. Anderson
G. Metoyer
F. D. Jones

G. F. PORTER, Secretary
Phones C-6079 or C-4206
2516 Thomas Avenue
DALLAS, TEXAS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Dr. E. E. Ward
Chas. T. Brackins
Miss C. A. Hicks
Chas. R. Graggs
E. L. Cushionberry
B. W. Goodwin
Dr. E. Homer Browne
Madame L. E. Coleman
Mrs. Alba M. Shannon
R. A. Hester
Rev. J. M. Fountain

RECEIVED
JUL 1 1941
CORRESPONDENCE SECTION

June 20,1941

United States Department of Justice
Washington,D.C.

On behalf of the Dallas Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People,I am writing you regarding the brutal murder in the court room at Conroe,Texas of Bob White,whose case had been remanded for a retrial by the United States Supreme Court.

The murderer was immediately released on $500 bond and upon being tried later was acquitted by the jury after ten minutes deliberation.

We appeal to you as The Department of Justice to at once call for a re-opening of this case for investigation.

Yours truly,
G. F. Porter
G.F.Porter,Secretary
Dallas Branch N.A.A.C.P.
2516 Thomas Avenue

158260
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
JUN 24 1941 P.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
Correspondence Section

cdk
7-9-41
JRK

FILED
BY JW
JUL 14 1941

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

WASHINGTON, D.C.
J[illegible]
10[illegible] PM
1941 6

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, $300

Mr. Charlie Smith
~~Perry~~
Florida

Returned to Writer

REASON CHECKED
Unclaimed ..... Refused .....
Unknown ..... Deceased .....
For better address .....
Moved, Left no address .....
No such office in state .....

10


PERRY. FLA.
JUL 11
9 30 PM
1941

ADDRESS REPLY TO
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"
AND REFER TO
INITIALS AND NUMBER

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WASHINGTON, D.C.

WB:FGF:FF

158260

June 30, 1941

Mr. Charlie Smith
Perry
Florida

Dear Sir:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of June 20, 1941, in which you state that you are unjustly imprisoned on a charge of drunkenness.

This Department would like to be of service to you, but the matter you complain of does not appear to involve a violation of any Federal criminal statute. Unless such a violation is disclosed this Department cannot intervene.

You may have remedy by appeal. Such matters must be handled through private counsel. If you are unable to obtain counsel you may wish to consult the American Civil Liberties Union, 31 Union Square West, New York City, N. Y.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General,

Wendell Berge

WENDELL BERGE,
Assistant Attorney General.

FILED
BY JW,
ON JUL 16 1941

158260
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
JUL 15 1941
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION

RAL

WB:FGF:FF

158260

June 30, 1941

Mr. Charlie Smith
Perry
Florida

Dear Sir:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of June 20, 1941, in which you state that you are unjustly imprisoned on a charge of drunkenness.

This Department would like to be of service to you, but the matter you complain of does not appear to involve a violation of any Federal criminal statute. Unless such a violation is disclosed this Department cannot intervene.

You may have remedy by appeal. Such matters must be handled through private counsel. If you are unable to obtain counsel you may wish to consult the American Civil Liberties Union, 31 Union Square West, New York City, N. Y.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General,

WENDELL BERGE,
Assistant Attorney General.

7.2.7.

FILED
BY JW.
On JUL

SIGNED AND MAILED
JUN 30 1941
DIVISION OF RECORDS

Perry, Fla.
June, 20, 1941,

RECEIVED
JUN 27 1941
CRIMINAL DIVISION

Law of Justice,
Washington D. C.

Gentlemen:

Iy was convicted on May 29th 1941 and I was not treated fair, and I woul thank you very much if you would look into thie, for me as I am a Negro, The way it was my car stoped in an sand road and would not statt I ask some fellows to help me get it out, and they tried but they said that I would haft to get some one to come and pull me aut so I went to get some one, I left my Wife in the car she was sick and could not talk or do any thing and I had left what money I had in the car so when I got back My wife made motion to me and I findly under stood her and that they had stolen my money, ask them about it they said they did not get it so I then had to leave my wife there and go to the Boss man where I worked and get hem to sind some one when I got back they had the law there and said I was drunk, and the taken me to jail, and would not give me a chance, to do any thing, so will you please see about this for me,

Yours truly,
Charlie Smith.

FILED
BY JW.
ON JUL 1 1941
158260
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
JUN 26 1941 P.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
Crim. Potnam
FILE

158260

June 17, 1941

E. J. K.

Mr. Sherman S. Furr
157 West 123rd Street, Apt. 2
New York, New York

Dear Sir:

We have your letter of June 10, 1941, suggesting that Mrs. Annie M. Malone, 4415 South Parkway, Chicago, Illinois, be allowed special consideration in the payment of her income taxes.

This Department has no authority to intervene in matters which come under the supervision of any other organization of the Federal Government. Accordingly, your communication has been forwarded to the Bureau of Internal Revenue, Department of the Treasury, Washington, D. C., for appropriate attention and reply.

Very truly yours,

T. D. Quinn
Administrative Assistant
to the Attorney General

clms

FILED
BY JW
On JUN 19 1941

SIGNED AND MAILED
JUN 17 1941
DIVISION OF RECORDS

Justice

New York City
Friday, June 20, 1941

President Franklin D. Roosevelt
Washington, D. C.

RESPECTFULLY REFERRED FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND CONSIDERATION
MTM
158260
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
JUN 27 1941 P.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
RECORD
E.J.R.
Correspondence Section

Dear Mr. President,

We fifteen Negro and white citizens met together at a public educational forum, met to register our indignation and protest at the brutal unwarranted slaying of Robert White by S. W. Cochran in a court room in Texas, and the subsequent mockery of a trial accorded this same murderer. Cochran. Robert White had twice had a conviction reversed by the highest court in Texas and by the U. S. Supreme Court. And the murderer of the Negro is permitted to go scot free by a jury which deliberated only two minutes.

This abhorrent event is but a symbol of the outrageous denial to all the Negro people of even the simplest of their democratic rights. We support and applaud your recent public statement, Mr. President, of calling for an end to discriminatory practices against Negroes by employers of defense industries. But we are vigilantly waiting to see what action you will take to back up these verbal promises.

Filed

FILED
BY JWM
On JUL 1 1941

We can never believe that the war into which you are rapidly plunging the American people against their overwhelming protests - is a war for democracy as long as the Negro people do not have such guarantees of full - first - rate democracy here at home.

We urge you to use your presidential powers to fight for the passage of the Anti-Lynch Bill - the Negro Anti-Poll Tax Bill - the mercandoms Anti-discrimination Bill. Abolish the shameful blot on our American way of life by abolishing the whole policy of Jim-Crow and segregation in the armed forces - and in the public life of our country.

We demand an immediate investigation of the Cochran trial. Let us not speak of spreading freedom anywhere else in the world, until we have a guarantee of freedom in the U. S.

Yours truly,

R. R. Educational Forum

New York City

NOTICE

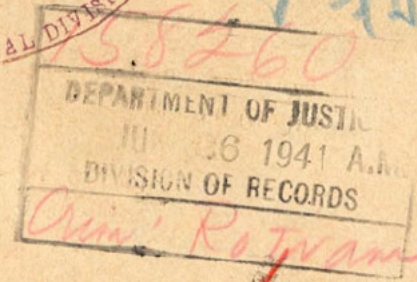
PLEASE DO NOT REMOVE THIS SLIP FROM THE ATTACHED CORRESPONDENCE SINCE IT IS A PERMANENT PART OF THE RECORD.

DIVISION OF RECORDS



File 77-1

158260



June 17, 1940
Houston Mo

Mr Pres. Franklin D. Roosevelt;

Dear president;

Just something I would like for you to read & tell us if you think this is right for someone to do this to any one not matter what their age maybe the reason we are writing you because we are young dealtees and is willing to serve our country the best we know how, but we sure would be proud just for

you to write us back or even tell all
of us in the United Press, for we know
you will let the Negro youth of Houston
know how you feel about the matter
we would like for you to answer so
we could show it to the N.A.A.C.P.
convention which will be in our city
from the 24 to 29 looking forward
for your reply

yours very truly,

Negro youth drafters,

DAILY REPORT OF HISTORY-FILING SECTION DATE:

NUMBERS	CLERKS	Cards Filed	LETTERS Checked	LETTERS Left Over	LETTERS Filed	LETTERS Left Over	FILES Filed	FILES Left Over

Bhom Ala June the 17 19.41 to the in
wester Caten Buro in Washington. d. C.
i am trying to Make the Calored Peoples
and the White foot two Know that the laws
of the unitedsare the laws of gad and
we has not Gat a Calored Preacher that
that Preaches the Gaspel of Piece Ewer
one of them that is Preachin With out a
noshnel Charter is preacher for hitler
White as Well as black and i Would like
to howe law Pertection so i Can Speek
in Public i Will howe all of thes nig rows
Member and Preacher and all to sign for
Piece or Shut down Ewer old Mig row Chur
Chin ala untel they Will sign for Peas or
Run them out Of the us an to the man that
they are serwin and that is old hitler i taken
the Bible and went to the Postfice and Paid a
us lawyer 325 dollars to Write the Canstution
and from the 10th Camendsment Wromons the
13th Chapter and Wromons 7 C and had the Pro
bate Judge to Put it an reckord and Gat a Wright
i[illegible] Charter for Peas for the State of Ala

158260
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
JUN 30 1941 A.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
Chin Rotnem

E. M. A.

for the nigrams a wright ious Church
and far Peas and if i Can not get them to
sign for Peas i will do all i Can to help
get them a way from here it will not
Be any truphle to get them a way from
here Just tel them that hitler will
help them and they will be glad to go
the lord said if they will not believe
the truth tel them a lye they may be dam
ed who will not be liene the truth this is
James Robinson talkin at 24 [illegible]
Worth Bhom ala

RECEIVED
JUN 24 1941
OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF LABOR
AM
PM

RECORD

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
JUN 24 1941 A.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
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RECEIVED
JUN 24 1941
CRIMINAL DIVISION

FILED
BY JW
On JUL 1 1941

COCHRAN WINS ACQUITTAL IN TWO MINUTES

Crowd Cheers When Jury Returns Verdict in Courtroom Slaying of Alleged Rapist.

BY DON HINGA.
Staff Correspondent.

Conroe, June 16.—W. S. (Dude) Cochran, 41-year-old Polk County plantation owner, was acquitted in two minutes in district court here today of a charge of killing in the courtroom here last Tuesday of Bob White, negro charged with raping Cochran's wife on August 10, 1937.

The verdict was greeted by the crowded courtroom with cheers and handclapping.

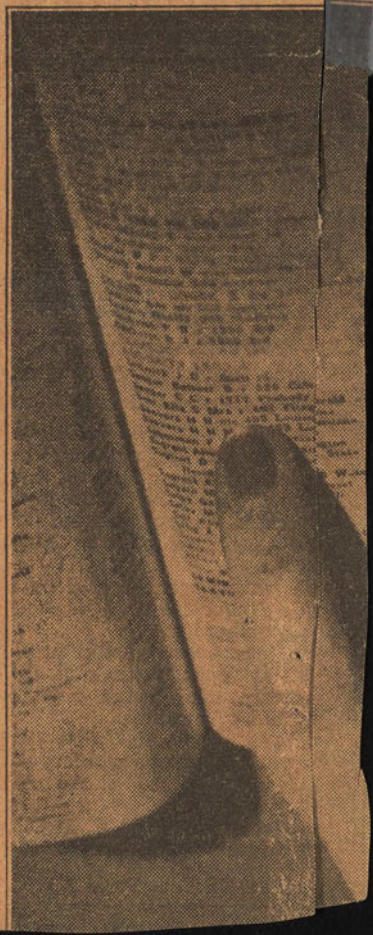
The jury received the case at 12:40 and reported back at 12:42. The entire trial lasted only two hours and 42 minutes.

Cochran and his wife were swamped by persons who crowded inside the rail to shake their hands.

District Attorney W. C. McClain, in his address to the jury, made a

(See TRIAL, Page 8.)

...registered pharmacist. If it is... your name and address to D... Kansas. A full size package ... charges prepaid. Use it in acc... you are satisfied with the resu... nothing. Be sure to state whe... hay fever symptoms.—Adv.



HUSBAND—

(Continued From Page 1)

news was also published in the papers.

Ruby Lee was frantic when she learned of the trouble her sweetheart was in. "I got in touch with Bob's mother, and she came up here to Houston. She was so worried, and I consoled her the best I could, for I never have doubted Bob's innocence for one instance," Mrs. White exclaimed passionately.

Bob White was first brought to trial at Livingston, on September 1, 1937. With her clear gaze lending encouragement, Ruby Lee sat in the courtroom, trusting that Destiny would be kind to the man whom she believed innocent with "every drop of blood in her body." The state court of criminal appeals reversed his first conviction on April 16, 1938, and venue was changed to Montgomery County, where his trial was scheduled for Aug. 5, 1938.

In the meanwhile, Ruby Lee was proving in every way that she could, that her confidence in Bob was unlimited. On May 27, as she visited him behind the bars, he whispered huskily, "Honey, I know I'm innocent, but I don't know what I could do without you; I'm only sorry that we are not man and wife!"

With tears in her brown eyes, Ruby Lee looked at him. She thought of the whip lashes on his brown arms; the parched scars he had shown her between his toes; and a great tenderness for this man she loved with all her heart, swept over her, as she answered, "Darling, if that will make you happy, I want to be your wife, and together we'll see this thing through!"

The couple married in the Harris County Jail on June 1, 1938, with Judge Whit Boyd performing the ceremony. He allowed them to remain in his office for awhile, and there, as he brushed away a tear, Bob White told his wife that he no longer felt such dread apprehension, for he had someone of his own.

Every Friday found Ruby Lee White at the jail to see her husband, and to offer him words of consolation and cheer. Then he was moved to Conroe, where with a swiftly-growing panic, his wife heard the jury's verdict of "death in the electric chair," on August 5, 1938. But Fate seemed to smile on the unhappy pair for awhile, and though Bob White occupied a cell in "Death Row," at Huntsville from the time of his first conviction, the lovers felt that life mean hope, when a defense motion for rehearing was granted.

During the time Bob was in the jail at Conroe, his wife moved there too, where she obtained a job as cook in a private home. But that was only the first of many such jobs, "for as soon as they would find that I was Bob's wife, I'd lose my job," she said sadly. However, with a desperate courage, she managed to always find work of some kind, and after each pay day, her familiar figure could be seen hurrying to the jail with cigarettes, and other little tokens for her husband, to make his life more bearable.

Often in the darkest hours before dawn, Ruby Lee, discarding her stoicism, would fall upon her knees in the shabby room, and with tears streaming down her cheeks, she would pray for mercy and guidance. Monday, the day before Bob's trial, a dread premonition caused a shadow to fall across Ruby Lee's countenance, which stolid courage had kept cheerful before. According to her story, she implored the woman she worked for, to take her to town after dinner, where she hurried to talk to her husband.

That was their last conversation! "Bob was more despondent that I had ever seen him," Mrs. White said. "He said that he would rather be dead than to continue to go through all this red tape and torture. I reminded him that God still heard prayer, and urged him to make his peace with the Maker. He said that he had already done that, and I tried to smile as I turned to go, and told him that everything would be all right."

With a faint sob, Mrs. White recalled that Bob's last words in reply to her encouraging remark were, "I hope so," as he pressed his lips to the glass between them in semblance of a kiss. The woman who had taken Bob White "for better or worse," smiled through her tears, and placed her lips against the glass partition next to his. That kiss was their last, for the next day, Bob White was abruptly called to meet his Maker!

Evidently, Bob had made his peace with God, for when he entered the courtroom, Tuesday, according to Mrs. White, he wore a strange look, "as though he was alone in the room." "He looked neither to the right nor to the left," she added.

Standing beside the dead body of her husband, the grief-stricken wife continued her story of the courtroom murder. She said she was listening to the jurors being sworn in, when she noticed Dude Cochran, the husband of the white woman he was accused of attacking, get up from his spectator's seat between his two brothers, and walk toward the prisoner. "There was a sudden explosion like a bomb, and Bob's head slumped to one side, but he did not fall over," the widow continued. "Mr. Dude walked over to Mr. Foreman, the attorney, handed him the pistol, and put up his hands. District Attorney McClain and Mr. Zimmie L. Foreman, shook hands with Mr. Dude. I started over to Bob, but a deputy asked me in a real angry voice where I was going, so I went on downstairs," she concluded quietly.

Later, Mrs. White said that she went back and asked for her husband's body, and was told that Metcalfe's Funeral Home across the street had it. Receiving permission, she had the Roy Collins Funeral Home in Conroe to take charge of the body, and it was later brought to the Huckaby Funeral Home in Houston.

"I feel that the last thing I can do for poor Bob is to give him a decent burial, even though he was shot down like a dog, for a crime I know in my heart he did not commit," she whispered huskily.

In the face of such love and confidence, one wonders if Bob White died in vain, or if his martyred death, may mean that unborn Negro youths may someday enjoy "justice toward all, and malice toward none," in our wdemocracy which is "the land of the free, and the home of the brave!"

WISHES

YOU

ALL

A

HAPPY

...mes Amanda Hayes, Marie Mor-
...mes Amanda Hayes, Marie Morris
..., Addie Pearl Bowie, Kathryn
...yant, Leona Smith, Vivian Fer-
...son, Irene Blair, Misses Margar-
...e Williams and Canary Turner.

...Mesdames Leathe
...es, Carlee Boutee, Messrs. Ben
...rvey and Rufus Roseland. The
...oree plans to leave the city for
...indefinite vacation.

FORMER VISITORS

...Jimmy Cansler, Dallas; P. L. Prat-
... Pittsburgh; John G. Taylor,
...tisburgh.

URPRISE KITCHEN SHOWER

A surprise kitchen shower was ...ven June 3 by the Colored Em-...oyees of the Methodist Hospital ... honor of the newly-wed, Mrs. ...ilma Lloyd Buford. The bride was ...esented a large white gift box ...d with red ribbon in which was ...any useful gifts.

SECOND ANNIVERSARY OBSERVED

Mr. and Mrs. Zemer L. Nichols, 2600 Scott Street celebrated their second year of marital happiness, Thursday June 5 by entertaining a few of their friends with a gay dinner party. The table was covered with a linen cloth centered with a crystal bowl of seasonal flowers. The guests were served high balls before a delicious menu was served. Guests: Messrs. and Mesdames Mr and Mrs. T. W. Coleman, L. L. Lockhart, Hardson, D. Roberts, Mrs. Nina Rogers and Richard Jones.



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TRIAL—

(Continued from Page 1.)

stirring plea that Cochran be acquitted.

"The time has not come, and I trust that it never will come, when any man, black or white, can steal into a man's house and ravish his wife and go free.

"I ask that each man on this jury find the defendant not guilty."

McClain began his argument to the jury, if his address could be called an argument, by reviewing the history of the case, how it went to the Supreme Court where the confession of White was thrown out on the grounds that it was obtained under duress.

The district attorney said that without the confession he knew that the circumstances of the case would not result in conviction of the negro.

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Cites Good Reputation."

"I have worried more about this case than any case that I have ever had," McClain said.

"You have heard witnesses testify to the good reputation of Dude Cochran. Gentlemen, that is true. I have known him for 10 years and worked with him on the Polk County grand jury.

"I know that he wanted the law to handle this case. He did all in his power to see that the law took its rightful course. He paid the expenses to go to Washington to argue this case before the Supreme Court.

"With the reversal by the Supreme Court it looked like the end of the road as far as the law was concerned.

"Gentlemen, I admit that the law failed. It failed through no fault of any of us. There is no criticism on the part of anyone.

"It is unfortunate that Mr. Cochran was forced to do what was done.

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"Would Find Him Not Guilty."

"In my opinion the guilty person got justice.

"I have always said that I would never ask any member of this jury to do what I would not do myself. This is equally true in this case.

"If I were a member of the jury I would not hesitate. I would not be the last man to give in and not consent to a verdict of not guilty. I would find him not guilty."

When McClain finished there was brisk applause in the courtroom, until Judge J. C. Browder rapped his gavel for order.

Throughout the trial Cochran, dressed in a brown suit and black boots, sat quietly at a table inside the railing. Occasionally he lit a cigarette with hands that trembled slightly.

Mrs. Cochran, dressed in a green and white dotted dress and brown leghorn hat, came into court with two friends, Mrs. Bob Poole of Dallas and Miss Fay Hargrove of Houston.

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Listened Intently.

Throughout most of the trial Mrs. Cochran listened intently to the testimony. Occasionally, as when the confession of the negro, in all its harrowing details was read, she lowered her head and stared at the floor.

Part of the time Carey Cochran, brother of Dude, sat by her side. Ernest Cochran, another brother, also was in court, along with several hundred Polk County friends.

There were only four witnesses besides Cochran who were called to the stand. They were Duncan Stanford, court reporter when White was shot; Zimmie Foreman, one of Cochran's attorneys; District Judge Ed T. Murphy and Bob Poole of Dallas.

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Answers Firmly.

Cochran, when he was called to the stand, answered questions of J. L. Pitts, his chief attorney, in a quiet, firm voice.

Cochran said that he was in Houston on business on the night the attack took place. He was asked by Pitts if the confession of the negro corresponded to the story told by his wife.

"I could not have described my home any better myself," he said.

Under questioning by Pitts he said that he had talked with friends about the Supreme Court reversal of the case and said that his wife had been called upon twice to testify.

"Did this testimony have any effect upon your wife's health?" Pitts asked.

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"Almost Ruined" Health.

Send All Children To Country, Papers In Helsinki Advise

By Associated Press.

Helsinki, Finland, June 16.—In line with a government policy of encouraging voluntary removal of women and children from this capital, all newspapers advised today that city children be sent to the country for at least a month.

The children's protection commission advertised a thousand free camps to which the government has provided free transportation.

DUTCH SPURN JOINING JAPS' "NEW ORDER"

Raw Materials Must Be Kept From Germany and Italy at All Costs, Says Batavian Governor.

By Associated Press.

Batavia, Netherlands East Indies, June 16.—The governor-general of these Dutch Pacific possessions, speaking in the midst of an economic crisis with Japan, declared today his government had notified Tokio it emphatically rejected "any thought" of including them in the Japanese-proposed "new order for East Asia."

Addressing the opening session of the Legislative People's Council, Governor-General A. W. L. Tjarda Van Starkenborgh Stachouwer recalled Japan's entry into the Rome-Berlin Axis and declared an Axis victory "would spell destruction of the kingdom of the Netherlands."

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No Material for Germany.

He asserted further that the East Indies government would guard carefully against direct or indirect "leaks" of war-important raw materials to Germany.

Reviewing the stalemated negotiations with Japan, the governor-general said the Batavia government had refused to grant the Japanese extraordinary concessions because "a change in our line of conduct, or half-hearted application thereof, could not be considered."

The mixed European and native council and the foreign consular corps listened attentively to the governor-general's address.

Kenkichi Yoshizawa, chief Japanese negotiator, received fresh instructions from Tokio over the week end on Japan's next move, then cabled home asking for clarification.

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Jap Reply Awaited.

The governor-general said it must be understood it was to the Indies' own interests and their national duty to prevent at all costs supplying Germany and Italy with raw materials. These include rubber, oil and tin—commodities Japan has sought in greater amounts.

He said there was no answer yet from the Batavia government's memorandum of June 6 to Tokio rejecting Japanese economic proposals. Japan termed the reply unsatisfactory.

The government finance department meanwhile estimated defense expenditures for 1940-42 at the equivalent of $250,000,000. It said actual and contemplated expenditures of native conscription would bring the total budget deficit for 1941 to 136,700,000 guilders (about $72,000,000).

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"It almost ruined her," Cochran said. "She had to go to the hospital twice after she testified."

Pitts asked Cochran if he did not feel after the Supreme Court reversal that he could get relief from this situation in the courts, and Cochran replied yes.

Cochran testified that he had brooded about the case a great deal since 1937, that on the day White was killed he came to the courtroom here about noon and sat down with his brothers, Ernest and Carey.

"What happened then?" Pitts asked him.

"I sat there a little while," Cochran replied. "The next thing I knew the negro was dead and Zimmie Foreman had the gun."

The state asked no questions, and Judge Murphy was called.

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Knew Cochran 25 Years.

Murphy testified that he had known Dude Cochran for 25 years, that he had known the Cochran family all his life.

"Would you say that Dude Cochran has been normal since this attack on his wife?" Pitts asked him.

"No," Judge Murphy said, "I would say that he has not been."

Again the state asked no questions.

Poole then was called to the stand. He said that he roomed with Cochran at Baylor, and had been intimately associated with the Cochran family for years.

He said they had a reputation of being quiet and law abiding.

"Have you anything special to say, Mr. Poole?" Pitts asked.

Poole hesitated, then said slowly: "I have known Dude most of my life. In my inmost heart I know that he is the most conscientious, honest person I have ever known. No man would ever fight harder for what he knew to be right."



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COURTROOM

White Man Shoots Negro As He Sits In Court Awaiting Trial

CONROE — Bob White, charged with the crime of rape and over whom the NAACP had waged a stubborn fight into three district courts, through the Supreme Court of Texas, the Supreme Court of the United States and back, was killed instantly in a crowded courtroom Tuesday morning by a man said to be W. S. "Dude" Cochran, who stood about 2 feet from White's rear and shot him through the right side of the head.

The gun was fired from an angle above Bob White and ranged down, breaking his neck. White slumped to the right and was dead when spectators reached him. White never saw his assailant and probably did not know what struck him.

The Killer Safe

The killer immediately dropped the gun and threw up his hands. It is said that Attorney Jimmy Foreman, specially hired prosecutor, approached Mr. Cochran and said something to him, at which Mr. Cochran lowered his hands. One witness said that Mr. Foreman told Mr. Cochran to put his hands down, and that he would see to it that he got bond.

The killing happened while the court was still in session. The judge had just indicated that he was about to adjourn the court. Despite the fact that it was time for adjournment, the Deputy Sheriff in charge of Bob White was not present. Also the clerk who had been checking of dismissed jurors, and who sat in front of Bob White, was not in his place at the time of the shooting. In fact, there was nobody around Bob White at the time that the shooting took place.

Mr. Cochran, who is a rich property owner at Livingston, where the alleged rape took place, was arrested by the sheriff inside the rails, some say he was released in ten minutes.

The tension had been high since the beginning of the trial Monday. From 2 o'clock Monday, when the empanelling of the jury began until 5 o'clock only two jurors had been selected and many had been discarded. At the time of the killing, which was around noon, only nine jurors had been accepted and over thirty-seven rejected.

Compromise Talked

Monday morning there had been some talk of a compromise on a ten-year sentence. Mr. Rogers, representing Bob White, and Mr. McLain, the prosecuting attorney, had talked about the case and discussed the possibility of a plea of guilty and a ten-year sentence. But each side had to talk to their clients. O. K. Manning and A. W. Jackson, representing the NAACP, were consulted by Mr. Rogers. Jackson said he thought that it might be all right. O. K. Manning did not commit himself except to say that the NAACP did not compromise cases.

But the idea died when the Cochran family came into court from Livingston. Mr. Cochran and his group said they wanted the case tried and Bob White to either get death or to be turned loose.

Fight Bitter

As indicated by the slowness with which the jury was being selected, the fight was bitter all the way. Attorney Rogers tried for a change of venue. He had three affidavits supporting his motion for change of venue. They sent out for the witnesses who signed the affidavits and subjected them to questioning on the stand.

One, a Negro undertaker there, who had said that he did not think that Bob White could get a fair trial under the circumstances, when he was questioned on the stand, said: "I did think that he couldn't get a fair trial, but I have changed my mind now." Only one of the witnesses, who was Undertaker Collins held to his original testimony.

Manning On Spot

An amusing thing happened during the questioning of these witnesses. They were asked who had asked them to sign affidavits, and responded that it was O. K. Mannig. When asked who O. K. Manning was, they said he was the executive secretary of the Chamber of Commerce at Houston. O. K. Manning, who was sitting in the courtroom, said, "Where is my hat?" A. W. Jackson, who was with Manning and did not want to be left alone, told him not to leave then for if he did he would attract attention to himself and something might happen. But Tuesday, the next day, Manning found business in Houston which obviated the necessity of his returning to such a tense atmosphere, where his name had been personally called. Mr. Manning has said in his most serious mood and tones that it was business alone that kept him from returning Tuesday. Who are we to question such a man as O. K. Manning? A. W. Jackson, however wants somebody to verify Mr. Manning's statement that he had business in the Federal court Tuesday.

Mr. Rogers, having had his motion for a change of venue quashed, then raised his motion to quash the venire or the jury, on the ground that no Negroes had been selected or had been permitted to serve. Ths motion also was overruled.

Attorney Rogers Game

Many people had doubted Mr. Roger's courage and there was considerable doubt as to whether or not White would be well repre-

(See BOB WHITE, Page 2)

A Violation Of Sanctuary

AN EDITORIAL

The body of Bob White, who was killed in open court while sitting at the bar of justice, during the selection of the Jury to pass on the question of his guilt, has been brought to the Huckaby Funeral Home at Houston for burial. The wife and family said that they were afraid that they couldn't give him proper interment in Conroe. The Huckaby Funeral Home is asking for funds from the citizens to help in providing a funeral for Bob White.

Bob White's death symbolizes an attack upon justice and a violation of sanctuary. Making all allowances for the strain under which a husband, who believes that his wife has been criminally assaulted by another man, must move, it is still true that the shooting of Bob White at the very time when the Court was engaged in the effort of trying his innocence or guilt and almost certainly engaged in a procedure which would result in the death of Bob White, means to Negroes in this section that they are not safe in Courts any more and that it is dangerous to even go to the Courts for Justice.

Attend Funeral ! !

Even in the middle ages, Brigands and Racketeers permitted a man or a woman, who reached the confines of the Church or the Court, to claim sanctuary and to be immune to further violent attack. This violation of the sanctity of the Court at a time when America is supposed to be at the heights of civilization, fills the masses of Negroes in this section with foreboding and fear for the future. The funeral of Bob White which is set tentatively for Sunday, is for the majority of Negroes of this section, a funeral for Justice and a funeral for sanctuary. It is suggested that Negroes from every walk of life attend this funeral, which not only buries Bob White, but buries their hopes and their beliefs in justice and its sanctuary. It will be a salutary thing and a normal thing if Bob White's funeral be the most largely attended funeral that has taken place in this section.

Let the Negroes who believe in Democratic principles and who believe that their only security lies in peaceful methods of contending for justice through the Courts, contribute to the burial of this man both with their funds and by their presence at the funeral. It would be an impressive thing if the funeral line of Bob White would extend for miles

(See EDITORIAL, Page 13)



IN DEATH, AS IN LIFE, LOVE RULES

Seen here, gazing sadly at the body of her husband, Bob White; killed while on trial in the Conroe courtroom, is Mrs. Ruby Lee White, whose courageous love caused her to take her marriage vows behind the bars, with the shadow of the electric chair over her husband. During all the tragic months of his condemnation, Mrs. White stood by, and now that he is victim of an assassin's bullet, she vows to give him a decent burial, with the aid of benefactors, for her love rules supreme; in death; as in life. —STAFF PHOTO BY RABB

"My Husband Shot Like Dog," Sobs Mrs. White At Bier of Slain Mate

By ROSSYE LEIGH DAVIS

HOUSTON.—"I hope no other woman will ever suffer the terrible experience of seeing her husband shot down before her eyes like a dog", sobbed Mrs. Ruby Lee White, the widow of Bob White, who was slain in the Conroe Courtroom, Tuesday, by the husband of the woman he was accused of attacking; as she looked at the still body of her husband on a cold slab at the Huckaby Funeral Home on Dowling Street, Wednesday.

The story of the tragic love of Ruby Lee White reads like the pages of a dramatic novel; the story of a woman's love that braved the terrors of intense hatred and dispair, and ends as she presses a last kiss on the cold, blue lips of the man she married.

The plump, brown-skinned woman, whose eyes are still haunted by the shuddering horrors of the past three years, told her story to an INFORMER reporter, as they stood beside the bier of the man she had loved so deeply while he lived.

"I never dreamed when I first met Bob in November 1936 here in Houston that our love would end this way. You see, we liked each other the very first day we met, and we found that we liked the same things, so we certainly enjoyed going out together," Mrs. White whispered, and her face seemed to light up at the recollection of those first happy months.

"Then, he went to Livingston to visit his mother, Mrs. Martha Coachman, who is a widow," she continued, "and it was while he was there, on August 10 ,1937, that he was accused of this crime."

Mrs. White was in Houston at the time, and only learned of the trouble "her Bob" was in, when one of the boys who had been questioned in connection with the alleged crime, came immediately to Houston, following his release, and told Bob's relatives here of the accusation against him. The

(See HUSBAND, Page 8)

CALL NATIO

BOB WHITE—

(Continued From Page 1)

sented. But according to those who were present, Mr. Rogers asked most shaking and pointed questions throughout the selection of the jury and fought every step of the way. One of the quesions which tripped so many of the jurors was, "Will you give this man the same trial and consideration that you would give a white man accused of raping a Negro woman?" Most of the jurors admitted frankly that they would not.

It is also said that Mr. Rogers had let it be known that he intended to demand that the cast of the footprint, which allegedly was made after the incident, be brought into court. He is quoted as having announced that he intended to ask certain other definite, personal questions, and intended to have the lady, who was the alleged victim of the rape, brought into court.

Foreshadowed

Mr. Rogers said in an interview Tuesday that some of the people on the inside around the courthouse had told him that he would probly get a reversal of the case, or he might get an instructed verdict, but that they would not be responble for what would happen in case he got Bob White off.

Attorney Rogers said that the judge was about to adjourn and he just happened to turn around to look to see if the jury was coming in when he saw the man coming toward the rail with the big, black pistol in his hands. He said the man was holding the pistol with both hands. "He walked up to Bob White within a foot of him and shot him near the ear and the bullet came out the other ear." He said that he did not know but what he was going to be shot next, and he got himself up near the judge and in line so that he could not be shot very handily without the judge being struck. He said the mother, brothers and sisters of Bob White were in the courtroom and saw the killing. He said they screamed, some ran out after the killing. He commented upon the horror of having to sit and see the boy shot down in cold blood the way they had to do. He also said that the presiding judge made no comment one way or the other, and that the only comment the Sheriff made was that it was too bad that such things had to happen.

Mr. Rogers also explained that Jimmy Foreman is the attorney for the Cochran estate in Livingston, and came along as the attorney of the family to be with them and to serve in the case. He said that it was natural for a lawyer who represented the family to follow the family through problems and difficulties of this kind.

It is said that the mother of Bob White has been living on the estate of Mr. Cochran all of the time and was still living there on the date of the trial and the killing. Why she could have been still living there is a question that can only be answered by unraveling the conundrum and riddle that surround the relationship of white and black in the South. From one angle the question would be why would the Cochran's permit the mother of an alleged rapist to stay on with them. The other question is why would the mother of a boy accused of rape want to stay with the people who were prosecuting him for rape? But the mysteries that surround and permeate the relationship of black and white in the South will always be baffling to those from the outside.

Bob White has been tried in the district court three times now: Once in Montgomery County, once in Polk County and this time in Walker County. The case has gone to the Supreme Court of Texas and also from there to the Supreme Court of the United States, where it has been reversed twice.

The rape allegedly took place in Livingston about three years ago and the case has been battling around in the various courts since then. The last episode before this one took place in the Supreme Court, when F. S. K. Whittaker secured a reversal of the death sentence by the Supreme Court. Then the case was reset for trial and terminated as indicated above.

While it has been the local branch of the NAACP at Houston which has done most of the work in the Bob White case, the National office has been interested in the case and more or less conversant with it throughout. Just a week now remains before the National Conference will be held in Houston for the first time in the history of the organization. The welcome that the National is getting is like the lynching of Powell in 1928, which was the greeting given to the National Democratic Convention. For of a certainty this case will go down as a legal lynching and will give Conroe a blacker name.

Jackson Shows Nerve

Jackson said he did not know what became of Attorney Rogers after the shooting—he ran out of the courtroom, he said, no, when [illegible] the gun and raised his hands he knew the danger was over. Jackson stayed there until the white undertaker came and got his body. Then he went to the white undertaker's parlor and helped to get the body turned over to Undertaker Collins. Only after helping the wife make arrangements for the funeral did he start for Houston. He said he looked everywhere for Attorney Rogers, but Attorney Rogers admitted that he did not stay in Conroe any longer than it took the Sheriff to make arrangements for him to get out.

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PERSONALS

Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Beckhem, 2520 Nagle Street entertained Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Woodard of Highland Heights with a delicious chicken dinner, Sunday June 8.

Madam Jones, 403 West Dallas, has as her house guest, her charming sister, Mrs. Cora McKenzie, of Chicago, Illinois, Mrs. McKenzie visited her brother, Pressley Archie in New Orleans while en route to th city.

Mr. Henderson Lee and Miss Katherine Hayes motored to Austin, Texas, to attend the Baccalaureate services of Samuel Huston College from which Miss Adelle Celeste Woods of Houston graduated. While there, Mr. Lee and Miss Hayes worshipped at Ebenezer Baptist church.

Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Ransom, Dallas, have returned home after a brief vacation visiting relatives and friends. They motored to Marshall for the Baccalaureate and Commencement of Mrs. Ransom's sister. A few days were spent in Liberty with Mr. Ransom's father. They were the week end house guest of and Mrs. John Thompson, 3039 Gray.

Mrs. Ransom is formerly of Houston and will be remembered as a popular beautician of the Royal Beauty Shoppe.

Mrs. Cora Lee Bryant, Laurinda Tyler of Cuero, Texas and Mrs. W. E. D. Freeman of Hempstead, Texas, were the house guests of Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Greene during the past week end. Mrs. Bryant is the mother of Mr. Greene; Mrs Freeman is the mother of Mrs. Greene and Mrs. Tyler is MBr. Green's aunt.

Mrs. C. A. Wilkins, 3029 Drew, Houston, Texas will celebrate June 19 in Brenham and July 4 in Brazoria, on the old estate.

Rev. J. H. Hardeman of Port Arthur, Texas, will be in the city June 17-18 and will render service at Brown Chapel A. M. E. Church.

Miss Dolly Pearl Burton will leave Thursday night for Wichita Falls to visit relatives and friends. On returning, she will stop in Dallas for a fort night.

Miss Colida A. Board of Liberty, Texas is here attending the Houston College summer session. The popular Prairie Viewite finds herself quite at home with so many of her former classmates here.

Mrs. Charlie McClinton has returned from Los Angeles, California where she attended the bedside of her son, James Taft Givens. His condition is rported improved.

Miss Mary C. Lee will leave June 28 for St. Louis Missouri where she will spend a fort night with relatives, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Lee, 3748 Paige Street.

Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Williams, 500 Live Oak have moved to Huntsville Texas where they are operating the only Negro hotel in that city. Mrs. Williams is a native of Houston. In passing through or in visiting Huntsville, ther frends are asked to stop in to see them.

Whitlowe R. Green, chairman of the Department of Sovial Science at the Jack Yates High School left the city last week for Albuquerque to resume studies at the University of New Mexico in the Graduate School of Arts and Science.

Mrs. E. J. Douglas of Yoakum, Texas reutrned home after a month visit ih with her children, Mr. Curry Douglas, Mrs. Flora Douglas and Mrs. James Brooks.

Mr. and Mrs. James Brooks left on their vacation Monday morning.

GETTING UP NIGHTS

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DR. W. S. BRENT

HOUSTON.—"When you attempt to gain self-respect through hate by exhibiting wrath and resentwent against your neighbor, you are undermining the very self-respect you are trying to establish," declaed Dr. Howard Thurman, dean of the chapel at Howard University of Washington, D. C., in an eloquent address delivered to the seventy-five members of the graduating class of Houston College for Negroes, on Thursday night, June 5, in the Jack Yates High School Auditorium.

This marked the fourteenth annual Commencement of the College, and the sixth year of graduating exercises for the four-year college course. Following the processional, with Mendelssohn's "Priest's March" played by the College orchestra, the glee club, under the direction of Mrs. Eddye M. Shivery, rendered "Ave Maria." Father Lewis, of the St. Luke Episcopal church, delivered the invocation.

One of the highlights of the program was the presentation of the Negro Art Song, Opus 9, composed by Professor Abner S. Jones instructor of music at the college. The lyrics were sung by the mixed chorus, accompanied by the college band.

Dean J. D. Bowles of the college, who acted as master of ceremonies, introduced the speaker for the evening. Dr. Thurman chose as his subject, "The Ultimate Basis of Self-Respect", and a capacity audience heard him discuss the use of violence, hate, and fear, in an effort to gain self-respect, adding that these are mere substitutes for patience, tolerance and constructive thinking.

The speaker stressed the fact to the graduates that they must face a severe test, as they go out into the world. It is a test of man's faith in democracy; a test of man's faith in his ability to fashion an even greater and improved democracy, he said. He urged the graduates to guarantee their worth and significance, and to seek truth under all circumstances.

At the conclusion of Dr. Thurman's address, the Glee Club sang Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus", from the "Messiah".

The candidates for graduation were then presented and Dr. E. E. Oberholtzer, superintendent of schools, urged the graduates to go forward with a desire to render worthy service before the diplomas were awarded.

Prizes were then awarded: in English, to Ruth Foster; in Mathematics to Renee Margaret Shackles. These were given by the faculty of Jack Yates High School. Students receiving Honorable Mention were Ruth Foster and Thelma Simmons, Department of Education; Frances Schultz and Josephine Green, Physical Education; Thelma Simmons, Home Economics; Eugene Coleman and Lionel Kelly, Tailoring; Gloria Beane, Romance Languages;; Janie Lue Arthur, Aquilla Godley, Alta Mae Williams, and Beatrice Cotton, Sociology.

One of the featured numbers of the musical portion of the program followed, the Glee Clubs rendition of Cain's "In That Great Getting-Up Morning." Father Lewis pronounced the benediction, and as the audience remained seated, the graduates recessional followed.

Candidates for degrees were Carnie Edward Allen, Norman Archie Allen, Janie Lue Arthur, with Distinction Albert Burnett Barnes, Matthew Leo Batteau, Edna Mae Blair, Ruby Bowers, Arlena Shepherd Brown, Daisy Wooten Bryant, Georgia Victoria Buckener, with Great Distinction, Nettie Odell Chase, Jewell Chatman, Albertha Lena Chatman, Arena Flemmings Cockrell, Katie Mae Collins, with Great Distinction Martha Loretta Cook, Beatrice Harris Cotten, with Distinction, Mary Bell Dewalt, Willie Mae Dickey Delois Dickey, Willie Mae Donley, Emma Gene Dotson, with distinction, Emma Mary Elmore, Julia Anderson Forward, Ruth Foster, with Great Distinction, Gloria Garrett, Bernice Josephine Green, Willie Mae Green, Pearl Delores Grimes, Ethel B. Hayes, Norvella Geneva Hill, Cecela Hogue, Bernice Marie Humphrey, Lucretia Ann Ishman, Marie Palmer Jackson, Bernice Emerald Jones, with Distinction' Gerald Mae Leonard, Amanda Allen Loper, Estella Lee Long, Blanch Elizabeth Luckett, Maud Josephine Martin,

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WHITENING CREAM
(MEDICATED) FREE
CESS OINTMENT.....25c
CESS WHITENING
D).....25c
VALUE 50c
C LIMITED OFFER
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1.
TMENT
USED FOR 101 YEARS

158250

June 30, 1941

Mr. T. P. Flaig
2015 North Stonewall
Greenville, Texas

My dear Mr. Flaig:

We wish to acknowledge on behalf of the President your letter of June 16, 1941, the contents of which have been noted.

Sincerely yours,

T. D. Quinn
Administrative Assistant
to the Attorney General

jrk:emb

SIGNED AND MAILED
JUL 1 1941
DIVISION OF RECORDS

JRK







Hon. F. D Roosevelt

(President Mansion)

Washington

D. C.

Personal

From
2015 N. Stonewall.
Greenville, Texas.

11

158260

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
JUN 25 1941 P.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
Correspondence Section

Justice

6/16/41

E.M.A.

President Roosevelt.

I read in today's Fort Worth (Texas) "Star Telegram" your statement regarding the treatment of Negro soldiers. It occurs to me that Ohio & Indiana, two states at least should welcome all the blacks & parti colored citizens. I say this because I lived in both Ohio & Indiana. and being a native of Kentucky was happy that I had a trade & could get a position south of the Ohio River. Dallas Texas a city 52 miles from here, in recent months has had negro's trying to buy homes in White districts. It occurs to me any effort

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DIVISION OF RECORDS
JUN 27 1941
CORRESPONDENCE SECTION

ad 6-30-41

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JUN 3 1941

over

to force equality on the white people of the South would mean a lot of trouble for the negroes. I have always been a friend of the negro. But as to the privileges granted them as in Ohio & Indiana would say "Nothing doing".
The nation that with its "slave trading" business that was really the cause of our civil war brought untold misery to our great nations. As far as possible, it occurs to me it would be best to let each state as Ohio & Indiana provide for the negroes. At the time I lived in Ohio, that state permitted whites and blacks to marry - & may still do so. Am still a Southerner.

T. P. Blair 205 N. Stonewall.
Greenville, Texas.

N.B. Will be 72. July 7th '44, hoping to see the world at peace.

Justice

948 Union Avenue

Bronx, New York

June 16, 1941

RECEIVED
JUN 26 1941
CRIMINAL DIVISION

Mr President,

I am writing to you this way because my people are desperate and bitter towards the rotteness they have had to endure this, and past years. To the relative it does not matter how bad certain members of the family is, because their veins carry the same blood as yours. You might at times be angry with them, even ashamed but you allways will have love for them no matter what they do.

The Negro people are my family, and that is why I have come to you, not for pity or disreguard, but for guidence and support.

To me and I know to millions like me, you are the Father of this house, the United States of America. When I was a little girl I never failed to go to my parents when I was in trouble. As the parent of these United States, I feel the same as I did in childhood when I come to you and say your children, The Negro, needs your streingth, your attention, and your power. You know The Negro because it is your duty as Head to know all concerning your house, but as a blood relation allow me to say we are not as Black as our skin!

I have never attempted to reach you before, because I realize the fact that like any other family there will somehow be one who does not keep within the good teachings of his parent. In this the United family, there are many. There-fore shame is upon me when I emply the blame upon you, because I sincerly do not, and hope never to

File
158260
DEPARTMENT OF JU
JUN 25 1941
DIVISION OF RECORDS
Crim Retrieval
RECORD

feel that you Head of the greatest house on earth are to blame for foul play amoung your many races of children. However I must admit to you that the "game is not being played fairly."

I am most heartly against this March on the Capital idea, but my fight against it is small because I have very little support. Your reply to this my letter of confession, will I pray, mark the beginning of my peoples happiness and the end to their many conflicts.

I emplore you Mr. President to act quickly for this is truely a matter of LIFE and DEATH.

Most Respectfully Yours,

Beatrice Lynn

RECEIVED
JUN 21 1941
CRIMINAL DIVISION

814½ Good Street
Dallas, Texas
June 14, 1941

OFFICE OF THE
RECEIVED
JUN 19 1941
ATTORNEY GENERAL

Assistant Attorney General Schweinhaut
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Schweinhaut:

The Reverend M. H. Jackson has brought the work of your department to my attention and has advised the Texas National Association for the Advancement of Colored People of your deep interest in seeing that the rights of minority groups and others are not abridged in the Courts of the Land, therefore we are bringing to your attention one of the most flagrant breeches of the dignity of our court in the history of Texas.

At Conroe, Texas on June 10, a Negro on trial for his life was shot to death in the court room by the plaintiff who was immediately released on $500.00 bond. This would be a barbarous incident at any time but during this National Emergency it seems to us to be doubly un-American and dangerous. Never before have the Negroes of Texas felt more unprotected under the government. We, therefore, call this to your attention and earnestly petition that the Department of Justice take action in this case.

Reverend Jackson, who was in your office last October discussing the bombing of Negro homes in Dallas, has led us to feel that you will take, if possible, action in this situation.

Enclosed are clippings which bring out the lurid details.

Respectfully yours,

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
JUN 20 1941 P.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS

A. Maceo Smith
Secretary, Texas Conference of Branches, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

AMS/smc
Enclosure

cc: Walter White, New York City
Attorney General Jackson

Justice

RECEIVED
JUN 28 1941
CRIMINAL DIVISION

20 West 129 St.
New York, N. Y.
June 13, 1941

Pres. Franklin D. Roosevelt.
The White House.
Washington D. C.
Dear President Roosevelt.

157200
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
JUN 23 1941 A.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
E.J.R
RECORD
Cum-Ratnam
FILED
BY
JUL 3 1941

We are a group of students and teachers in the largest Negro community in the United States, Harlem. We have followed the foreign policy of the present administration relative to the World War No 2. in our newspapers, we have heard the speeches over the radio and at various Mass Meetings and we have come to realize that the nation is heading towards a fatal plunge in the present conflict. Notwithstanding the fact that Great Britain is likely to lose if we do not enter, notwithstanding the fact that a Hitler dominated Europe will not be any too agreeable to us, we must not forget that war destroys everything even the things that we are fighting to preserve. Only remember the amount of blood shed for democracy in the last war, only to have today a world in which we have a

democracy ~~is~~ about to be cast into oblivion.

Even though democracy is having its darkest days now, it can be saved and you, President Roosevelt, are the one to save it. There have been numerous lynchings of our black brethren in the southern part of our great democracy. "Jimcrowism" is practiced in our "Armed Forces, Defense Program, and various private industries. There are millions of families here who cannot get adequate food clothing and shelter. We believe that democracy should be saved here first and then spread abroad.

Yours with respect,

Ruth Jett
Metella Jones
Ruth Cummings
Frederick T. Harwell
Frank D. Griffin
Rose Olson
George Thomas
Rosa Lee Bell
Manuela Diaz
Marilyn M. Maillard
James Ruling
x Charles Bell
Joyce Maillard
William Simpson

William H. Pease Jr.
Nellie Ephraim
Mamie Lawrence
Sarah Cole
Adela Tizol
Laura Gates
Harry Gross
Dorothy F. Kelly
Pearl Wright
James N. Howell
Cecil A. Seale
Ralph Holford
Norma Clarke
Dorothy Valdez

Vincent Hoyst
Elsie Gittens
Muriel G. Williams
Nathan Hall
Mary Smalls
Mildred Crump
Conrad Graves
Helen Hilson
John Isley Pease sr.
Aidah De Loatch
Loretta Alice Pease
James Ingram
Algie Hall
Dorothea Simmons
Sarah Dee Loatch
Rosetta Gaston
Robert Perry
Pearl Massey
Eleanor Mayhew
Glendel Mason
James E. Colburn Sr.
Catherine Thompson
E. Williams Thompson

Rich Husband of Texas Rape Victim Kills Colored Suspect at 3d Trial

(Special to The News)

Conroe, Tex., June 10.—W. S. Cochran, wealthy Texas landowner, walked over to the railing in crowded District Court here this afternoon and shot to death Bob White, colored, charged with raping Mrs. Cochran.

The ninth juror had just been chosen for the third trial of White, whose death sentence had been reversed once by the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals and once by the United States Supreme Court, when the killing took place.

Bailiffs were escorting the ninth juror across the hall to the jury dormitory when the shot rang out.

Enters Court With Gun.

J. P. Rodgers, attorney for White, who was sitting near his client, said Cochran walked into the courtroom with a pistol in his hand.

"I thought he was bringing the gun is as evidence," Rodgers said. "He walked down to the railing separating the spectators from the principals in the case.

"He leaned over to within a foot of the defendant. There was one shot. The bullet tore through Bob's head. His head fell on his chest and blood reddened his shirt front."

Cochran, without saying a word, walked to Zimmie Forman, an old friend who was special prosecutor, and handed him the gun. He hesitated for a moment, then raised his hands in the air as Deputy Sheriff Herschel Surrat rushed forward.

Crowd Stampedes.

By that time the crowd in the courtroom was stampeding to get out the doors.

Sheriff Grover Mostyn and Surrat took the silent Cochran before Justice of the Peace J. W. McDaniel, where he was charged with murder.

J. L. Pitts, wealthy Conroe oil man and friend of Cochran, hurried to the Justice's office, where he shook Cochran's hand and signed the bond of $500.

Then the slayer walked from the courtroom, got into a car where his wife awaited him, and drove off toward Livingston, his home.

than in the last quarter of 1940 and the great struggle for the Atlantic is "being well maintained."

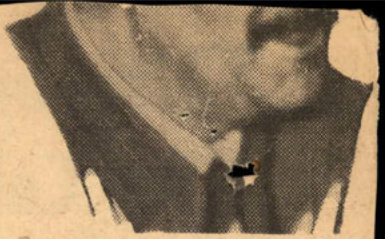
In May alone, he said, 257,000 tons of [illegible]is shipping had been

(Continued on page 10, col. 1)

ish military quarters to be moving rapidly, preventing French Syrian destruction of communications.

An RAF communique tonight said that British fighters had shot down five enemy pla[illegible]

Ankara reported that one British



Gen. Henri Dentz

His soldiers reported quitting.

Communiques

FRENCH

***Vichy, June 10** (AP).—This communique on the fighting in Syria was issued today:*

On the afternoon of June 9 and the morning of June 10, British and DeGaullist forces between the Lebanon coast and Jebel Ed Druz, of several divisions strength, including one armored division, renewed their efforts in the direction of Beirut and Damascus.

Between Jebel Ed Druz and Hermon Mountains garrisons of our advanced posts of Kuneitra and Sheikh-Meskine were withdrawn after having carried out brilliant delaying action.

The enemy this morning found himself stopped on the general line Merdjayoun, south of Sasa, Chabages and the western border of the Leja Desert.

In the coastal region of southern Lebanon the British tried without success to break the resistance of our troops. The attacks were led by armored units supported by fire from warships. Units which succeeded in disembarking on the coast north of the mouth of the Litani River have been counterattacked.

Our aviation is spending itself ceaselessly to cooperate in the defence. British prisoners expressed profound astonishment at meeting only French and not

Continued on page 40, col. 1)

off by anti-aircraft fire. One raider was shot down and another damaged, the RAF said.

The communique said that the raiders returned "to the German-controlled base at Aleppo" in northeastern Syria, followed by British planes which strongly attacked the air base.

Planes on the ground were bombed, fires were started and "much damage caused," it was said.

Strengthening predictions of a collapse of French resistance British reconnaissance pilots were said to have reported that German planes have been leaving Syria,

(Continued on page 26, col. 1)

11

(3)

Joseph L. H. Smith Lodge 54, F. & A. M.

Moshur and McCullah Sts. Baltimore, Md.

SAMUEL BRYANT
~~208 LANGFORD STREET~~
ASBURY PARK, N. J.

929 Cookman Ave

Justice

June 11th 1941

RECEIVED
JUN 26 1941
CRIMINAL DIVISION

158260
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
JUN 24 1941 A.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
Crim Rhiga

E. J. R.

My dear mr President

Just a line to say no we american are very bissy prepearing to over come our enemy from a distants across the pan still mr president we are confront with many things at home that do not mean ing thing good to our american constitution will yn please tell us whear yn stod in regards of this cliping in sending yn hoping to hear from yn by return mail thanking yn in advance I remain yours truly Samuel Bryant

FILED
BY JW
On JUN 11 1941

WB:FGF:FF

158260

June 30, 1941

FILED
BY JW
On 10/

Mr. Samuel Bryant
929 Cookman Avenue
Asbury Park, New Jersey

Dear Sir:

This will acknowledge receipt, by reference from the President, of your letter of June 11, 1941, concerning the shooting in open court of the defendant in a rape case at Conroe, Texas.

You are advised that this matter has been given careful consideration by the Department, but it appears to be within the exclusive jurisdiction of the State of Texas. As you know, the jurisdiction of the Federal Government over the internal affairs of the several States is extremely limited, and for this reason the Federal Government may not intervene in this matter.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General,

WENDELL BERGE,
Assistant Attorney General.

7.2.7. B
R

SIGNED AND MAILED
JUN 30 1941
DIVISION OF RECORDS

JIM CROW DESTROYS DEFENSE

RECEIVED
JUN 24 1941
CRIMINAL DIVISION

Negro Americans Want Jobs and Peace

CRIM. DIV. - McINERNEY
E.L.B.



FILED
JW,
JUN 26 19

FIFTY THOUSAND young men like Fitzgerald Bramwell are ready to fill the huge shortage of skilled workers in America's aircraft industry. But they are BARRED because they are Negroes. One hundred and three thousand white men have already secured new jobs in aircraft. But with all the fine words about Democracy of President Roosevelt and Sidney Hillman, less than one hundred Negroes have secured these jobs.

The President's policies lead us rapidly down the road to war in the name of Democracy. But the President does nothing about Jim Crowism in national defense, nothing about it in the Navy, the Army and the Federal Government. Officials, politicians and employers hypocritically talk about Democracy but practice Jim Crowism. Negro Americans want jobs and peace. They do not want starvation and death.

The National Negro Congress is fighting a mighty battle against Jim Crowism in our nation. You can help. Write the President of the United States, write your Congressman and Senators today. There is a National Negro Congress Council in your town. For its address and more information on our fight for jobs write to:

THE NATIONAL NEGRO CONGRESS
717 FLORIDA AVENUE, N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

256 WEST 116 ST.

158260
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
JUL 15 1941
DIVISION OF RECORDS
CRIM. DIV. - McINERNEY

We call your attention to the June 27th issue of **Friday** *Magazine, on sale right now on all newsstands. This issue cont a dramatic story in pictures, the story of Fitzgerald Bramwell, young Negro engineer. His story is typical of tens of thou Be sure to read the story of this young man, his problems, his family and the cruel job discrimination against him. You all your friends will be vitally interested in this story of a young Negro father's attempt to break down the Jim Crow barriers to a decent job. Buy* **Friday** *Magazine on your nearest newsstand now.*

NEGRO PEOPLE WANT JOBS AND PEACE AT HOME

It's not what [redacted] say, but how [redacted] say
it. Reds dagging behind jobs for Negroes,

NOTICE

PLEASE DO NOT
REMOVE THIS SLIP
FROM THE ATTACHED
CORRESPONDENCE
SINCE IT IS A
PERMANENT PART
OF THE RECORD.

DIVISION OF RECORDS

158260

~~100-2-14~~

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
JUN 1941 A.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
Correspondence Section
CRIM. DIV. - SCHWEINHAUT

File
7.1.7

E. J. R.

RECORD

E. H.

CR 6/12/41

Wants permit to protect himself

RESPECTFULLY REFERRED
FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSIDERATION

M H M Guyne

Secretary to the President

Please reassign somewhere. —

He wants permit to protect himself
and in which case he says
he round up those among
his own race who attempt to
interfere with President
Program

9

Mr President

I am a Negro and I love this Country and I ask love the leader of this great Country of Ours. Meaning you. You have did so much for my people and yet there are some who thinks you havent did any thing. God help them if you were defeated so hear is what I want and I dont get it hear but I do believe in you

RECEIVED
JUN 9 1941
CORRESPONDENCE SECTION

RECEIVED
JUN 12 1941
PRIVATE DIVISION

I went to one of the Basses
where I work and reported
and insterdent which I
saw with my own eyes about
and Sullivan. which I found
he had stolen something
that was very important
and the boss said I will
check which did but it
was this man Record
and did not go where this
Man had hidden this article
you see if this man had
Help the boss that I had

Stolten Some thing no matter
how small it was he Want
how Went amealiley and
Checked the place & where this
artical Was placed
Now I Want a permit to carry
Some sort of protection as I
now I com not talk are tell
any thing each guy know that
I reported this I they found out
I dont know but I com help
as I have attended some of
there meeting places and
they are selling some of my
People the wrong idea

And I have tryed to change
some of my people but they
are being changed because
of the way they are being treated
in public building and
all over this state not because
they dont love this flag but
because they have to take jobs
that the White man want
work on unless business
are so slow that he is put there
and the black boy is put out
if you will give me protection
a permit to protect myself

I will put the finger any man
who will do any thing to
stall your Pragrham.
I will work with out pay
I will give all for this
flag but know body want
to believe me because of
the caller of my skin
I will put my finger own
men of my race who are
being drilled to do something
disperat help me now and

9 Will help this Cause
Please help Me to Save
My People by sending
your approval to this one
great Cause as I will
do every thing in my
power to repay you by
saving my people through
yah God Bless you and
help you to lead this
country in way that would
be pleasing in the sight
of God

Close

Yours with respect

Virgil Franklin Jr

Post office Box 162

Naugatuck, Conn.

DAILY REPORT OF HISTORY-FILING SECTION [redacted] DATE:

NUMBERS	CLERKS	Cards Filed	LETTERS Checked	LETTERS Left Over	LETTERS Filed	LETTERS Left Over	FILES Filed	FILES Left Over

Justice

540- Manhattan ave
New York, City - apt. 3-C.

President F. D. Roosevelt.
1116- Pennsylvania
Washington, D.C

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JUN 16 194
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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
JUN 11 1941
DIVISION OF RECORDS
CRIM. DIV. - SCHWEINHAUT
JUN 18 1941
RESPECTFULLY REFERRED
FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSIDERATION
Secretary to the President

My dear Mr. President.

Some time in 1938- I beg of you to give my people a chance in our Merchentman Marine. As we were being supplanted by foreigners. But now the loss my warning went unheeded.

Now Mr. President, our Country is facing a grave Crisis, and we are now denied our rights to work. Mr. President if I feel this way, how do you think the rest of my race feel? How detrimental fifteen million negros could be to our beautiful Country. I do know Mr. President, what the Aliens are trying to do to my people and also trying to make them go against their Country.

So Mr. President, I am asking you to help now. Please do before its to late. I love my Country, love it more than any thing in the world. I have travel over the world and I am Convince as far as my self is Concern, this is the best Country.

Your obient servent, John W. Clark

154260

June 30, 1941

Mr. A. H. Randall
429 Waverley
Kansas City, Kansas

Dear Sir:

We have your letter of June 9, 1941, addressed to the President and by him referred to this Department, the contents of which have been noted.

Very truly yours,

T. D. Quinn
Administrative Assistant
to the Attorney General

gl:emb

FILED
By JW
On JUL 1 1941

SIGNED AND MAILED
JUN 30 1941
DIVISION OF RECORDS

gl.

Justice

RESPECTFULLY REFERRED FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND CONSIDERATION

M H McIntyre
Secretary to the President

158260

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
JUN 1941 A.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
Correspondence Section

Kans. City Kans.
6-9-1941

Mr Franklin D Roosevelt
At Washington D.C.

RECEIVED
DIVISION OF RECORDS
JUN 24 1941

Dear Mr President
it ford me with Pleasure
to Rite you a few Lines to
ask you to make it Posibal for my People
to make a Living in this new America
as i feel that We as so call American
negros that We should have our stand
as a Living Scalds in this Great new —
America But as you no that your god —
and my god is a Just god and he will —
make a way out of no Way for his servants
Now i am asking you to Pleas Make it
Posibal for me and my negro race and i Read
the Evining Papper finding that god has started
War With Watter and wind through out
the Natison as you no that the negro hafter
Pay the same amount of tax as the White man
and the high Price of Living Cost us just the
same as it Cost the White man and i thank
that you should see that We have the same
Chance to Work as iney other —

Ack. 6/30/41-gd.

FILED

American - Regardess to Race are Cread
and as i Took ave the Evening Paper
this after noon as a true and Loyal
American it made me feel as the D Postal
Paul - i wish that my head was a River
and my Eyes was a fountain i would weap
for all America day and night now -
hope that you will Consiter these few -
ward and i want you to no that the -
Negro of America is the Loylest and Pure
Padrica and will give the Last Drop
of Blood in our Rains for old Glory

And i will Be Please to here from
you in Returns this Letter is
from a true Loyl American

Yours truly

A H Randall
4.29 Waverley
Kans C Kans

And as you no
Down in alamber
Georgia Lousina
Miss - there is Negros
on the Rich man
Plantaison Dont no that
freedom Ever Existed
and i thank that is a
Dis gress to america humalita)

THE CRISIS

A RECORD OF THE DARKER RACES

69 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK, N. Y.

Telephone: ALgonquin 4-3551

ROY WILKINS
Editor

6

June 9, 1941

R.C. J-D
JUN 25 1941
CRIMINAL DIVISION

President Franklin D. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. President:

We are attaching a marked copy of the June, 1941, issue of THE CRISIS, and invite your attention to the editorial on page 183.

Very sincerely yours,

Roy Wilkins

RW:LH

EDITOR

FILED
BY JW.
JUL 1 1941

JUL 1 1941
158260
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
JUN 24 1941 A.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS

see enclosure section

File 7.4.7.

E. J. R.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE CRISIS PUBLISHING CO., Inc.

15 cents a copy *$1.50 a year* *$2.50 two years*

Official Organ: National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

DAILY REPORT OF HISTORY-FILING SECTION DATE:

NUMBERS	CLERKS	Cards Filed	LETTERS Checked	LETTERS Left Over	LETTERS Filed	LETTERS Left Over	FILES Filed	FILES Left Over

158260

June 23, 1941

Mr. Walter E. Reifer
Chairman, United Civic League
108-05 Northern Boulevard
Corona, New York

Dear Sir:

We wish to acknowledge on behalf of the President your letter of June 7, 1941, inclosing resolutions, the contents of which have been duly noted.

Very truly yours,

T. D. Quinn
Administrative Assistant
to the Attorney General

jrk:ms

SIGNED AND MAILED
JUN 25 1941
DIVISION OF RECORDS

FILED
BY JW.
On JUN 27 1941

NEwtown 9-5159

Justice

UNITED CIVIC LEAGUE

106-05 NORTHERN BOULEVARD
CORONA, N. Y.

Walter E. Reifer, Chairman
Helen Miles, Co-Chairman
James Taite, Treasurer
Rupert R. Callender, Sec.

COMMITTEE
Dr. Foster Pettie
Rev. J. B. Crocker
Rev. W. Hinton
Mrs. Alice Sampson
Dr. Chantrelle
Mr. O. P. Armwood
Mrs. Ruth De Fosset
Noel De Pass
Alvesta Cailloux

158260
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
JUN 16 1941 A.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
Correspondence Section
E.J.R.

JUN 18 1941

June 7,1941

RECORD
RESPECTFULLY REFERRED
FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSIDERATION
M.H.M. Latyne
Secretary to the President

Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt
President of the United States
Washington, D.C.

Honorable Sir:

At a meeting of the United Civic League, held at St. Markes A.M.E. Church, Corona, Long Island, on the evening of the 24th of May, 1941, the enclosed resolution was adopted as a protest against the action of a group of residents of East Elmhurst in calling a mass meeting to protest the occupying of certian premises, purchased in East Elmhurst by a member of the Negro race - solely on the grounds of his being a Negro.

The United Civic League asked that the above actions be called to your attention since, in times like these, anything that smacks at un-Americanism or a denial of the democratic rights of Americans is a threat to our national security, and since our government has adopted a policy that any person or government that crushes the exercise of the democratic rights of individuals or nations is a threat and enemy of these United States of America.

The United Civic League would appreciate an early reply stating your position in this matter.

Respectfully yours,
Walter E. Reifer
Walter E. Reifer - Chairman
UNITED CIVIC LEAGUE

WER;b
Enc.

FILED
BY JW,
ON JUN 27 1941

alR
6-23-41
JRK

RESOLUTIONS

WHEREAS:

The financial institutions of Greater New York have refused to make loans, through F.H.A., H.O.L.C. or otherwise, for the development of Negro homes, especially when there is less than a 75% Negro population, thereby causing a shortage of homes to exist among our race,

and

WHEREAS:

Several unoccupied homes, located in our immediate community, owned by said institutions, are for sale only to members of other races, barring and discriminating the purchase of these homes by Negroes through an economic pretense,

and

WHEREAS:

The desire of the Negro race to acquire better types of homes and to create a higher type of environment for the youth of tomorrow, which aim the Negroes have set about to acquire,

and

WHEREAS:

The Negro population of Corona is increasing tremendously and it becomes natural that the Negro is forced to expand in accordance with the growth of its population.

and

WHEREAS:

The evils existant among the youth of our community multiply due to stagnation and suppression of the ambition, the will and right to be freed from their economic chains,

and

WHEREAS:

Our form of government, through its democratic principles, promises to the youth of this country, freedom and opportunity for livelihood irrespective of race, color and creed,

and

WHEREAS:

The discriminative practices that are continuing among the employers of the great industries in and around our country, with their mass of employment and defense productions, is not only causing great suffering among our people, but is destroying the confidence, love and respect for the type of justice in this, our great American institution,

and

WHEREAS:

The loyalty and service of the Negro race for our gov-

ment commands the interest of the Christina leaders in our community, in public and social life,

and

WHEREAS:

The will and desire of other forces to limit the existence of our people to a given ares, after its usefulness has been depreciated,

and

WHEREAS:

The people of other races have failed to recognize the same classes of distinction among our race as are accepted in other races, and tend to force one low type of environment upon an ambitious group of people whose relative advancement in civilization is being obtained through the same channels of spiritual and material education as theirs,

and

WHEREAS:

Members of our race having purchased homes in the immediate district adjoining our community, namely East Elmhurst, have aroused the hatred of the residents of that area,

and

WHEREAS:

Said dictators have used one of our schools, namely P.S. 127, for the purpose of slandering and branding our race as "undesirables" and hurling threats to burn said home,

and

WHEREAS:

Such actions tend to create hatred and animosity among the people of this community,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED:

That the authorities of our government-City, state and nation, awake and concern themselves as to these evils and prejudiced practices which are destroying the unity of the people, so greatly needed in our present crisis for the defense of our great nation.

We therefore call upon you to utilize your high office to check these evils being forced upon a people who have no other country and know no other home.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That this resolution, unanimously adopted this twenty-fourth day of May, nineteen hundred and forty-one A D be sent to the chief Magistrate of our city, and a copy be served on the Governor of our State and the Commander-in- chief of our great nation.

WB:TGF:adh

158260

June 12, 1941

Mr. William B. Cox
Executive Secretary
The Osborne Association, Inc.
114 East 30th Street
New York, New York

Dear Sir:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of June 5, 1941, concerning conditions at Wetumpka, Alabama, State Prison.

Your comments are gratefully received and you are advised that your suggestions will receive the attention of the Department.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General,

WENDELL BERGE
Assistant Attorney General

FILED
JUN 12 1941
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

SIGNED AND MAILED
JUN 12 1941
DIVISION OF RECORDS

7.9.7
#15

THE OSBORNE ASSOCIATION, INC.

COMBINING THE NATIONAL SOCIETY OF PENAL INFORMATION, Inc., and THE WELFARE LEAGUE ASSOCIATION, Inc., BOTH FOUNDED BY

THOMAS MOTT OSBORNE

114 EAST 30TH STREET NEW YORK, N. Y.

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RICE M. YOUELL

June 5, 1941

RECEIVED
JUN 6 1941
CRIMINAL DIVISION

Honorable Wendell Berge
Assistant Attorney General
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Berge:

Your letter WB:FGF:adh No. 158260, dated May 27th with reference to Negro women prisoners at Wetumpka, Alabama, State Prison received.

I regret that I must advise you that our Association has not made an inspection of this institution for more than ten years, and I am, therefore, unable to give you the information you seek. The last time I was at this institution, however, the Negro women were working in shirt factories, and certainly none of them at that time were digging ditches, cutting stumps or building roads. Some of them were working on the institution farm, and while some of this work may have been considered fairly heavy work for women, I do not believe it was any heavier than the work usually performed by Negro women on the farms of the South.

Doubtless there is a differentiation in the type of work white women prisoners in all of the states of the South, and the work performed by Negro women prisoners. This is also true in the prisons for males to some extent, and I think it is largely accounted for because such a condition is quite usual in life outside of the prisons in the South. By this I do not mean, however, that I endorse any such situation, but I do not believe it can be termed as anything unusual unless, of course, the statement in the first paragraph of your letter that they are digging ditches, cutting stumps and building roads is true. Of course, work of this nature should never be performed by women and it is

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BY JW,
On JUN 13 1941

158260
DEPARTMENT
JUN 9 1941
CRIM. DIV. - SCHWEINHAUT

RECORD MJM

C. C.

hard for me to believe that it is as bad as might be indicated in your letter.

May I suggest the possibility of your writing to Mr. James B. Gaffney, superintendent of the Federal Prison Camp at Montgomery, Alabama? I am sure that Mr. Gaffney would be willing to write you confidentially, whether or not there is any basis for the charge that has been presented to you.

I am sorry I cannot give you any further information on this subject.

Very truly yours,

William B. Cox
Executive Secretary

wbc:rw

158260 JUN 13 1941

June 9, 1941

Mr. Wilbert Fredericks
537 Monroe Street
Brooklyn, New York

Dear Sir:

We wish to acknowledge on behalf of the President your letter of May 23, 1941.

Your comments have been noted.

Very truly yours,

T. D. Quinn
Administrative Assistant
to the Attorney General

jrk:ms

SIGNED AND MAILED
JUN 11 1941
DIVISION OF RECORDS

RESPECTFULLY REFERRED
FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSIDERATION
Mrs M Shayne

158260
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
JUN 10 1941 A.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
Correspondence Section
JUN 13 1941
RECORD
E.J.B.

37 Monroe Street
Brooklyn, New York
May 23, 1941

JUN 5 1941

Mr. President,

In the light of the present world situation, a nation requires one common vital defence, and that is (Unity) it is not possible to defend America, nor to provide for her just welfare, by omitting a race, group, or class. (The Right to Live), because of their color, that happens to be black. In just a few months I will become of age for draft registration. Can one who is segregated and discriminated against live and live again retain love for a (Democracy) of that sort? Perhaps Sir, you may thought

throw this letter into the waste paper basket, but that will not alter things one bit. For cannot find in the United States Army, Navy, Marines, where a negro person - or group sold out information to the enemy against (America) We both know you cant very well treat the white man. The only (race) America can trust is the beaten, kicked around (Black man who has been loyal over and over again, in peace and strife, to one county America. I am one of the many negro youths with a determination to live for truth. It is truely said if need be one must give his life for his country. Remember Sir, such an oath must come from the heart, and not from a double

mouthed source, that will extend one hand for a common good, and with the other crush all that is true and solid. Even with my brother with all his skill and fourteen years of self agonized learning in airplane designing and building. Refused out and out by the United States Army Air Corp. (Before he was married a year ago,) because he had a black skin, and even by in duty before and at present. To think in times such as these when the world is on fire, when everyone must put his back to the grindstone to preserve a a right. That one is left to starve, because of a foolish neglect, on the part of some

people. Through this life, we live but once, let us one and all do what we can for our weaker brother and sister at home (America) regardless of race, creed, or color, and by so doing rightly preserve Democracy forever by the grace of God.

Respectfully Yours
Wilbert Frederick

RESPECTFULLY REFERRED
FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSIDERATION

M H McIntyre

Secretary to the President

RECEIVED
JUN 1[redacted]
CRIMINAL DIVISION

JUN 13 1941
158-260
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
JUN 10 1941 A.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
ANN DIV. - SCHWEINHAUT

East Chicago, Indiana, June [redacted], 1941.

Hon. F.D. Roosevelt, Chief Executive of the U.S.A.,
Executive Mansion, Washington, D.C.,

Sirs:-

I have heard you speak from time to time on subjects relative to foreign affairs, which has been timely spoken, but when it comes to Home affairs you havn't spoken a single word regarding the illegal murdering of Master A.C. Williams, a 22 year old MEMBER of my Race at Quincy, Fla. recently. Is that what you call saving Man-power? My solution for this would be as Theodore (Teddy) Roosevelt told President at that time, William McKinley during the Spanish American war, Quoth; Give me the black Boys and I will take San Juan Hill. Since you are Destined to engage in a foreign Catastrophe; Give me the Draftees who are members of my race and all of the war material that go with the making of Protectors of our Banner and this kind of ignorance can be halted quicker than any Executive could imagine. The Star Spangled Banner long may it wave, over the land of the free and the home of the Brave. Who Does this Poem speak of? Does it mean the Capitalist, the so called white Race or all of the People under Its Jurisdiction? Do you think that the sixteenth Pres. of the U.S.A. was kidding when he made The Gettysburg Address? Quoth; as per clipping from one of our Daily Papers; Four Score and Seven Years ago our fathers brought forth upon this continent, a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created eaqual. Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived, and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battle-field of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field as a final resting-place of those who here gave their lives, that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this. But, in a larger sense, we cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men living and dead, who struggled here have consecrated it, far above our power toadd or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember, what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they WHO fought here, have, thus far, so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us-that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which for which they here gave the last full measure of Devotion-that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain-that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of Freedom-and that, Government of The People, by the People, for the People Shall not perish from the Earth. I

I recited this from memory twenty three years ago and every since that time I have had my wonders regarding same. Looking for-ward to the time when this can be shown AS a true Quotation.

Sincerely Yours,

H.K. McDaniel

3605 Pulaski St.

Voicing the sentiment of all Broadminded Citizens of the WORLD.

5-29-41.

MAY-1941.
931 So. Wood ST.
CHICAGO, ILL.

(((-*TO-*THE-*PRESIDENT-*OF-*THE-*U.S.A.-*)))))))

Your Hineness------

While listing to you and others speek of freedom of the pEOPLE And freedom of the speech, I waited and listen careful to here You say something A bout the Black people here in America.

But I was disopornited, And I never heard you are no one say any Thing about the members of the peace movement of Ethiophia, who Has had A bill in Washington D.C. since 1932 and who was and is Still begging this Government to send us back to our Mother Land Africa and we ask to be sent to Liberia where the Colization society Bought for us. To I think while you and your Great followers are So buisey with crying to this great Nation to give and give more Aide to England, I think it would be wise to ask them to give di Aid to the American Black People who has given so much to this Country. And who have been mis led mis feed and miss treated, here Be foe your eyes, And to you do know that we have been lynch And burnt to here but for what I am un able to tell. Still you can Smell and feel the brutel treatment of other People who has done Nothen to help this Country to advance but has done what they c[illegible] Could do to destroy this Federal Goverment. And they have been At war with eace and every one whom they did not like, and the Black People is one whom they do dislike for what I am afred to say but I do relize it and I feel like if any one should be pittied it is We the Black people here in this United States Of America,. I mean We who are asking to leave this Country, And it is the members of The p.M.O.E. but the black Preachers and the black Politicals do Do not want to leave you for he do not want to think for him self. Nor do he want to work for his self, he only wants to be thought Of by some one else. And he wants to be worked for there foe he Only want to explor the masses of the blavk people. So if you want To do something for England then do something ofr the Africans here. By passing the bill which is present by the senate from Mississippi. Honible Mr. T.G.Bilbo. And when you do then my GOD will be well Please. And so will be my LEADER MME. M.M.L.Gordon. who is the head Of this Great Movement. Now please tell me can not you smell the Stink from the burning of so many Black men and Women here in your Great Religious Country. And if you can then why don,t you stop it. And if you do not smell it then why don,t you hear the crying of So many Black voices which cry out for mercy, But no mercy can be Found. OH/Yes you could have said like the other did had not my Leader President Gordon. denounce this high hat black man to you. And you now know as well as we do that we only have one leader and That is Mrs. M.M.L.Gordon. And we are still waiting for the word to Move out of this Country. So will you please let me here from you So I will know what you are planing on to do with the Black people For we has no right in your army, nor in your prison. nor elittricy Chair. So please send us home where we can carve out A lively hood For our self,. I remain yours for repration,,

SAMUEL BROWN.

SMB.

Samuel Brown

RECEIVED JUN 16 1941 CRIMINAL DIVISION

158260
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
A.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
CRIM. DIV. - SCHWEINHAUT

FILED BY JW. On JUN 23 1941

EXH. RECORD

158260

June 16, 1941

Mr. M. Moran Weston
264 West 123rd Street
New York, New York

Dear Sir:

We have your letter of May 28, 1941, addressed to the President and by him referred to this Department, concerning lynching.

Your comments have been noted.

Very truly yours,

T. D. Quinn
Administrative Assistant
to the Attorney General

jrk:emb

FILED
BY JW.
On JUN 19 1941

SIGNED AND MAILED
JUN 17 1941
DIVISION OF RECORDS

JRK

Justice

264 West 123 Street
New York City
May 28, 1941

RESPECTFULLY REFERRED FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND CONSIDERATION
Wm. H. Seltzer
Executive to the President

The Honorable Franklin D. Roosevelt, President
United States of America
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

I too had waited anxiously for your message. Then ten-thirty came. I listened. Listened with friends equally anxious to learn whether you would keep your promises - promises made in Philadelphia, Boston, New York before we voted for you - to keep America out of war.

You did not keep those promises, Mr. President. You broke faith with all of us - plain American citizens - who want no part in this war of plunder. We do not want to sacrifice, to die in another false crusade to "save the world for democracy."

Mr. President, you say you want to "defend" democracy. So do I. I am not only willing to defend it; I am willing to die for it. But not for plunder, not for profits, not for Martinique, Dakar, Singapore!

I go further, Mr. President, I say not only defend but extend democracy. But democracy right here at home. Defend the right to vote, to speak, to write, to get together, according to one's own conscience. Defend the right to strike, to picket, to petition, to enforce the will of the people against tyranny and treachery.

Above all, Mr. President - I hope you do not shudder when you read these next words - I believe we should stop lynching and brutality against the Negro people right here at home. We should end discrimination against Negro Americans in all spheres of governmental activity as well as in all walks of life. We should end Fascism here at home.

FILED BY JW. On JUN 19 1941

You, Mr. President, should cease your hypocrisy with regard to the Negro. You as Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy and as Chief Executive of all federal agencies should order the end of Jim Crow against the

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JUN 13 1941
CORRESPONDENCE SECTION

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
JUN 11 1941 A.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
Correspondence Section

E.I.D.

ack 6-16-41 JRK

Negro in these branches of government. Let the government set the example for private citizens by ceasing to violate the Constitution which guarantees equality for all citizens.

By what fantastic logic can you call on Negro Americans to fight for a democracy which you help deprive them of daily! Yet you know as I know, the Negro is second to none in his loyalty, courage and devotion to America. He has defended democracy not with high sounding words, but sincerely, with his blood. On Boston Common. At Bunker Hill. On Lake Erie. At New Orleans. At Fort Wagner. At Richmond. At the Marne - Yes and even today, at River Rouge.

But, Mr. President, though you have broken the faith, I have not. Millions of us have not. Will not. I have pledged myself to defend America by helping to preserve its democracy and to extend it to all.

You may not know what it is to be deprived of democracy, to be insulted, kicked around, yes even starved - not because one is a criminal, not because one is subversive - but simply and solely because one is "black." I do know, and so, too, do all other Negroes. I know also that these things are wrong. I know they need not continue. I am resolved to do all that I can to end them. And that will be true defense of America, preservation of real democracy. On this foundation alone can world peace be built.

I am one among many millions of Americans who want no part of the war you declared last night. For it was war - more war. War of aggression. Not war of defense. I want peace, democracy and security right here at home. Now!

I want America to be the America we've dreamed of, fought for, and wanted eagerly; which never yet has been. But shall be.

It is not too late, Mr. President, for you to keep the promises which caused me and millions to vote you a third term. Keep our Navy, our Air Force, our Army at home. Get this country out of this war. Help us to build a real democracy here at home. For these ends, Mr. President, I and millions will give all.

With full recognition of the gravity of the problems which face you, with full awareness of the responsibility I assume in registering my protest against your policies, I am

Respectfully yours,

M. Moran Weston

158260

June 16, 1941

Miss Dorothy G. Williams
211 West 138th Street
New York, New York

Dear Madam:

We have your letter of May 28, 1941, addressed to the President and by him referred to this Department, relative to anti-lynching.

The comments contained in your letter have been duly noted and your interest in the matter is appreciated.

Very truly yours,

T. D. Quinn
Administrative Assistant
to the Attorney General

jrk:emb

FILED
BY JW
On JUN 18 1941

SIGNED AND MAILED
JUN 17 1941
DIVISION OF RECORDS

98 K

Justice

RESPECTFULLY REFERRED
FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSIDERATION
M H McIntyre
Secretary to the President

211 West 138th Street
New York City
May 28, 1941

The Honorable Franklin D. Roosevelt, President
United States of America
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

I listened to your speech last night and I am unequivocally opposed to the declaration and waging of war by the United States for alleged world democracy while democracy at home remains a mockery for one tenth of this nation.

Let us begin at the beginning. Let us make democracy a reality in the United States by making fifteen million Americans psyically free from lynching, mob violence, peonage, mentally free from enforced ignorance, politically free from being held voteless, socially free from insult, before we fare forth to wage another world crusade for "democracy."

I believe sincerely that I express a conviction which all other Negro Americans share.

Respectfully yours,

Dorothy G. Williams

Dorothy G. Williams

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BY JW,
On JUN 19 1941

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JRK

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
JUN 11 1941 A.M.
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Correspondence Section

RECORD
E. J. R.

3 Justice

STATEMENT

19

Mr. BOB mullin live in lawrence County

To Monticello R.3 Box 63 Dr.

FILED
BY NMMac
On JUN 3 1941

Mr Rosette Will you take Charge of this for me please this is Henry Holmes negro

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JAK
158260

no name or address on env.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
MAY 22 1941 A.M.
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Correspondence Section

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MAY 24 1941
CORRESPONDENCE SECTION

MJM
RECORDED
E.J.R.

M H McIntyre
Secretary to the President

STATEMENT

Monticello Miss. 1941

May. 191.

My name is Henry m. Holmes

To President Franklin D Roseville Dr.

President this is Henry mc. Holmes Writting to you President I had volenteer for the army and The man I was working for He didnt like it mr. BOB. Mullin is the man I was working for and he was the man that Beat me up because I volenteer him and his to Suns they hit the gun on me Whill he Beat me. President On the Eight of may that When I takes a Exzamanition and When I come back that When he Beat me the Doctor name is lincoln at mewhebron miss. and he tryed to Beat me Where I could not past at Hollis Burg miss

Silver Crup miss Route. 1, Box 52

STATEMENT

My name is Henry M. Holmes. 19

M Holmes.

Mr. Rosepelt

To Dr.

The Reasent I was writting you about it the officers we have down here they wouldnt do any thing about it I tryed to turn it over to the High Way Patrol but they said they would like to do something about it but they work on the high way. this is a negro writting you about this

Bob mullin is the White man negro Henry M Holmes is the one that got Beat up by Bob mullin the White man if I dont past Bob mullin is the cost of it at the next place the Scars is on me to show.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WASHINGTON, D. C.

August 8, 1940.

CIRCULAR NO. 3404

Circular No. 3354, issued April 6, 1940, called attention to the fact that Section 9 of the Hatch Act (Public No. 252, 76th Congress, approved August 2, 1939), which prohibits officers and employees (with a few exceptions) in the executive branch of the Government from taking active part in political management or in political campaigns, is enforceable administratively by the agencies with which such officers or employees are connected, and not by the Department of Justice or through the courts.

Section 12(a) of the Hatch Act, as amended by the Act of July 19, 1940 (Public No. 753, 76th Congress), applies similar restrictions to the political activities of officers and employees of state or local agencies in cases in which the principal employment is in connection with any activity financed in whole or in part by loans or grants made by the United States or by a Federal agency.

Section 15 of the Hatch Act, as amended, incorporates by reference thereto the determinations of the United States Civil Service Commission as to what constitutes prohibited political activity. For

RECEIVED
OFFICE OF THE
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
MAY 28 8 55 AM '41
TO THE
ATTORNEY GENERAL

Brooklyn, New York
May 26, 1941

Mr.T.D.Quinn

Dear Sir;

It was one of the great pleasure's of my life, when Iread the letter from you to know a man of your qualification and position, was in sympathy with me and my cause.

It was a comfort to my soul and mind, as I rember the President said in one of his speeches this is the only country in the world that a ordinarily man can discuss his problems with the high executive without fear.

Thanks very much.

Hoping I remain yours truly,
Thomas. L. Mason

Mr. Andretta
Gen. Agt.
Mr. Loven
App't Clk.
Ch. Clk.
Supply Div.
Mr. Ford
Records Div. ✓
Stat. Div.

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BY NMMac
On JUN 3 1941

E.I.R.

158260

RECORD

Justice 1

New York N.J 6/27/41

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JUN 12 1941
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BY JUN 14 1941

158260
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
JUN 11 1941 A.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
Correspondence Section

Dear our President

I'm sure that this letter wont get your personal attention, but nevertheless I'm writing it directly to you, and for your kind consideration.

now if there be any hostile tones in any one word or group of words I assure you it is unintentional, because I am a Negro American Citizen. And a Patriotic one. And besides that I am a believer in the Bible I know you can almost guess what I'm going to say.

well our President you know, and I know, that You have the Power and enough influence to abolish Lynching throughout these United States.

Now I've listened to almost every one of your speeches for the last 9 years. I remember in at least 3 of your speeches you condemned Lynching and on one occassion you vowed to erase that one Black mark from the face of this civilized America. Mr. President if ever there was an opportune time for you to use your influence to put into law the necessary legislation to abolish Lynching it is right now. Please Mr President you can wipe off the face of this earth that Black act called Lynching and you can erase that Black word from the English Language and you can erase that Blackmark from the Conscience of the American People.

Mr President you will become the Greatest President in the History of America, Greater than Washington, Jefferson, and Lincoln.

there are no People on this western Hemisphere as loyal to these united States as the, or I Should Say, we negro Americans, there are people of every nationality on earth in this Country thousands of them have never pledged allegiance to the Stars and Stripes, and Yet I've never read, nor heard of any one else Reading about, any other Person being Strung up to a tree at the end of a Rope other than one of the negro race I know there was two white men Lynched a few

years ago but it never
happend before nor since
and I'm sure it wont
happen. our President I
know you don't approve of
such outrageous doings
but when you stand by and
tolerate it and don't use the
strength, power and influence,
that God hath given unto
you to abolish and stamp out
this Evil why you will
be just as Guilty that day
when ever you will have
to stand before the Almighty
God and be found Guilty of
neglect Can't You See you
have a duty to perform.
God knows that would be one
of the greatest deeds done
towards national unity and
national defense.

because I'm a negro and I know the effect [redacted] it would it would take on every negro American there are millions of negro Americans and tens of thousands of white Americans feel just as I do.

this Lynching of negros in the South without a chance to prove their innocence or guilt must come to an end and very soon, if this Country expects to survive this world Crisis because the Almighty God will vent his wrath upon this Country and people just like he has turned his back on the warring nations of Europe. Do our President it is Your Duty to stop

this Lynching it is 6

within your power.

~~it~~ and the negro people of this Country are good americans and Loyal Citizens. they will Shed their Blood in defense of these Shores just as willing as any other Americans mr president some day the negro people will stop this Lynching their way and it will be a Sad day for the South if that time ever come its in your power to prevent it from ever coming last but not least I have the greatest of faith in you dont let me down stop that Lynching in America

God Bless america

a negro american (over)

P.S. I will be listening to you every time you make a speech to see if you really read this letter and aim to do any thing towards stopping that Lynching

stop that Lynching

stop that Lynching

Stop that Lynching

Stop That Lynching

STOP That Lynch

DAILY REPORT OF HISTORY-FILING SECTION DATE:

NUMBERS	CLERKS	Cards Filed	LETTERS Checked	LETTERS Left Over	LETTERS Filed	LETTERS Left Over	FILES Filed	FILES Left Over

158260

June 16, 1941

Mr. Oscar Madison
199 South Waterman Avenue
San Bernardino, California

FILED
BY JW.
JUN 19 1941

Dear Sir:

We have your letter of May 26, 1941, addressed to the President and by him referred to this Department, relative to obtaining a charter for an organization to be known as the Negro Congress of America.

In order to obtain a federal charter for an organization it is necessary that a special act be passed by Congress authorizing the issuance of same. A bill to this effect would have to be presented to Congress either by a Senator or Representative. For information concerning a state charter, it is suggested that you communicate with the Office of the Secretary of State, State Capitol, Sacramento, California.

Very truly yours,

W. D. Quinn
Administrative Assistant
to the Attorney General

jrk:ms

SIGNED AND MAILED
JUN 17 1941
DIVISION OF RECORDS

9

justice

White House
Washington D. C.
May 26, 1941.

RESPECTFULLY REFERRED FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND CONSIDERATION

M H McIntyre
Secretary to the President

RECEIVED
JUN 11 1941
CORRESPONDENCE

His Honor
President Roosevelt.

I am writing you the Head of the Country. We need more Negro Organizations. your Honor To be a Nation of one. At present we are a Nation of two sides White and Black. In this city we would like to start an Organization to that effect of brining the two together. your Honor we would like a written Charter the Organization will be the N. C. A. (Negro Congress of America) Also your Honor the Thoughtful Negroes are wondering whether it will take the National humiliation of Military Defeat such as France now Knows to establish for American Negroes the right to fight for America. your honor I Hope you give this Organization your Consideration.

FILED
BY JRC
On JUN 19 1941

Sincerly
Mr. Oscar Madison
0199 South Waterman ave.
San Bernardino, Calif.

ack
6-16-41

158260
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
JUN 10 1941 A.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
Correspondence Section

RECORD

STANDARD FORM NO. 14A
APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT
MARCH 10, 1926

TELEGRAM

OFFICIAL BUSINESS—GOVERNMENT RATES

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 7—1438

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
DIVISION OF RECORDS
TELEGRAPH OFFICE

1941 MAY 21 AM 11:53

WD69 TWS PAID 3= NEWYORK NY MAY 21 1056A

WENDELL BERGE, ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERA= DEPT OF JUSTICE=

RE. COMPLAINT REFUSAL PERMIT NEGROES VOTE IN PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION GAFFNEY, S.C. LAST YEAR. YOUR FILE NO. WB:FGF: ADH UWAP. WE HAVE JUST BEEN ADVISES COMPLAINANTS SUBPOENAED FOR TRIAL ANDERSON, S.C. ON MAY 26. APPRECIATE BEING ADVISED WHETHER PROSECUTION BEING MADE BY LOCAL UNITED STATES ATTORNEY OR REPRESENTATIVE WAHINGTON OFFICE OF DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. STRONGLY URGE THAT PROSECUTION BE MADE BY REPRESENTATIVE WASHINGTON OFFICE. EXPERIENCE SHOWS THAT ONLY SUCCESSFUL PROSECUTIONS THIS TYPE OF CASE HAVE BEEN THROUGH REPRESENTATIVES WASHINGTON OFFICE=

THURGOOD MARSHALL SPECIAL COUNSEL
NATL ASSN FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE.

RE NO WB FGF ADH UWAP

158260
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
MAY 1941 A.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
CRIM. DIV. - SCHWEINHAUT

MAY 21 12 40 PM '41
CRIMINAL DIVISION
RECEIVED

E.J.R.

WB:FGF:rm

158260

May 24, 1941

Thurgood Marshall, Esquire
Special Counsel
National Association for the
Advancement of Colored People
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Marshall:

This will acknowledge receipt of your telegram of May 21, 1941, concerning the proposed Grand Jury investigation of wrongful election practices at Gaffney, South Carolina.

The contents of your telegram have been carefully noted and have received due consideration.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General

WENDELL BERGE
Assistant Attorney General

7.8.7.

SIGNED AND MAILED
MAY 24 1941
DIVISION OF RECORDS

156260

May 28, 1941

Reverend DeWitt Talmadge Alcorn
104 South Ochese Street
Wewoka, Oklahoma

FILED
NMMac
JUN 2 1941

Dear Sir:

We have your letter of May 20, 1941, concerning the mobbing of a 22-year-old Negro in Florida.

The case of which you write comes under the jurisdiction of the state officials. The Federal Government, therefore, can be of no assistance.

The newspaper clipping forwarded with your letter is returned.

Very truly yours,

T. D. Quinn
Administrative Assistant
to the Attorney General

Inclosure No. 305446
jrk:ms

SIGNED AND MAILED
MAY 29 1941
DIVISION OF RECORDS

104 S. Ochese Street,
Wewoka, Oklahoma,
May 20, 1941.

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
RECEIVED
MAY 23 1941

Hon. Robert H. Jackson,
Attorney General of the U.S.,
Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Attorney General:

In this time of greatest National peril we have witnessed on Sunday, May 11th, and on Monday, May 12th 1941, an outrage perpetrated in the twice-mobbed A. C. Williams, 22-year old Negro of Quincy, Florida, under circumstances strongly indicating the collusion of the law-enforcing authorities of that County.

If Democracy cannot function thru the arms of our Federal authority in protecting the fundamental right of trial by jury, then Congressman Hatton W. Summers speaking to the American public over a nation-wide radio network from Dallas on Sunday, May 11th, was right when he said that the American people were not fit to be saved and could not be saved if they are not able to remedy these domestic problems.

We demand that the full power of your great Office be used to do everything possible in this serious matter. Nothing so humiliates a people as to be victimized by such violence.

I enclose a copy of the letter I have forwarded to The President, and a copy of an editorial by Westbrook Pegler of New York City.

Sincerely yours,

DeWitt Talmadge Alcorn

Encl. 2

FILED
BY NMMac.
JUN 2 1941

RECEIVED
MAY 26 1941
CORRESPONDENCE SECTION

158260
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
MAY 24 1941 A.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
Correspondence Section

104 South Ocheese Street,
Wewoka, Oklahoma,
May 17, 1941.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt,
White House,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. President:

At this time of possibly unprecedented peril to our Democratic ideals and processes, when National Unity is so mightily needed, when you as the democratically chosen leader of the strongest anti-dictatorial nation on earth, and when you, with such unquestionably high motives and noble purposes, have summoned all of the resources, both material and spiritual, to sustain and perpetuate freedoms now and hereafter, it comes to our attention through the news releases of Associated Press and United Press that on Sunday night--Sabbath--The Lord's Day-- a young Negro man charged with crime, for which, if guilty, he should have been lawfully punished, and if innocent, justly acquitted, was abducted from the prison of Quincy, Florida, a few miles of Tallahassee, the capitol, by a mob and shot several times, being left for dead. The following day this bloody victim, A. C. Williams, had life enough to report again to the Sheriff, M. P. Luten, whom the United Press reports on this occasion as saying, "I fixed him up", by placing him the second time in jeopardy by presumably sending him with unarmed and undeputized Negro ambulance drivers for Tallahassee, Florida, when again the near-dead accused was dragged from the hospital wagon and his body literally punctured with bullets, and the following day again the Sheriff discovered and recovered his dead body.

Mr. President, no person who believes you to be the great champion of justice and order as we do, would want, in this hour of trial, to add one cintilla to your already grave and burdened responsibilities, but this travesty upon Democracy has spread in headlines all of America; it brings a deep sense of humiliation and grief to all of the Negro people in the United States, and of all battlers for a working Democracy here at home. The circumstances of this lynching makes so clearly evident the collusion of the sworn elected public officers, expecially the Sheriff.

We believe you ought to speak now. We believe the resources of the Department of Justice ought to be used. We believe that the test of Democracy is the protection of the Constitutional rights of minority and underprivileged groups. We believe that this way of life shall pass away in the entire world if in America we cannot or will not make it work.

With assurances of my warm confidence and personal esteem,
I am

Respectfully yours,
DeWitt Talmadge Alcorn
DeWITT TALMADGE ALCORN, PASTOR.
COLORED METHODIST CHURCH

CC - Robert H. Jackson,
Attorney General
Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt

WB:FGF:adh

158260

June 10, 1941

Reverend DeWitt Talmadge Alcorn
Colored Methodist Church
104 South Ocheese Street
Wewoka, Oklahoma

Dear Sir:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of May 17, 1941, concerning the alleged lynching of a Negro youth near Tallahassee, Florida, this letter being addressed to the President, with a copy for the Attorney General.

You are advised that this matter is receiving the attention of the Department at this time.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General,

WENDELL BERGE
Assistant Attorney General

7.2.7.

FILED
BY JW,
On JUN 11 1941

Justice

RESPECTFULLY REFERRED FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND CONSIDERATION
Secretary to the President

104 South Ocheese Street,
Wewoka, Oklahoma,
May 17, 1941.

158260
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
JUN 4 1941 P.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
CRIM. DIV. - SCHWEINHAUT

RECEIVED
JUN 5 1941
CRIMINAL DIVISION

President Franklin D. Roosevelt,
White House,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. President:

At this time of possibly unprecedented peril to our Democratic ideals and processes, when National Unity is so mightily needed, when you as the democratically chosen leader of the strongest anti-dictatorial nation on earth, and when you, with such unquestionably high motives and noble purposes, have summoned all of the resources, both material and spiritual, to sustain and perpetuate freedoms now and hereafter, it comes to our attention through the news releases of Associated Press and United Press that on Sunday night--Sabbath--The Lord's Day-- a young Negro man charged with crime, for which, if guilty, he should have been lawfully punished, and if innocent, justly acquitted, was abducted from the prison of Quincy, Florida, a few miles of Tallahassee, the capitol, by a mob and shot several times, being left for dead. The following day this bloody victim, A. C. Williams, had life enough to report again to the Sheriff, M. P. Luten, whom the United Press reports on this occasion as saying, "I fixed him up", by placing him the second time in jeopardy by presumably sending him with unarmed and undeputized Negro ambulance drivers for Tallahassee, Florida, when again the near-dead accused was dragged from the hospital wagon and his body literally punctured with bullets, and the following day again the Sheriff discovered and recovered his dead body.

E. J. H.

Mr. President, no person who believes you to be the great champion of justice and order as we do, would want, in this hour of trial, to add one cintilla to your already grave and burdened responsibilities, but this travesty upon Democracy has spread in headlines all of America; it brings a deep sense of humiliation and grief to all of the Negro people in the United States, and of all battlers for a working Democracy here at home. The circumstances of this lynching makes so clearly evident the collusion of the sworn elected public officers, expecially the Sheriff.

We believe you ought to speak now. We believe the resources of the Department of Justice ought to be used. We believe that the test of Democracy is the protection of the Constitutional rights of minority and underprivileged groups. We believe that this way of life shall pass away in the entire world if in America we cannot or will not make it work.

With assurances of my warm confidence and personal esteem,

I am

Respectfully yours,

DeWITT TALMADGE ALCORN, PASTOR.
COLORED METHODIST CHURCH

FILED
BY JUN 1 1941

CC - Robert H. Jackson,
Attorney General
Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt

WAR DEPARTMENT

THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

WASHINGTON

IN REPLY REFER TO AG 291.21 (5-13-41)MB

RECEIVED MAY 21 1941 ESA CRIMINAL DIVISION

May 17, 1941.

The Honorable,
The Assistant Attorney General,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Berge:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of May 13, 1941, (WB:VWR:adh 158260), relating to communications received by the President from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and the Citizens' Civil Liberties League, Camden, New Jersey, with respect to the alleged lynching of Private Felix Hall, Company E, 24th Infantry, Fort Benning, Georgia.

The death of this soldier has been the subject of an investigation in which the Federal Bureau of Investigation has cooperated, and it is expected that a report of the Board of Officers convened by the military authorities to the War Department will be available very shortly.

Very truly yours,

E. S. Adams

Major General,
The Adjutant General.

FILED BY NMMac On MAY 1941

158260
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
MAY 20 1941 P.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
CRIM. DIV. - SCHWEINHAUT

51
4-18-41

Moorish American Religious League

OF THE UNITED STATES, INC.

Home Office: ~~924~~ Atlantic Avenue

BROOKLYN. N. Y.

RECEIVED MAY 20 1941 CRIMINAL DIVISION

W. PHILLIPS BEY
Chief Grand Shiek
BOARD of DIRECTORS
Pittman Bey, Chairman
Collymore Bey, Ass't
~~Schuler Bey Secty~~
Griffith Bey,
~~Grice Bey~~
H. Williamson Bey

May 15, 1941

615 Gates ave.
Jarad F. Bey — Pres

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL RECEIVED MAY 19 1941

Robert H. Jackson, Esq.
Attorney General, U. S.
Washington, D. C.

158260

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
MAY 20 1941 A.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS

FILED
BY NMMac
MAY 21 1941

RECORD

E. J. R.

Dear Sir:

At this time, I am again forced to call to your specific attention to a grevious complaint, revelant to the N.Y. C. Board of Education, involving James Marshall President, and Francis J. Brennan, Director.

We have deemed it necessary at this time, to request the above individuals mentioned, to extend facilities, and co-operation, as part, and partial of this said Government in which we live, concerning the enlightment of teaching of the culture and civilization of Moorish American fundamentals and principles.

Since the Officals of the Board of Education, in the expression of their own personal opinion deemed it a violation of law, to honor the founder of Moslemin in the U. S. Noble Drew Ali, and His great work and principle being carried forward, as Moorish American in this Nation. We are demanding that you have this grevious complaint, throughly and speedily investigated.

Altho, we personally called, to explain the program, as involved in our constitution and By-laws, no satisfaction as yet has been rendered; and said constitution was returned.

Since the youth of this Nation has little or no voice in the destiny of what confronts the Western Hemisphere, and is looked upon as the liability, rather than the asset. We the Moorish Americans, must have this greviance clearedd through your office. Awaiting the pleasure of an early response. Old Glory and our Moorish American flag will be seen side by side some time soon, to teach to one another in this Nation. To Love one Another

Yours respectfully,

Jarad F Bey

Rahman Yarzid Bey

Jarad F. Bey

158260 cmi - Schweinhaut

Jared F. Bey
615 Gates Avenue
Brooklyn, New York

Return Receipt Requested

Robert H. Jackson Esq.
Attorney General, U. S.
Washington, D. C.

REGISTERED
106356


BROOKLYN
MAY 17 1941


WASHINGTON D.C.
MAY 18 1941
REG. SEC.


STA. NO. 106 N.Y.
BROOKLYN N.Y.
MAY 17 1941

NOTICE

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File Has
158260

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
MAY 15 1941 P.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
CRIM. DIV. - SCHWEINHAUT

E. J. R.

RECORD

3 Justice

File Nil

RESPECTFULLY REFERRED FOR CONSIDERATION

MH McGrath

Secretary to the President

RECEIVED MAY 16 1941 ORIMINAL DIVISION

Colored people of the South

Mr. President, Senators & Representatives

Dear Sir: We wrote you all in the Fall of 1941 and asked for Equal rights in every thing cask that Jim Crow Segration and in facts the negro be given every right in every walk of life you were to ans, by the 1st (first) of Jan. We haven't heard a word from you.

It took us longer to get a hearing from Germany than we thought

But any way we like their offer just fine

But as people of America We will give you another chance

If you all want
us to help you.
Broadcast it send
through a Medium of
every large paper that
Negro will be free
from Disfranchisement
That they can vote that
Segration must be abonish
Jim crow must not exist
and that work and pay
he given them alike
that the Gov. be a Gov
for the people and by the
People That they be Officer
in Air and Army & Navy
Now we are not
begging this we give
you ~~from~~ till June 1st
We have till July
15th to get allis our
ans. Colored people
The negros and Germany of
can whipp any 5 nation
South
and America

Gm. C.

President Roosevelt
White House
Washington D.C.

New York City
File 7.07

Justice

May 14, 1941.

158260
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
MAY 23 1941 P.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
ORIM. DIV. - SCHWEINHAUT

Dear Mr. President,

File 7.07

E. J. R.

You have rounded up Fifth Columists.

FILED
BY NMMac
On JUN 3 1941

RECORD

You have rounded up Italians. Past all kinds of bills to aid England.

What about these Southern rebels.

RECEIVED
MAY 26 1941
ORIMINAL DIVISION

Do you call this sort of thing Democracy, in this land of the free and home of the brave. Or is it the land of the Free.

Yours truly, Gm C.

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MAY 16 1941
CRIMINAL DIVISION

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
MAY 15 1941 P.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
CRIM. DIV. - SCHWEINHAUT

File No. 158260

RECORD

3 Justice

1 env. attached

Chicago Ill-5-9-1941-
Mr President of F.D.R-
I Joseph East fomer resident
of N.O. La.
I feild as it was or would
be asepeted as I am a colard
man age 61-years old-
now from what I have learn
from the colard race in
Chicago Ill. they are with
old goby the stairs and strips
at this of crisses and
the united states are in
searous danger- of being
in alone in this world
cresses- of goin into war.
as being a home gaurd in
the first world war under
president Wilson-1917-
I join the american -

RECEIVED
MAY 16 1941
ORIGINAL DIVISION

protective Leauge - without
pay. working in conjuncation
with the department of justice
distric N.O. La - under
Charles Winbouger - and
prove to be a great operator
at that time so I was
called in and was given
and apointed job in the
department of justice -
under F. C. Pendeleton -
as supertnt of N.O. La dist.
now that we of the
colard race are at a time
ready to fight for old
glory - when it is in
danger - regardles of
the prireage that we get
from the 48. states at
time of piece - but we

are no desiters or
traitor to old glory -
at eny time, we as an
infearial race do not
for social equality
but we field that we
should have equal
rights at all time in
piece or distrust of
old glory - because we
love it and will die
like the same ones
would like to that have
full privagelage - of it,
but I say this we will
fight for all cause
to defend of glory -
Yours truly
Joseph East
451, E. 41 - BASMENT.

I am unemployed - but I do know that I could be a great healp to old glory at this crisses - as and under cover operator regrades of my age - I worked for pruned agency in Ft. Okla. A.F.C. Pendleton - gone from one state to others under cover on strikes in the southern states

Please answer if this prove to be all right from statment above -

"303. Opinions and advice of Attorney General; to President. The Attorney General shall give his advice and opinion upon questions of law, whenever required by the President."

"304. Same; to heads of executive departments. The head of any executive department may require the opinion of the Attorney General on any question of law arising in the administration of his department."

Certain provisions of the Hatch Act apply generally and add many new enactments to the Criminal Code of Laws of the United States. There are many provisions of the Act, the violations of which constitute criminal offenses and such violations have been and will accordingly be handled by the Department of Justice.

These criminal offenses are as follows:

"Sec. 1. It shall be unlawful for any person to intimidate, threaten, or coerce, or to attempt to intimidate, threaten, or coerce, any other person for the purpose of interfering with the right of such other person to vote or to vote as he may choose, or of causing such other person to vote for, or not to vote for, any candidate for the office of President, Vice President, Presidential elector, Member of the Senate, or Member of the House of Representatives at any election held solely or in part for the purpose of selecting a President, a Vice President, a Presidential elector, or any Member of the Senate or any Member of the House of Representatives, Delegates or Commissioners from the Territories and insular possessions."

"Sec. 2. It shall be unlawful for (1) any person employed in any administrative position by

TUESDAY, MAY 13, 1941.

Negro Is Lynched in Florida

He Is Dragged From Ambulance and Killed After First Attempt Failed.

Quincy, Fla., May 13 (A. P.).—A. C. Williams, a 22-year-old Negro charged with assaulting a 12-year-old white girl, was found shot to death today, several hours after a band of men had seized him in a second lynching attempt when the first had failed.

"We found him on his back, where he apparently had been dropped by bullets fired into his body," Sheriff M. P. Luten said.

No arrests have been made in the case, and the sheriff said "We have virtually no clews to work on."

The slain man's body was found on a bridge over a creek five miles north of here.

The first lynching attempt came in the evening when four white men armed with pistols locked Turnkey Dan Davis in a cell at the Gadsden county jail and took Williams with them.

Williams was found then shortly after midnight at a Negro residence near here, Sheriff Luten said, with eight or ten bullet wounds in his body and badly beaten about the head.

The Sheriff added that undoubtedly Williams's attackers left him fo rdead. A physician here said the Negro had a fairly good chance to recover, so the prisoner was put ir an ambulance to be taken to a hospital at Tallahassee, about twenty-five miles west of Quincy.

The Sheriff said he assumed that the Negro's attackers believed him dead and that therefore he, the Sheriff, expected no further trouble and sent the ambulance out without a special guard.

About five miles from Quincy, he said, the vehicle was forced to a halt by four or five men and the wounded man was pulled out and taken away.

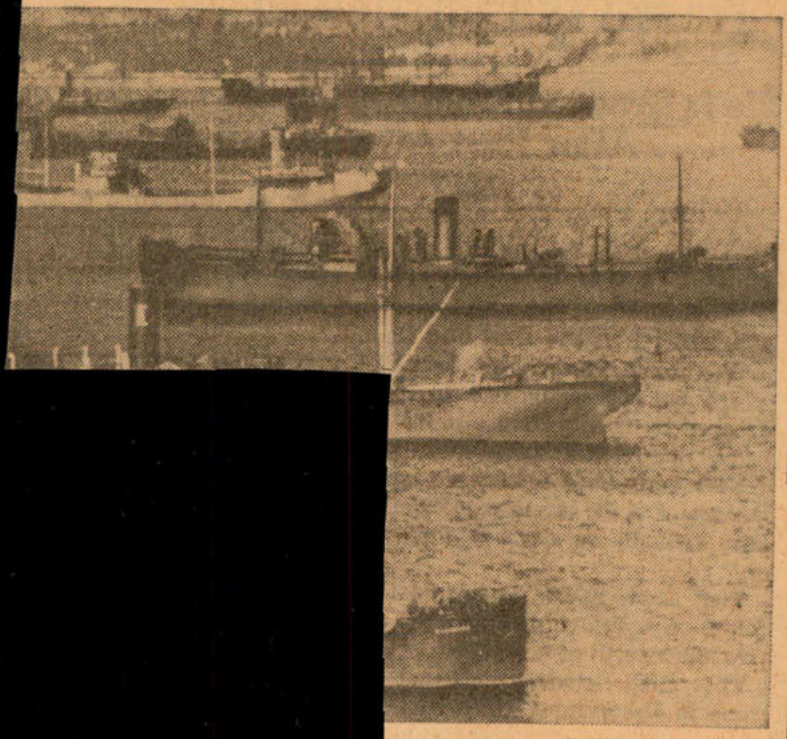
Will Webb, Negro operator of the ambulance, said: "One of them said they wanted the man I had in the ambulance, and they didn't want any trouble. I told them they wouldn't get any trouble out of me, because I didn't even have a pocket knife."

Webb said the men did not harm him or his assistants. He did not recognize any of them.

Williams was unable to give any clews to the identity of his initial attackers, Sheriff Luten said, and Turnkey Davis also was unable to say who they were.

There has been no other officially reported lynching in the South in 1941. Four deaths in 1940 were listed as lynchings by the Committee on Inter-racial Cooperation.

ANADIAN PORT AWAIT CONVOY



Associated Press Photo.

iiting for the formation of convoys

Erskine Resigns From Trinity Vestry

John Erskine, author and lecturer, has resigned as a member of the vestry of Trinity Church, Broadway and Wall street, and as junior warden, it was announced today following a meeting of the vestry yesterday.

Mr. Erskine gave as his reason his change of residence from New York. He will be succeeded as junior warden by Stephen F. Bayne, already a member of the vestry. Mr. Bayne is prominent in educational circles and is an associate superintendent of schools.



DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Circular No. 3423

Subject: Military Leave

This will supplement Circular No. 3414 regarding officers or employees of the Department of Justice serving with the armed forces of the United States.

A number of questions have arisen as to the leave status of the aforementioned officers or employees, and for your information the following regulations are applicable as determined by decisions of the Comptroller General.

1. (a) Members of the Officers' Reserve Corps of the Army who are ordered to active duty for annual training or for instruction will be allowed not exceeding fifteen days' military leave in any calendar year (act of May 12, 1917; 40 Stat. 72).

(b) Members of the Naval Reserve when called to perform active training duty will be allowed not exceeding fifteen days' military leave in any calendar year (act of June 25, 1938; 52 Stat. 1177).

(c) Members of the National Guard or of the organized militia will be granted military leave for all days during which they shall be engaged in field or coast-defense training (39 Stat. 166, 203).

2. The provisions of paragraph (1) above are applicable only when persons are ordered to military duty for annual training purposes or for instruction, and military leave will be granted only under those conditions. Every request for military leave must be supported by a copy of the military orders.

3. Members of the reserve components of the Army, including the National Guard, Reserve, and retired personnel, when ordered to active military duty for other than annual training or instruction, regardless of the length of such service, and persons who are inducted into active military or naval service pursuant to the Selective Training and Service Act of 1940 are entitled to annual leave only when the combined rate of civilian salary and military compensation does not exceed $2,000 per annum. Where such combined rate of compensation exceeds $2,000 per annum employees are not entitled to annual leave until their restoration or return to civilian duty. In all such cases, immediately upon entering the military or naval service, such employees will be separated from their civilian positions or placed on leave without pay, but in either event all unused accrued annual or sick leave will be recredited to the individual upon his restoration or return to active civilian duty.

4. Members of the Naval Reserve who are ordered to active duty are entitled to the annual leave credited to them pursuant to section 4 of the act of June 25, 1938 (52 Stat. 1175-1176), which provides:

NOTICE

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DIVISION OF RECORDS

FILED
BY NMMac
ON MAY 26 1941

158260
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
MAY 19 1941 A.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
Correspondence Section

RECORD
E. J. R.

158260

May 21, 1941

FILED
BY NMMac
On MAY 26 1941

Mr. Thomas L. Mason
3064 Brighton 6th Street
Brooklyn, New York

Dear Sir:

We have your letter of May 8, 1941, addressed to the President and by him referred to this Department.

Your comments have been noted, and we thank you for the interest which prompted your communication.

Very truly yours,

T. D. Quinn
Administrative Assistant
to the Attorney General

gl:ms

SIGNED AND MAILED
MAY 23 1941
DIVISION OF RECORDS

NW

Thomas. L. Mason (3)
3064 Brighton 6 st

Brooklyn,
May.8.1941 N.Y.

My Dear President;

I am writing you as only I myself could find the words tosay. First, I will explain my education and social position. This probably willhelp you understand my letter. I finish the 8th grade in country school under financial curcumstances that was as far as I I could go. Iam a married man now for four years, age twenty nine. The job I hold is one of the smallest, dishwasher. but my ambition since childhood,is to be a writer and I take lots of interest in studing human nature .

The cause for me to write you this letter is just this , you the Comander and Chief, highest executive of the United States of America your answer should be very frank to the best of your knowledge. Just what is the matter with the negro?

As I write this letter I let myself and mind drift apart from my body, astho I was neither colored or white without prejudice. Is it accurse that theseblack people all over the world must bear; I saw a play Native Son this play is an appeal to every Amercian citizen. Please give these black people a fighting chance. My dear President, this day 1941 people are have more understanding and education than in the year 1865. I remember in my school days during my history class one day. We were reading the constitution of the United States. After I had read the 13th and 14th amendment I kept turning it over in my mind, there seem to be something strange about the way this reads and the way its carried out.

Inworking and searching for material I have met people in all walks of life . Race and nationality ganster, bums , theives ,drunkards, murders, lawyers, doctors, professors etc. And in every nationality I find some good and some bad . Yet the color of skin make a social barren why? If a baby is born black does that make him or her unclean?

We all serve the same God those that profess to be christians belive that there is only one God Almighty, well what I want to know is there a white Heaven and a colored Heaven?

Very often I see white men with colored women and colored men with white women, and I always wonder which of the two feel they are making a sacrifice for the other?

Yes we have entermarriage between the two but after this marriage how is their social standing?My wife andI like children but we havent any, and this is the reason why. there don t seem to be nothing in the future youth , we have negros that would be able to hold many jobs , but their color is the barren.

ack. 5/21/41-82.

Speaking, myself for the negro race , rather for those that respect and want to be respected, WE love this country for we know no other place. Please give us a chance to redeem our selves and let this sin we know nothing of pass. I realize that you and many others have the utmost sympathy forthe negro, But this change must be brought about by unity. Some of my friends have said to me on different occasions just what they could do for me if only I was whi te. I often sit and think about my future,wondering if I will ever be given a chance or am I just one in the multitudeof the doomed. The question many have ask me; Do you want to fight for this country? yes is my answer. why? Because, I know only he who sheds his blood and lay down his life for what he think is right is entitle to honor. Iam willing to fight, shed my blood to make this a safe place to live for those in the future.

Hoping that this social bitternes between two races of human will pass. Yet I rather die on the battlefield with honor, than suffer the loss of an arm doing kitchen duty. Dear President; if in any way I have committed acrime by writing you this letter I am willing to sumitt and be punished. Idо not wish any publicity. Confidentially yours,

Thomas. L. Mason

WB:FGF:adh

158260

May 27, 1941

RECEIVED
Div. of Mac.
MAY 29 1941

Mr. William B. Cox, Field Secretary
National Society of Penal Information, Inc.
114 East 30th Street
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Cox:

The Department of Justice is in receipt of a complaint dated May 6, 1941, which alleges that Negro women prisoners at the Wetumpka, Alabama, State Prison are forced to do hard labor, such as digging ditches, cutting stumps and building roads. It is intimated that the treatment of the colored women differs materially from the treatment accorded to white women prisoners.

Assuming that the offenses and sentences of the colored women prisoners are not materially unlike the offenses and sentences of the white women prisoners, it is felt that if the allegations of the instant complaint can be substantiated then the colored prisoners are being subjected to different penalties and punishments because of their color.

In a conference with officials of the Prison Bureau in the Department of Justice, it was suggested that your organization might possibly have recent information concerning the Wetumpka State Prison which would throw a light on this problem. The Department would greatly appreciate being advised of such information as you may care to submit.

It is requested that this inquiry be considered confidential.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General

SIGNED AND MAILED
MAY 27 1941
DIVISION OF RECORDS

WENDELL BERGE
Assistant Attorney General

NOTICE

PLEASE DO NOT
REMOVE THIS SLIP
FROM THE ATTACHED
CORRESPONDENCE
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PERMANENT PART
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DIVISION OF RECORDS

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BY NMMac.
On MAY 5 1941

File
7.2.7.

158260

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
MAY 2 1941 P.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
CRIM. DIV. - SOUTHERN MATH

E.J.R.

RECORD

Office

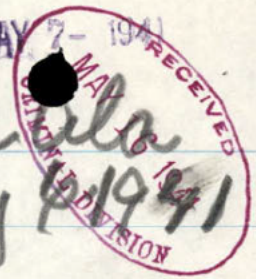
(1)

Justice

MAY 7 - 1941

RECEIVED MAY 1941 CLINTON DIVISION

Wetumpka Ala
May 4 1941



President Roosevelt.
Dear Sir I am Wrighting you a Few Lines to Let you here From Wetumpka State prison: about how they treats the poor colored Womens in prison they Makes them digs Dicthes cut Ditches digs stomps cut stomps opens up Roads Saw Down trees cut Down and split up trees and Lift trees. Dear Sir they Works the colored Womens so hards in Prison untill they Fall out. they are just Killing the poor Colored Womens out in prison they have to go sun up untill sun down in prison

they Works them When it is to hot and they Works them When it is to Cold to Work. and they Kant help they self they treats the poor colored Womens just Likes they are Dogs in Prison they Feeds them out in the Back allie on Sunday they Wont Let them sit down to the table and eat Like they are Folks they Feeds them out in the Back allie on Sunday. and they dont Lit them to Write to the Prisident in Washington if they do they Will Beat them and Kick them about just Like they are Dogs they dont Lit the Colored

Womens No Show at all in prison. they Works them out in the Rain While they Monthly pirits are on them and they Kant help them self Pleas Put a Stop to that Where it Can Be Better For the poor Colored Womens in prison they Works them in prison just Like they are Mens. And the Wardens and the Boss Mens. Whats is over the Colored Womens is Name Mr. Weldon and one is Name Mr. Tidwell and one is Name Mr Ray and one is Name Mr. Mc Donald And one is Name Mr. Andrew

(4)

Dear Mr President Roosevelt
Please Write to Wetumpka
State prison at once and
Make it Better For the
poor Colored Womens
Because they have a hard
time in prison. How close
From pauline Pelmer
answer at once
Wetumpka Ala
Box 30

Dear Sir please Have
Some one to Watch after
that Camp Every once and
a While Some one that you
Can trust if you Please

RESPECTFULLY REFERRED
FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSIDERATION



Secretary to the President

158260

May 15, 1941

Mr. Bertie Vincent Bradley
R. 1204 Glenn Avenue
Wilkinsburg, Pennsylvania

MAY 20 1941

Dear Sir:

We have your letter of May 5, 1941, addressed to the President and by him referred to this Department, concerning the privilege of voting in the different States of the Union.

The requirements for voting in the various States are prescribed by the laws of such States. The President of the United States has no authority to intervene in matters of this nature.

Sincerely yours,

T. D. Quinn
Administrative Assistant
to the Attorney General

mas:ms

SIGNED AND MAILED
MAY 17 1941
DIVISION OF RECORDS

NOTICE

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158260
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
MAY 15 1941 P.M.
RECORDS
CRIM. DIV. - SCHWEINHAUT
RECORD
E. J. R.
FILED
NMac
On MAY 29 1941

11 Justice

K. 1204 Glenn Ave
Wilkinsburg, Pa.
May 5, 1941

President F. D. Roosevelt.
Washington, D.C.

MAY 13 1941

Dear Pres. Roosevelt:

I realize that you are a very busy man, but please give this letter your prayerful attention.

MAY 20 1941

RECORD

158260
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
MAY 13 1941 A.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
Correspondence Section

My dad had ~~four~~ boys in ~~##~~ France in the time of the world war; three of which was his ~~the~~ own sons and the fourth one being a step son.

acl 5/15/41
ms

The oldest son was drafted from Pittsburgh, Pa. where he was allowed to vote; but the rest of us were drafted from Washington, Ga. where we was'nt allowed to vote, for no other reason but because our skins were black.

My youngest brother has also recently been drafted into the U. S. Army from Washington, Ga, where he was'nt allowed to

vote. I wish to ask,
can the President and the
rest of the leaders of
this our Christian coun-
ry continue to get stiff
behind the microphones
preaching that America
stands for freedom and
democracy, and persist
in drafting men into
our army that have never
been allowed to vote
because their skins were
black? You may get
stiff enough behind
the microphone to ~~break~~
break like a dry stick;
and jump so high

until your head
bumps the ceiling. but
until these condictions
are changed through out
the whole of america,
our country are in great
danger. Christ has
already affirmed with
words of his own lips;
that a city or house
divided against it self
can not stand. God
wont always stand
for the condiction that
I have mentioned.
A Chain is'nt any
stronger than the

weakest ~~link~~ link
in it. God pity the
leaders of America if
they think these things
are hid from the King
Of Kings, and Lord Of
Lords. Sincerely yours
in Christ

Bertie Vincent Bradley

P. S. The step son
died in France with
Flu and Pneumonia
combined. The rest of us
are yet alive.

Jim Crow is the Enemy



Negro Youth! Fight For Freedom!

1c

IF YOU—

want to fight against the war, want to smash Jim-Crowism once and for all . . .

THEN fill out this blank:

I Am Interested

Please send me more information on the aims and activities of the ☐, or I wish to join the ☐;

Y. P. S. L.
114 West 14th Street
New York City

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

ALSO:

I should like to get your paper, the **Challenge of Youth,** for 6 months and am enclosing 10c for it.

Enclosed find _____

Published by
YOUNG PEOPLES SOCIALIST LEAGUE
Youth Section, Workers Party
114 West 14th Street, New York, N. Y.

Against the War!

All around him, wherever he goes, the Negro youth hears the enticing cries of the war-makers.

They tell him that he must get ready to fight in order to protect his country.

They tell him that he must get ready to fight in order to protect "freedom and democracy."

They call upon the Negro youth to be drafted—together with his white brothers—in order to spend a year of his life preparing to learn how to be a soldier.

All the glib politicians—of both colors—have begun to hammer at the ears of Negro youth, trying to make them into super-patriots, ready to die on some foreign battlefield at the drop of a politician's speech.

But all the politicians—the Democratic Tweedledees and the Republican Tweedledums—have neglected to do one simple thing. They have neglected to give the Negro youth one good reason why they should have their heads shot off on some European battlefield; and they have neglected to even find out if Negro youth is willing to do it!

They have taken for granted that, like obedient servants, the Negro youth, who has never been given a chance to a decent education or a decent job or a really free existence—that this same Negro youth would just jump with delight at the opportunity of going to war.

We of the Young Peoples Socialist League (Youth Section of the Workers Party) believe, however, that there's no good reason for the Negro youth (or white youth) to answer the siren calls of the war-makers; that, on the contrary, it's the job of Negro and white youth to fight against the war-makers. And here's why:

THE FIRST WORLD WAR

It is important, first of all, to remember that the generation before us—in the First World War—was caught up by the same war cries as are being spread today. They, too, were told that America was going to fight a war "for democracy and freedom," a war to smash dictatorships. But let us see how Uncle Sam —the same Uncle Sam who asks Negro youth to get ready to go to war today—treated Negroes in the last war:

Over 400,000 Negroes volunteered or were drafted in the last war. Despite their willingness to die for

"democracy," America's largest minority could have used a little more of the democracy they were supposed to save.

Lynching rose in proportion to the war hysteria. In 1917, there were 45 lynchings, in 1918 there were 60, while in 1919 there were 76. As America went deeper into the war "to make the world safe for democracy" (and Morgan's profits!), it paid less and less attention to it at home.

The Negro soldier was given the worst jobs that the army had. Three-fourths of them had to work as ditch-diggers, wood-cutters, grave-diggers, latrine-cleaners and other such unpleasant tasks. Conditions became so bad that there were many revolts of Negro troops, who had the "nerve" to demand that they be treated like human beings.

In 1917, there was the revolt of the 24th Infantry (colored), stationed at Houston, Texas. As a result of rioting and assaults on Negroes, martial law was declared. The colored troops laid down their arms and a speedy court-martial followed. Thirteen Negroes were hanged immediately, six more met the same fate a bit later, and 61 were sentenced to long prison terms. The reactionary Southern white policeman who provoked the whole affair was let off scot-free. Thus "democracy" triumphed.

When the American Army left for France, the

reactionary officer caste brought its Jim-Crow tradition along with it. Of the 200,000 Negro troops reaching the front, 15,000 were given jobs in the labor batallions (digging trenches, picking up corpses).

A SECRET DOCUMENT

A secret document issued by the American General Staff headquarters gives a complete summation of the Jim-Crow policy of the American Army. It reads in part:

"Although a citizen of the U. S., the black is regarded as an inferior being... the vices of the Negro are a constant menace to the American who has to repress them sternly...

"Conclusion: 1.—We must not eat with them, must not shake their hands or seek to talk or meet with them outside of the requirements of Military Service...

"2.—We must not commend too highly the black American troops, particularly in the presence of (white) Americans...

"3.—Make a point of keeping the native cantonment population from spoiling the Negroes...

"(Signed) LINARD"

This, then, was the "democracy" for which colored boys were to give up their lives! They lied—these politicians! It was not for "democracy" that the boys died in 1917; it was not for freedom. It was to make the Jim-Crow capitalists richer; it was to get more

profits for the Negro-hating bosses. The Negro youth and the Negro workers were tricked into fighting Morgan's and Rockefeller's war—just as the white workers were tricked. The politician who did it was named Woodrow Wilson.

This time the politician's name is Franklin Roosevelt. But, though the name is different, the catchwords, the phrases, the lies which he uses, are the same as Wilson's. Once more, youth is asked to die for "democracy."

WHY THE WAR?

This war for "democracy," of which the bosses speak, is really a war for their profits. They are for this war in order to keep their profits intact and to gain new fields for more profits. England is not fighting for freedom or democracy. England is fighting to keep its world empire of colonial slaves and wealth for the profits of its capitalists ,its rich. Hitler is not fighting plutocracy. The Nazis have ruthlessly suppressed the freedom of the German workers so that the German capitalists can squeeze more profit out of their labor. Fascism has made the Jew the scapegoat just as England has done to its colonial slaves and America does to the Negro. Hitler is also fighting for the profits of the rich of Germany.

On both sides of this war, the Capitalists and their flunkies, the politicians, are waging this war, not for freedom, not for liberty, not for a better life for the workers, but for their own interests, their own profits. England and America are opposed to Germany, not over "democracy," but over who shall exploit the wealth and labor power of the world.

PROFITS, NOT DEMOCRACY

They ask the working people to die in the name of "democracy" but the war is really fought for the profits of the bankers and the industrialists, not to forget the huge immediate profits the munitions makers and airplane companies are now making.

The Capitalists tell all the workers, Negro and White, to die for the "defense of democracy' while they work them long hours for a miserable pay, for a life without a future. They tell the Negro people to die for the "defense of democracy" while they enslave and oppress the colored people throughout the world.

Let's first take a look at a group of 15 Negro sailors serving as mess attendants on the U.S.S. Philadelphia, one of the country's biggest battleships. Here are a few lines from a letter they wrote to the Pittsburgh Courier on October 5, 1940:

"On enlisting, we were given the same mental and

physical examination as the white sailors and were given to believe that we had the privilege of choosing any branch of the service the Navy offers. This is not true.

"With three months of training in making beds, shining shoes and serving officers, completed, we are sent to various ships and stations of the Navy.

"The white sailor, after completing his training period, is automatically advanced in rating and his pay is increased to $36 a month without even having to take an examination.

"In our case, we have to be in the service a full year at $21 a month before we are eligible for advancement.

"On this ship, there are 18 colored boys.... Their work is limited to waiting on table and making beds....

"In the last nine months there have been nine mess attendants given solitary confinement on bread and water....

"With the treading on and kicking around we receive here (without being able to do anything about it) every last one of us becomes bitter....

"We are not merely stating these facts because of our plight. In so doing, we sincerely hope to discourage colored boys from joining the Navy and making the same mistake we did.....

"All they would become is sea-going bellhops, chambermaids, and dishwashers....

"We take it upon ourselves to write this letter, regardless of any action the Naval authorities may take....

"We only know that it could not possibly surpass the mental torture inflicted upon us on this ship."

It is necessary to read and read once again the above words to understand their full importance. Do you not see how they lie—these politicians, Roosevelt and Willkie and the others—when they tell Negro

youth to fight for democracy? Don't you see that what they really mean is Jim-Crowism, persecution, segregation, Negro-hating and not "democracy?"

THE COLOR LINE

Negroes can only get the worst sort of jobs in the Army. General Marshall has said: "As to pilots, there is no such thing as colored aviation at the present time."

Recently a Negro pharmacist (we are told by Walter White, of the NAACP, in a recent article) took an examination and passed it. He was told, "We're not going to have any black pharmacists in the Army." If so, why do you ask this black pharmacist to be ready to die in your army, Mr. Capitalist and Mr. General?

Another example of Jim-Crow in the Army: In Charlotte, North Carolina, a Negro high school teacher took four of his pupils to the Army recruiting station. They were told that the recruiting station was for "whites only." When the teacher asked for further information, he was assaulted by men in Army uniform and thrown out with a fractured jaw. IS THAT THE SORT OF GOVERNMENT YOU ASK NEGRO YOUTH TO DIE FOR—we ask of Mr. Capitalist and Mr. General?

Why, the Army even has different color blanks for Negro recruits. It even recently demanded that the two Negro regiments add "colored" after their name, so that no Negro-hater could make a mistake.

And those Negro youth already in the Army? Their jobs consist of serving as grooms and horse-holders for the officers. In other words, they are made into domestic servants of the army.

NO JOB FOR YOU

Conditions are the same in the industries which are rushing orders for National "Defense."

In one of the largest New York companies producing for "defense"—Sperry Gyroscope Co.—Negroes are barred from work. In Boeing Aircraft, producers of big bombers, there are three Negroes in the plant which hires thousands.

The same thing is true of the various government projects which train youth for jobs in metal, machinist and similar industries involved in war production. The government school at the Pensacola Naval Base bars Negroes. The California NYA has refused to employ Negroes on training projects.

In New Jersey the government pulls a different gag on Negro youth who are trying to get training. They tell them that (we quote from a letter sent to a Negro youth):

"The bill which appropriated the money for the defense program specifically stated that no prejudice of any kind should enter into the selection of the training courses. It also stated, however, that trainees, when training has been completed, must be acceptable to employers in the area after the training has been completed.

"If you can indicate to the manager of our East Orange, Mr. McGuiness, employers or an employer who will be willing to hire you when you have completed the course, I am sure that Mr. McGuiness would be very happy to refer you to the training.

Very truly yours,
RUSSEL J. EDLRIDGE,
Director, N. J. State Employment
Service Division."

What a vicious run-around! The bosses won't hire Negroes; and the government won't train them for jobs unless they can get guarantees from the bosses that they will hire them!

●

There is no escape. Wherever you turn, whatever you try to do—the Negro youth hits into Jim-Crow. He cannot attempt to separate himself into his own little Negro community. War, conscription, unemployment—these force him back into the Jim-Crow world. He cannot attempt to find a personal solution for himself by merely getting a better job—that solves only his own problem, not the problem of the entire Negro people.

WHAT TO DO

It is clear: HIS ONLY SOLUTION IS STRUGGLE. It is obvious that he must fight his way clear to freedom.

But how?

Our organization—the organization of Negro and white young workers, students and unemployed—believes that it has an answer. Here it is:

Why is there Jim-Crow anyway? Is it because all whites are anti-Negro? No, that is not true. Everyone knows of the wonderful solidarity between the poor Negroes and whites in the Southern Sharecroppers Union.

In Flint, during the sit-down strike of three years ago, 700 Southern whites, soaked from infancy in racial prejudice, found themselves besieged in the General Motors building with one Negro among them. When the time came for the first meal, the Negro, knowing who and what his companions were, held himself in the background. Immediately it was proposed that there should be no racial discrimination among the strikers. 700 hands went up together. In the face of the bosses, the common enemy, the men recognized that race prejudice was a subordinate thing which should not be allowed to disrupt their struggle. The Negro was invited to take his seat first,

and after the victory was won, in the triumphant march out of the factory, he was given first place. That is a mirror of the future.

AGAINST JIM-CROWISM!

Jim-Crowism is the method the bosses of America try to use to separate the working peoples and thereby to weaken their forces. The bosses, through all their agencies: the press, the courts, the laws, the government, the Army, the schools—spread anti-Negro propaganda. They hope thereby to prevent the Negro and white workers from smashing the bosses together. They hope thereby to use the Negroes as strike-breakers against the white workers. They hope to use the white workers to lower the wages of the Negro workers.

We believe that the only road to freedom for the Negro is to fight together with his white brother workers to better the conditions of both of them. What can they do?

They can fight against drawing the color line in unions.

They can organize together to get better wages, to build strong fighting unions.

They can organize together to smash Jim-Crow

everywhere: to abolish the poll tax, to pass the anti-lynching laws.

But the fight for these immediate needs—that is very important, but not enough. More than that is needed.

As long as there are bosses, capitalists who own the wealth of the country and ues it for their own purposes, there will always be poor people: the workers; there will always be wars for new conquests and continued profits; the Negro will always be discriminated against, because that's how the bosses continue their rule.

SOCIALISM—THE ANSWER

So the real answer is for the Negro and white workers to fight together for a new form of society, for Socialism.** What is Socialism? Socialism would be when the people of the country—the workers, sharecroppers, farmers, white and colored—themselves owned and controlled the wealth and the government of the country and ran it for the benefit of

** By the way, this is not the same thing that the Communists who follow Stalin want. These unscrupulous people use the workers and especially the Negro workers in order to help Stalin maintain his dictatorship. When Stalin is friendly with a country, they ask the Negro to lick the boots of the Jim-Crow rulers of that country—like in England and America until recently. That's no way to achieve freedom.

everyone, not a few, so that everyone could live a decent life. Then there'd be no Jim-Crow, because the forces that cause Jim-Crow—the landlords and bosses would be abolished.

We believe in the words of Karl Marx, who said: "*Labor with a white skin can not be free, so long as labor with a black skin is branded.*"

So we say that Karl Marx was right when he said that white and Negro workers (and youth, too!) have got to stick together. Together white and colored must fight for their interests, decent jobs, homes, a full life, and not exist as slaves to produce more profits for the rich and protect their money bags by fighting their wars.

In Africa, in America, in the entire world, the millions of Negroes, together with their white and colored brothers, will raise their head, rise up from their kness and write some of the most massive and brilliant chapters in the history of the struggle for freedom—for Socialism.

It is for that purpose that our organization exists. Visit us, come to our meetings, write to us, join with us

Remember, together, Negro and white, against the bosses, against the war, for our own Socialist freedom! That's the job ahead.

Justice

1211 Willow St
Oakland Calif
May-3rd 1941

The President of the U.S.A.
Washington D.C.

158260
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
MAY 10 1941 P.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
PRIM. DIV. - SCHWEINHAUT

File
7.D.F.

Secretary to the President

My Dear Mr President

I wrote you on April 27th of this year 1941
And sent you some literature that was sent to me
today I am sending you some more and I hope
you will take time out just for a few seconds
And look at this then and be you can see what I
have been trying to tell you of course you
know about it, but not just like it realy
realy is this little booklet will give you
An Idear what is being done, like I told you
last year about the millions of foreign
Soldiers on the American soil or this
western Hemisphere so please read the
booklet and see if you can see what I
see behind this little booklet I mean
the forces behind it. they take pains to try
all they can to ster up strife on both sides,
so Mr President please give the Dark complexion
People a chance to prove to the other fellow the D—

FILED
BY NM
On MAY 19 1941

158260 4/28/41 Crim - Schweinhaut

that they are real Americans you see as it is now all these things they are pointing to in that booklet are true. now down here at Ft. Oglethorpe every man is called or classed white except the Dark man well I know you dont approve of such segregation you see they go to school together and they should be able to work for our country together all that kind of treatment just keeps up resentment. see that they all are trained alike and no No nation but even those that are already over here will try any thing that is why you have had so much trouble with the Blacks on the defense jobs because they know there are not enough trained Dark men to take their places. and I am not in favor of giving all the work to any one race I think and believe it should be devided evenly as much as possible.
Pass the Anti-Lynching bill and you wont have to worry any more. Oh. yes Can the workers on W.P.A buy defense stamps or bonds? Please Ans. and will we workers on sewing projects be kept working? Sincerly Mrs Essie Lee Mullins

11 Justice

East Chicago, Indiana, April 29, A.D. 1941.

Hon. F.D. Roosevelt, Chief Executive of the U.S.A.,
Capitol Hill, Washington, District of Columbia,

RECEIVED
MAY 3 1941
ORIGINAL DIVISION

Sirs:-

After a brief stay in Missouri and Kansas making a general survey of the environments over the territory covered, I hereby continue to voice the sentiment of all concerned. While in Kansas I had the opportunity to visit Fort Leavenworth Where nine (9) of us relatives was the guest of a First cousin of mine at supper at 5 P.M. Easter Sunday April 13. The food was fair, as there is always room for improvement. The sociality among our boys is 100% as you know that we the colored citizens of these United States make ourselves satisfied regardless of conditions. After making a thorough survey in the territory covered I found the Housing conditions inadequate. This condition could not all be accounted for because of misappropiations of the small salary that my race recieve for their labor. You take the average salary received by members of my race are not sufficient to buy and build our homes after the enormously high cost of living is deducted. This condition could be adjusted very easily by discarding the political graft and the stick-ups with unreasonable Rent reciepts.

I feel tha my prayers have been answered since I am having the opportunity to prove that; Our best friends are they who tell us of our faults and help us to mend them. I remember back in 1926 when a member of my race (a personal friend of mine) was illegally Lynched in Little Rock, Ark. out Twelfth St. Highway near the State park, his body dragged over town to ninth and Broadway across the street from at that time The Mosaic Templars Building of America, that members of our race were proud of, Gasoline poured on his body and burned. While this was in progress another member of my race who had just come in town came up to see what all of the excitement was about, was thrown on top of said body and burned so badly that he had to be taken to the Hospital. This Happened while I was at work at fifth (5) and Spring Sts. just five (5) blocks away. After this Dirt a member of your race asked me if I saw the Barbaqueing? SEEING IS BELIEVING AND SIGHT BEATS THE WORLD.

If that kind of misdemeanor is called Freedom and Justice I will never take no part of it at any time. I could write a history about the low down acts committed and now being done to members of my Race.

Take for an instant the Riots at , Brush Island, Ark., Tulsa, Okla., East St. Louis, Ill. and Chicago, Ill. what was the cause and out come of them? I remember very distinctly as if it was yesterday. As a historian my remembrance is as clear as a clean mirror. It all comes back to me now. When the Southern States seceded from the union and the north set out to whip the south and drive the back into the union, it was not Abe Lincoln's intentions to give us freedom. But in order to whip the South he had to issue the Emancipation Proclamation. That is what you History teaches and I can't be wrong when it comes to being the Answer man on Race Relations. Please be considerate on problems concerning our needs and necessities. Hopeing to see the Dawn of a new day for my Race.

Sincerely Yours.

H. K. McDaniel

Voicing the sentiment of all Broadminded Citizens of the World

NOTICE

PLEASE DO NOT
REMOVE THIS SLIP
FROM THE ATTACHED
CORRESPONDENCE
SINCE IT IS A
PERMANENT PART
OF THE RECORD.

On MAY 8 1941
DIVISION OF RECORDS

RECEIVED
MAY 6 1
CRIMINAL DIVISION

158260

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
MAY 5 1941 P.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
CRIM DIV. - SCHWEINHAU

File
7.5.7.

B.
BORD

Two Are Held For Outbreak Of Robberies

At least Seven Recent Burglaries Thought Solved By Arrests

A wave of burglaries that has swept Huntsville and suburban territory for the past few weeks appeared to be solved yesterday as city police disclosed the arrest of an escaped negro convict and a white youth already under bond in a burglary case.

At least seven recent burglaries apparently had been solved by the arrest of Carrol Ricketts, white, who [redacted] under bond pending trial in connection with a robbery at the A. and P. super-store, and the apprehension of Leo McCaulley, said to be an escaped negro convict from Kilby prison.

Ricketts was said to be involved in two burglaries at the N. C. and St. L. freight depot and one at the WPA commodity warehouse, which will result in federal cases being filed against him, police reported.

In addition, he is implicated in burglaries at I. Wind and Co., at the Davis Feed Co., Becker's store, and is also charged with breaking into the Catholic church. He wa arrested after entering the church shortly before time for services Friday night.

He was held at the city jail yesterday, pending removal to the county jail Monday, after a state warrant has been sworn out against him.

Merchandise stolen from the N. C. and St. L. depot, consisting of [redacted]ff, tobacco, cigars, candy and chewing gum, was recovered at the Joe Brocato store on West Holmes street. Police said the merchandise was found in a wall, and was turned over to them by the owner of the store after considerable questioning. No charge had been placed against the store owner, however.

Feed stolen from the Davis Feed Co. had been sold, officers reported.

The loot at I. Wind and Co. consisted of knives and flashlights, which was recovered, along with several pairs of trousers taken in the Becker burglary.

Because the loot taken from the N. C. and St. L. depot was a part of an inter-state shipment, [redacted]ketts is liable to federal charges, as well as for taking articles from the WPA commodity warehouse.

The negro is involved in a burglary of the Savage grocery store on Athens pike, and also is charged with stealin ga pistol from a negro's house on Madison pike. His arrest followed checking of fingerprints with state prison au-

Turn To Page Four

Two Are Held

Continued From Page One

thorities and those found after the Savage burglary.

Merritt Ricketts, brother of Carrol, was held on a charge of receiving and concealing stolen property, but officers said they had no evidence connecting him directly with the burglaries.

Besides the arrests in these cases, it was also disclosed that several negro boys, under 16 years of age, had been turned over to juvenile court authorities in connection with a burglary at a blacksmith shop on Jefferson street, and also in connection with the breaking of expensive windows in the Catholic church.

The windows were broken by

lions to the total.

State and local governments col
lected $70 per capita in taxes last

Greetings

AND BEST

Belk-Hu

We Are Mig

Have You Ac

Fro

Adams &

Prescriptio

PHON

UDSON CO

SEME

RGA

Belk-Hudson's new
the talk of the town. T
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urday simply went wi
lar bargains. You too
many saving possibili
Monday and see for y

300—Regular
PRINT HOUSE
DRESSES
FAST
SIZ

ER
new
charge
Base-

49c VALUE — SIZES 3

Boys' Wash

CHILDREN — VALUES TO 1

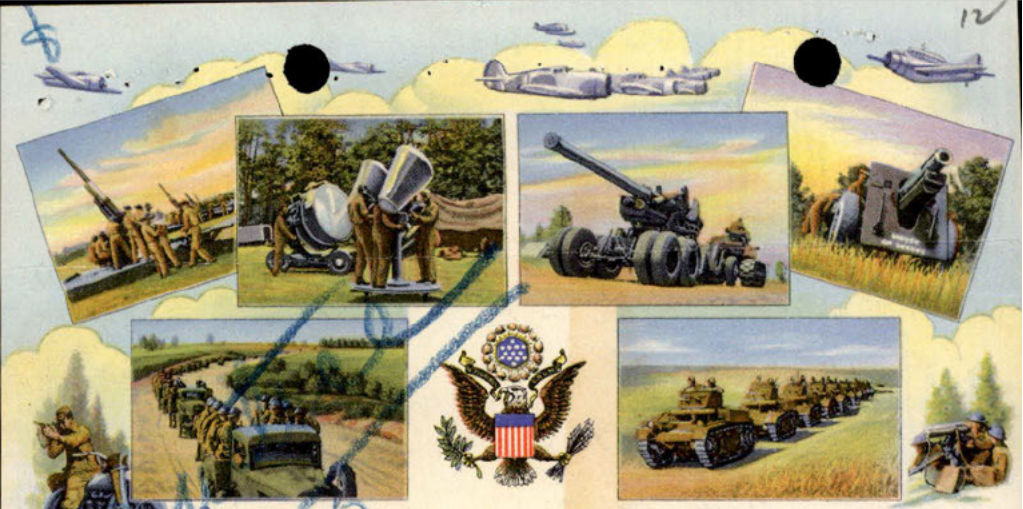
ON PANTIE



DEAR MOM:-

AFTER BEING IN BUSINE
YEARS YOU'D THINK THE
MORE TRAINING G[redacted]ND.
TEACHING A GUY TO DE
AGAINST OTHER GUYS I
HIM TO DEFEND HIMSE
TOO... ESPECIALLY SO

P.S. ESPECIALLY WHEN



B04
343

April 28, 1941
Huntsville, Ala

Dear Sir,

I am writing to you to see if I can get help. They have Carbal Ricketts in Jail & three bonds against him & said if we got them signed they would not O.K. them. A negroes brogr in a store & got some things & Carrol saw them hide them got got 20 & 3 pair & said he stole them. He got some sack on the out side of a old depot & sold them 3 cents a piece & said he stold them too. They got him & made tell that he got a lots of things. They said he broke in to a Church, d. wings, Brackers & he could not have done all of that. This is they same boy we wrote about a long ago.

PHOTOS COURTESY U. S. ARMY SIGNAL CORPS

When we wrote to you all about this before the police just caught about it. Carrol is sick now & they have them in the back in of the Jail & want let us back to see him. He was working at Penn. & he got a other job & we want him out on bond so he can go back to work. I want you to close read this cuting out of the paper so you can see what lies they can tell.

We have the best president we have ever had. & know him & his wife we help me. The famiel didn't know eny thing about it they came to my & Carrol house & didn't fine eny thing. They went to his mother house after midnight & didn't fine any thing. They started to take off his mother sheet. Please don't let the Huntsville Polies know any think about this because they have said they could kill him. They come & got Carbal brother & Call them some bad words & called sonofbitch so it would made him mad so they could beat him over the head with a black jack

Let us hear as soon as you can so he can get out

Your Truly.

Lewis Ricketts
Willie Rickett
Katherine Mills.
Lottie Kinning

1211 Willow St.
Oakland Calif.
April 28th 1941

RECEIVED
MAY 6 1941
CRIMINAL DIVISION

Honorable Franklin D. Roosevelt
President United States of America
Washington D. C.

158260
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
MAY 5 1941 P.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
CRIM. DIV. - SCHWEINHAUT

FILED
BY NMMac
On MAY 8 1941

My Dear Mr President:

Inclosed you will find some literature that was sent to me. it is the fourth set that has been sent to me so I am sending these to you for your inspection. you see this is the kind of thing's that lead to stricks and confusions race riots. in 1940 I wrote you and ask you to ask for the Anti-Lynching Bill passage so that the Dark complexion people will feel like they will have some thing to fight for except just mear words they love I mean the Dark complexion people love America (Why?) They dont know any other country but America they may be the descendants from Africa or any other country of dark people just like the rest of the world is represented here in our America. but they are Americans and care only for America but there are people here that are trying to get them to join up with them for the over thro of this government. for if the dark people are not with them. they are afraid that is why they are all ways around telling them how this government treat them. so please do something

Respectfuly and sincere
Mrs Essie L. Mullins.

RECEIVED
MAY 1 1941
CRIMINAL DIVISION

Nashville, Apr. 27-1941

Hon. U. S. Attorney-General
Washington, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE
RECEIVED
APR 30 1941
ATTORNEY GENERAL

Dear Sir: Many U. S. citizen's Constitutionally guaranteed rights to life liberty and the pursuit of happiness are now being repressed and literally killed because of their having a little Negro blood though their own parents in some cases both were born full-blooded Anglo Saxon whites or perhaps they obtained it through grand-parents. One man was almost 50 years of age before awareness came that he had Negro blood, he had gotten several children by his white wife who upon finding out about his Negro blood (for she learned of it many years before he himself did) left him and caused him to all but perish of grief and from the fierce persecutions by his wife's raving raging people.

158260
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
MAY 1 1941 P.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
CRIM. DIV. - SCHWEINHAUT

FILED
BY NMMac
On MAY 5 1941

A.R.M.
RECORD

Amalgamation is inevitable in this country else why are both races here?
Cannot something be done to remove the unbearable stigma, and certain loss of many precious rights and priveleges attaching to having even the smallest amount of Negro blood?
I pray God daily that legalization of Mixed marriages may come speedily else life will be little or nothing worth to many.

a citizen

RESPECTFULLY REFERRED
FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSIDERATION

W M Rhoades

Secretary to the President

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 24, 1941.

Respectfully referred to Justice Department for consideration and acknowledgment.

CRIMINAL DIVISION
APR 26 1941
RECEIVED

FILED
BY NMMac
On APR 29 1941

EDWIN M. WATSON
Secretary to the President

158260
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
APR 25 1941
DIVISION OF RECORDS
CRIM. DIV. - SCHWEINHAUT

File

TELEGRAM

The White House
Washington

Justice
CRIMINAL DIVISION
APR 26 1941
RECEIVED

21poki 51 3 Ex. N.L.

bf, BROOKLYN, N.Y., Apr. 23, 1941

THE PRESIDENT:

Mr. President: We were horrified by the report in the paper of the lynching of a colored soldier in a U.S. uniform. This is a shocking real act of policy of Jim Crowism, the U.S. Army. We demand a thorough investigation to bring the guilty one to trial.

Vivian Moore,
534 Flushing Ave.

FILED
APR 29 1941

158260
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
APR 25 1941 P.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
CRIM. DIV. - SCHWEINHAUT

RECORD

Justice

Praco

158260
APR 26 1941
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
APR 30 1941 P.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
CRIM. DIV. - SCHWEINHAUT

FILED
BY NMMac.
On MAY 6 1941

April 23 1941

Dear Mr Roosevelt
I am writing you about
a murder that took
place in Bibb County
and the Law Want
do nothing about it
and I want to see
if you could take a
stelp and help us
out with making
them do somthing
about it Roy Hicks
was stoped to death
September 14 and was
the only one his
mother and Father

RECEIVED
MAY 1 1941
CRIMINAL DIVISION

had to Work and
make their living
and the Law has
Been Bought over
and Wont try to
do nothing about
it and and Lister
Jones Wont let them
Carry it through
Court and If ~~the~~
We Cant Get something
done the folks
around Bibb County
is going to start
a War and Mob
them and We rather
some one Would
help make the Laws

Gene Foster

Yours Truly

Mr Hershel Carver

Procedure

(Hershel Carver)

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Circular No. 3423

Subject: Military Leave

This will supplement Circular No. 3414 regarding officers or employees of the Department of Justice serving with the armed forces of the United States.

A number of questions have arisen as to the leave status of the aforementioned officers or employees, and for your information the following regulations are applicable as determined by decisions of the Comptroller General.

1. (a) Members of the Officers' Reserve Corps of the Army who are ordered to active duty for annual training or for instruction will be allowed not exceeding fifteen days' military leave in any calendar year (act of May 12, 1917; 40 Stat. 72).

(b) Members of the Naval Reserve when called to perform active training duty will be allowed not exceeding fifteen days' military leave in any calendar year (act of June 25, 1938; 52 Stat. 1177).

(c) Members of the National Guard or of the organized militia will be granted military leave for all days during which they shall be engaged in field or coast-defense training (39 Stat. 166, 203).

2. The provisions of paragraph (1) above are applicable only when persons are ordered to military duty for annual training purposes or for instruction, and military leave will be granted only under those conditions. Every request for military leave must be supported by a copy of the military orders.

3. Members of the reserve components of the Army, including the National Guard, Reserve, and retired personnel, when ordered to active military duty for other than annual training or instruction, regardless of the length of such service, and persons who are inducted into active military or naval service pursuant to the Selective Training and Service Act of 1940 are entitled to annual leave only when the combined rate of civilian salary and military compensation does not exceed $2,000 per annum. Where such combined rate of compensation exceeds $2,000 per annum employees are not entitled to annual leave until their restoration or return to civilian duty. In all such cases, immediately upon entering the military or naval service, such employees will be separated from their civilian positions or placed on leave without pay, but in either event all unused accrued annual or sick leave will be recredited to the individual upon his restoration or return to active civilian duty.

4. Members of the Naval Reserve who are ordered to active duty are entitled to the annual leave credited to them pursuant to section 4 of the act of June 25, 1938 (52 Stat. 1175-1176), which provides:

WB:FGF:mb

156260

MAY 2 - 1941

April 29, 1941.

RECORDED

MEMORANDUM FOR J. EDGAR HOOVER, DIRECTOR,
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION.

Re: Unknown subjects; racial controversy in Dallas, Texas, concerning settlement of Negroes in white districts; civil rights.

Reference is made to Criminal Division memorandum of February 13, 1941, concerning the above-entitled matter.

Transmitted herewith are copies of a letter and newspaper clipping from Charles T. Brackins, colored, Dallas, Texas, describing the bombing of his home on April 4, 1941. While his communication does not appear to disclose a violation of any federal criminal statute, it is, nevertheless, referred to you for such information as it may contain relative to the above case.

In view of the apparent gravity of the Dallas situation, it is requested that every effort be made to expedite this investigation.

Respectfully,

SIGNED

WENDELL BERGE,
Assistant Attorney General.

enclosure 107118

F.G.F.

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS, APRIL 5, 1941

g News

941 Oldest Busi

Wealthy Negro's Home Damaged in Bombing

Brackins Suffers Heart Attack After Windows Shattered at House Front

The home of Charles Brackins, wealthy Negro bondsman, at 1210 Beaumont, near Akard, was subjected to a bombing attempt Friday night.

The bomb, believed to have been constructed of dynamite, hollowed out a miniature crater in the front yard of the bondsman's home, shattered the front windows, but otherwise left the residence unharmed.

Brackins, alone at the time, was sitting on the back porch when the bomb exploded, and suffered a slight heart attack as a result.

Motive for Bombing.

Recent reports that Brackins, a recognized political leader among Dallas Negroes, has been connected indirectly with the recent racial squabble furnished police a possible motive for the bombing attempt on the Brackins home.

His only interest in the racial troubles, Brackins said, was his appearance before the City Council last summer with a request that police stop the bombing of Negro occupied homes in the Howell Street area. Since that time a score of bombings of Negro homes in areas formerly occupied exclusively by whites have been recorded.

Influence in Politics.

Brackins, who started his career as a teamster with one wagon and built his fortune up to thonsands of dollars as a bondsman and behind-the-scenes politician, credited at times with having an influence in county elections, said he had no known enemies.

He told Detectives M. A. Shaw and V. S. Smart he had no financial connection with those Negroes who occupied the disputed area, that he had no idea as to the identity of the bombers. His home, a six-room frame dwelling, located on Beaumont between Akard and Wall, is a modest one considering the reports of his wealth. His home is located among other Negro residences in an area not troubled by racial intermingling.

Ailments Force

Time Out - - - - By Chet Smith



Shut

Storck Quit Of Pro Foo

BY EARL

CHICAGO, Ill., April 4 (AP).—Carl Storck of Dayton, Ohio, president of the National Football League and one of the founders of the pro circuit, resigned suddenly Friday in a surprise move which opened the way for peaceful induction of Elmer Layden as the league's first commissioner.

Storck, who said he was quitting for the best interests of the game, packed up and, with his wife and daughter, quietly slipped away to

J. S. JONES, *President* M. H. JACKSON, *Executive Secretary* H. D. WINN, *Treasurer*

DALLAS NEGRO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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I. B. H. WILLIAMS, VICE PRESIDENT
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M. B. ANDERSON, VICE PRESIDENT
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A. A. BRASWELL
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ARMENTA HATCHER
W. T. BURKE
WILLIS CARSON
CHARLES EVANS

EXECUTIVE OFFICES

814½ Good Street Phone 8-9860

Dallas, Texas

April 21, 1941

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B. B. LIPSCOMB, ASST. SEC'Y
C. P. JOHNSON, ASST. SEC'Y
C. J. JACKSON, ASST. SEC'Y
R. Q. MASON, GEN. COUNSEL
L. G. PINKSTON
T. W. PRATT
A. MACEO SMITH
C. F. STARKS
H. STRICKLAND
A. H. THOMAS
C. A. WALTON
E. E. WARD
WM. GARLAND
J. B. JONES
ZEB MARTIN
W. M. McGAUGHEY

CRIMINAL DIVISION
APR 22 1941
RECEIVED

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
RECEIVED
APR 22 1941

RECEIVED
APR 24 1941
CRIMINAL DIVISION

Attorney General Jackson
Washington, D. C.

Honorable Sir:

There have been fifteen bombings here in Dallas, Texas in the last few weeks, and to date there have been no arrests. The police investigations of these attacks have shown no results. I want to submit to you for your earnest consideration some ideas prevalent here which may indicate that there is Un-Americanism back of these atrocities.

It is rumored that the dynamite is coming from some or all of the WPA jobs in this section, as a good deal has been used, and investigations of police and others have revealed that none has been sold by legitimate dealers.

It is also rumored that there is Communistic group here in Dallas trying to stir up trouble between the whites and blacks as fifth column activity. I believe that, inasmuch as the FBI and The Texas Rangers are investigating sabotage and other fifth column activity, they might undertake this investigation and get some results.

Perhaps there is too much local politics for the police department. My home was bombed April 4, 1941, and I do not live in any area where there is disputed residence. I have given the police some information regarding these bombings, particularly in my own case, but they say they do not wish to put the white people suspected in jail because they fear it might cause a race riot.

This is a time when all good Americans, white or black, should have their shoulders to the wheel during these times of National stress. Something should be done about these continued bombings and I am making this appeal to you.

It may be safe in the streets of Dallas, as attested to by our safety award, but it is not safe in our homes.

MAY 2 - 1941

Cordially yours,

Chas. T. Brackins

158260
DIVISION OF RECORDS
APR 23 1941 P.M.
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
CRIM. DIV. - SCHWEINHAUT

CTB/smc
Attachment - 1

WB:VWR:adh

158260

May 13, 1941

Mr. Roy Wilkins
Assistant Secretary
National Association for the
Advancement of Colored People
69 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York

RECEIVED
Director
MAY 15 1941

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your communication of April 18, 1941, which has been referred by the President to the undersigned for acknowledgment and consideration. You comment as to the recent alleged lynching of Private Felix Hall of Company E, 24th Infantry, Ft. Benning, Georgia.

You are advised that the Department is in communication with the War Department in relation to this particular matter.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General,

WENDELL BERGE
Assistant Attorney General

SIGNED AND MAILED
MAY 13 1941
DIVISION OF RECORDS

WB:VWR:adh

158260

May 13, 1941

The Adjutant General
War Department
Washington, D. C.

RECEIVED
MAY 15 1941

Sir:

There are attached photostatic copies of communications dated April 18 and April 30, 1941, as received by the President from Mr. Roy Wilkins, Assistant Secretary, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and Mr. W. S. Ashley, President, Citizens' Civil Liberties League, Camden, New Jersey. These communications refer to the recent alleged lynching of Private Felix Hall, Company E, 24th Infantry, Ft. Benning, Georgia.

This Department respectfully refers this matter to your attention and will appreciate receiving any information on the subject which may be pertinent to a consideration as to whether or not there have been violations of any specific Federal criminal statute.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General,

WENDELL BERGE
Assistant Attorney General

Inc. No. 296777

SIGNED AND MAILED
MAY 13 1941
DIVISION OF RECORDS

VR
Has B

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Wilmington, Del.	Louis L. Redding

357

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

69 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

TELEPHONE: ALGONQUIN 4-3551

Official Organ: The Crisis

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

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MADISON S. JONES, JR. — YOUTH DIRECTOR

CRIMINAL DIVISION
APR 25 1941
RECEIVED

RESPECTFULLY REFERRED FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND CONSIDERATION
MAY 1941
Secretary to the President

April 18, 1941

My dear Mr. President:

It is reported, through the office of Lt. Col. Herbert B. Laux, provost marshal at Ft. Benning, Ga., that a Negro soldier at the Fort was found hanged in a wooded section of the reservation.

Indications are that the man, Private Felix Hall of Company E, 24th Infantry, Ft. Benning, was lynched. The body was attired in denim fatigue clothes over the regular uniform.

We feel certain that all agencies of the government concerned will want to make a prompt and thorough investigation, and to take the action deemed necessary to discover and punish the perpetrators of this crime.

Any other course of action, such as an attempt to dismiss this as suicide, or a whitewash of the whole situation, would be a further blow at the morale of colored Americans who are being urged daily to give unstinted support to the national defense effort.

Very respectfully yours,

Roy Wilkins
Assistant Secretary.

FILED
BY NMMac
On MAY 15 1941

158260
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
APR 25 1941 P.M.
DIVISION OF RECORDS
CRIM. DIV. - SCHWEINHAUT

President Franklin D. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

RW:DW