

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 24, 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILES

Subject: Meeting of Negro Leaders with the President - June 23, 1958

The President met with: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., President,
Southern Christian Leadership Conference

A. Philip Randolph, International
President, Brotherhood of Sleeping Car
Porters



Roy Wilkins, President, NAACP

Lester B. Granger, Executive Secretary,
National Urban League

Also present were Attorney General Rogers, Frederic E. Morrow and myself.

After introductions, Mr. Randolph, as the spokesman, laid before the President the attached statement. He prefaced the written statement by commending the President strongly for the many efforts he has made to advance the political and economic status of the American Negro. He said that they would not be present at the meeting if they did not have the firm conviction that the President was a man of courage and integrity who had shown leadership and brought about accomplishment in this field. He spoke strongly and favorably about the President's action in the Little Rock episode. He then proceeded, beginning on page 4, to read the nine recommendations contained in the statement, including the closing paragraphs. Following this, he asked Dr. King to speak.

Dr. King said he wanted to comment about the first three of the recommendations and that, as a minister, he felt these recommendations were designed to help mobilize the emotions of the spirit which, in turn, would aid in the fight for abolishment of segregation. He said that a Presidential pronouncement as called for in the first recommendation would give a moral boost to the Nation. Speaking of the second