

Conference follow-up

June 13, 1966

Mrs. S. O. Nelson
1729 Bryn Mawr Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60626

Dear Mrs. Nelson:

We are in receipt of your letter of May 27 to the President in which you express your views with respect to the recommendations made by the Council to the White House Conference "To Fulfill These Rights."

We are very appreciative for your letter and want you to know that your views will be carefully considered.

Sincerely,

Edward C. Sylvester, Jr.
Vice Chairman

C. C. C.

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June 30, 1966

Mr. Alfred F. Brown
515 Mt. Prospect Avenue
Apartment 3J
Newark, New Jersey

Dear Mr. Brown:

Your letter to the President was referred to this office and it is rewarding to have your views on the recent White House Conference "To Fulfill These Rights."

Noting your concern that "the conference body was not permitted to take formal action in regard to acceptance, rejection, or modification of [the Council's] recommendations and proposals," may we point out that such was not the case. The Council's proposals were offered as guidelines for the comment and criticism of the invitees. The closing sessions allowed each of the twelve panels not only to vote on resolutions of the Council but to offer resolutions of their own.

However, it is gratifying to have letters such as yours as well as transcripts of the proceedings which can together help us relay to the President the word of a people about whom he is greatly concerned.

Sincerely,

Edward C. Sylvester, Jr.
Vice Chairman

July 1, 1966

MEMORANDUM

TO : Clifford Alexander

FROM: Evelyn Idelson

Attached are a few examples of specific local follow-ups to the Conference culled from the press clips. While meager (as yet), they might be useful. Ed Sylvester says that Jim had been sending these to you, but I'm not sure that all these were in before he left.

The letter from Lloyd Barbee also suggests a follow-up which might be taken up by other participants.

If we could summarize these (and hopefully a few more) it might make a useful memo to go to participants along with the final report, to spur local action.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Ed Sylvester
FROM: Evelyn Idelson

DATE: July 8, 1966

I understand that the Reports to be distributed by the Conference will include the summary of Resolutions, but that present plans are to omit the Resolutions from additional copies to be distributed by the Government Printing Office.

From a public relations standpoint this does not seem to be a very good idea. Some 7,500 or more people--including press--will get copies with Resolutions (so they will hardly be secret) but a person who sees such a copy and writes to GPO for one will not get the Resolutions. This could provoke a charge of "suppression" of the ideas of the delegates by the Government and lead to a needless attack. Since a very real effort is being made to transmit the feelings of the conferees, why create this possibility?

July 14, 1966

Mr. Clifford Alexander
Deputy Special Counsel
to the President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Cliff:

Attached are some personal thoughts about Conference follow-up, unsolicited but heartfelt. These are supplementary to the detailed analysis of "who-does-what" on recommendations which I gave to Ed Sylvester some time ago.

It has been a fascinating experience to be involved in this operation I hope that it can be followed through.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Evelyn Idelson

WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE "TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"
Analysis of Comments on the Role of Labor Organizations
June 29, 1966

Approximately 55 speakers mentioned the role of labor organizations in the provision of equal employment opportunities for Negroes. About 45 of these conferees made unfavorable references. Only 4 speakers expressed the view that discrimination by labor unions was not a problem--all 4 of these individuals represented labor organizations at the Conference.

The Conference participants who expressed the view that many labor organizations engaged in discriminatory practices came from a wide range of backgrounds and affiliations. They included representatives of civil rights organizations, churches, Federal Government agencies, local and State governments, educational institutions, and business enterprises. Of special significance is the fact that representatives of several unions accepted the prevailing view concerning the extent of discrimination among labor unions. For example, a UAW representative said, "Now, obviously I am not here to criticize the labor movement. I am a part of it. But I do not believe there are 25,000 Negroes in the whole building trades and that could very well spill over into some industrial unions...."

In general, the remarks implied that union discrimination was predominantly a local problem, rather than resulting from action by national or international unions. Although most speakers did not identify specific geographic areas where discrimination is practiced, a few areas were cited. Among them were St. Louis, New York City, Chicago, Syracuse, Detroit, Cleveland, and New Orleans. Other speakers mentioned entire States, e.g., North Carolina, Iowa, Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia. It is obvious from the statements of the conferees that discriminatory patterns in both the North and South require attention.

By far the greatest concentration of allegations of discrimination concerned the craft unions, particularly in the building trades. Specific references were made to discrimination among brick layers, plumbers, electrical workers, glaziers, pipefitters, ironfitters, and sheetmetal workers. For example, one speaker said, "Now, in our State these unions practice total exclusion of Negroes. We have no Negro bricklayers, no Negro plumbers, no Negro sheetmetal workers, no Negro ironfitters--you can go right down the list."

A St. Louis NAACP representative said, "All of you have read about the Gateway Arch in St. Louis, and it is an abomination to anti-segregationists, because after millions of dollars had been spent in erecting that Arch, it

finally came down to the level of a sub-sub-sub contract on which an integrated union could make a bid, where a few token Negroes could get employment, and then the big AFL-CIO claimed a jurisdictional dispute...."

One speaker from a Southern city did mention that Negroes are admitted to local unions of carpenters, cement finishers, brick layers, and plasterers, but this speaker bitterly stressed the discriminatory practices of all other unions in his area. Aside from building trades unions, allegations of discrimination were made for local unions of railroad workers and of machinists in the South.

A number of conferees made recommendations for eliminating discrimination by unions. These included:

1. The formation of new non-discriminatory unions in areas where existing unions discriminate.
2. Stricter enforcement of Federal, State, and local equal employment opportunity laws.
3. Action by the AFL-CIO to enforce anti-discrimination policies among its member national and local unions. For instance, a speaker from Minneapolis said, "What I don't understand is why there has to be so many levels of policy-making and why there cannot be at the national AFL-CIO headquarters a policy that would cover all states. Just as we have suggested that the Federal Government in its legislative acts makes.... policies that are uniform throughout the Government, why can't we do this with unions?"
4. Federal assistance for Negro building contractors and other businessmen as a means of opening up new job opportunities for Negroes in the skilled trades.

Because of the importance of apprenticeship as an avenue for entering the skilled trades, substantial attention was given by the conferees to this method of training. There was a definite and recurring sentiment that many labor organizations engaged in discriminatory practices in apprenticeship programs.

Of 16 conferees who discussed this point, only 4--all union representatives--indicated the view that no substantial discrimination exists in apprenticeship programs. The remaining speakers complained about the lack of equal

opportunities in this field. A Southern educator remarked, "I think that we must recognize that one of the great barriers to increased participation on the part of Negroes in the labor market is the refusal on the part of labor unions that masquerade as liberals to let Negroes into their apprenticeship programs. If you can't get into the apprenticeship programs, you never get to be a bricklayer or electrician."

Replying to the argument that Negro youths cannot meet the standards for admission to apprenticeship programs, a UAW representative said, "Where you talk about qualified Negroes, the building trades and industry know what the standards are long before the youngster leaves high school.... they know....the training programs there in high schools....whether this youngster is going to be able to pass an apprenticeship examination before he gets his diploma. So who is kidding who?"

Another union speaker said, "It would appear to me here, if we are going to make any...any progress here, at least this Committee or this Conference should do something new on the matter of apprenticeship, because if we keep the apprenticeship training program as we have it now, it will take us 200 years to get rid of all discrimination."

Specific recommendations made by conferees to eliminate discrimination from apprenticeship programs included:

1. Expansion of pre-apprenticeship training opportunities to help Negro youth qualify for apprenticeship programs.
2. Expansion of the number of apprentices.
3. Review of apprenticeship programs to eliminate unnecessary content and to shorten the training time.
4. Tax incentives to encourage an expansion of union training programs.
5. Stricter enforcement of Federal, State, and local equal employment opportunity laws.
6. Information programs to interest Negroes in the skilled trades and ensure their access to apprenticeship programs.

7. One speaker recommended the abolition of formal apprenticeship programs and the substitution of new training approaches.

THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE "TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

1800 G Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.
Tel: 737-9010

September 12, 1966

MEMORANDUM

TO: Edward C. Sylvester
Vice Chairman

FROM: Elizabeth W. Reeves

SUBJECT: Complaints of the Conferees of The White House Conference
"To Fulfill These Rights" directed to Government Agencies
Involved.

At the beginning of the Conference held June 1 and 2, 1966, the delegates were informed that all complaints made during the Committee meetings pertaining to failure of government agencies to meet the requirements of the Civil Rights Acts would be referred to the various agencies concerned for appropriate action.

This report presents the most crucial complaints sorted and highlighted from the 5000 pages of testimony. The guidelines used in establishing a complaint are:

1. whether a complaint was discussed in depth
2. whether a complaint appeared more than once
3. whether a complaint emerged into a pattern from a number of various dissatisfactions
4. whether a complaint was not resolved by any of the panelists before whom it was lodged.

The greatest emphasis was placed on complaints in the following categories: a) the "note-taking" activities of FBI agents during civil rights conflicts; b) the negligence of Office of Education representatives in pursuing charges of discrimination in education; and c) the paucity of housing open to Negroes.

The format of presentation first shows the complaint, then one or more supporting examples, and a comment wherever it seems appropriate. Following separately are certain specific complaints that point up a particular problem in a special area of the country.

COMPLAINTS OF THE CONFEREES

of

THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE

"TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

directed to

THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE U.S. COURTS

THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

The Office of the Attorney General
The Civil Rights Division
The Federal Bureau of Investigation
The Community Relations Service

THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

The Office of the Secretary
The Farmers Home Administration

THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Manpower Training Program
Bureau of Public Roads
Office of the Assistant Manpower
Administrator for Youth Programs
Office of Federal Contract Compliance

THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

The Office of the Special Assistant
to the Secretary for Civil Rights
The Office of Equal Health Opportunity
The Office of Education
The Equal Educational Opportunities
Program (Office of Education)
The Welfare Administration
The Women's Bureau

THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

The Office of the Secretary
The Federal Housing Administration
The Public Housing Administration

THE FEDERAL POWER COMMISSION

THE SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

THE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

THE UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

THE EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION

THE CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION

THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE ON EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IN HOUSING

U. S. COURTS



COMPLAINTS OF THE CONFEREES

of

THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE

"TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

directed to

THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE U.S. COURTS

U.S. SUPREME COURT BUILDING

September 1966

COMPLAINT OF THE CONFEREES OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE
"TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed to

THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF U.S. COURTS
U.S. SUPREME COURT BUILDING

COMPLAINT: THE STAFFS OF THE VARIOUS OFFICES OF THE U.S. COURTHOUSES ARE LARGELY A "LILY-WHITE" OPERATION. THE IMMEDIATE PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACT OF SEEING AN ALL WHITE STAFF IN A PLACE WHERE HE SEEKS JUSTICE UPON A NEGRO CLIENT OF A NEGRO LAWYER IS THAT OF INSECURITY, IF NOT COMPLETE FRUSTRATION.

EXAMPLE: In the District of Columbia the members of the staffs of the U.S. Court of Appeals and the U.S. District Court are mostly white. The Office of the Clerk of the Court of Appeals employs no Negroes except for messengers and the Office of the Clerk of the District Court employs Negroes only in token numbers. Except for those of the two Negro judges, the personal staffs of the other district judges and of the appellate judges are not integrated (except for messengers).
(Committee IX)

Comment: The Administrative Office of U.S. Courts as the administrative arm of the judicial branch of the Government of the United States should make a concerted effort to bring about integration in the staffs of the courthouses throughout the nation by the employment of Negroes as judges' clerks, typists, stenographers, other clerks, and court reporters.

JUSTICE



COMPLAINTS OF THE CONFEREES

of

THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE

"TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

directed to

THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

The Office of the Attorney General

The Civil Rights Division

The Federal Bureau of Investigation

The Community Relations Service

September 1966

COMPLAINTS OF THE CONFEREES OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE
"TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed To

THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

COMPLAINT: NEGRO FEDERAL JUDGES ARE NOT BEING APPOINTED IN SOUTHERN JURISDICTIONS.

EXAMPLE: "As a representative of AFL-CIO I have several times proposed to the Attorney General, the present Attorney General and his predecessor, the appointment of some Negro Federal judges in the South. There is no Negro Federal judge south of Washington. The Negro population there in the South is maybe 25 or 30 percent; why should there not be that percent of Negro judges? Now when I proposed this to the Attorney Generals that a Negro be appointed to the District Court in Mississippi or on the Court of Appeals for the fifth circuit, sometimes they have looked at me as if I were crazy or as if I were kidding; they looked out of the window and said, 'It's a nice day, isn't it?'" (Committee VI)

"Nowhere in the report of the Council is there any recommendation with reference to the appointment of Negro lawyers as judges in Federal courts in the South. Certainly there can be no equal rights to Negroes in the courts of the South until there is some participation in the administration of justice. There has never been a Negro Federal Judge appointed in the South on either the district courts or the circuit courts of appeal. Out of some 1500 members of Southern courts - clerks, marshals, United States attorneys, judges - there are only fourteen Negroes: five United States attorneys and nine marshals." (Committee I)

Comment: The conferees know the avenue that the goal of more Negro Federal judges, especially in the South, must take, as the Attorney General proffers the list of candidates to the President who approves and nominates persons to be sent to the Senate Judiciary Committee. Neither candidates nor their advocates should be deterred by reluctance to face dying Southern attitudes.

COMPLAINT: THE HEAD OF THE FBI FAILS TO OPERATE WITH THE LATEST
TWENTIETH CENTURY IDEAS ON EQUAL RIGHTS FOR NEGRO CITIZENS
AND HAS ESTABLISHED AN ANTIQUATED POLICY OF "WAIT AND SEE."

Comment: "...that every possible effort be made to replace Mr. Hoover as soon as possible, not with his hand-picked subordinates who will simply perpetuate the old regime reminiscent of a by-gone era, but a man of highest credentials in terms of commitment to human freedom. I would say this man would be of the caliber of a Supreme Court Justice because the position is that important." (Committee XII)

COMPLAINTS OF THE CONFEREES OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE
"TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed To

THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION

COMPLAINT: NO ATTEMPT IS MADE TO HELP THE NEGRO TARGETS OF SOUTHERN PERSECUTION UNDERSTAND THE ROLE OF THE FBI OR JUSTICE DEPARTMENT ATTORNEYS IN MATTERS OF CIVIL RIGHTS.

EXAMPLE: "...it has cost me a lot of money personally to carry on this type of struggle, and yet we get no help from the Federal Government. We go to the Justice Department and the Justice Department tells us, 'Well, it is in the State Courts and we have to abide by state laws.' In other words, you are out there by yourself trying to enforce the laws of this Federal Government such as the Civil Rights Act of 1964; it is a very dangerous thing." (Committee II)

"The day that Schwerner, Goodman, and Chaney were missing, we called the FBI and reported them missing and asked for assistance. We asked them to simply call the jails between Meridian and Philadelphia to find out if they were there and they refused on the basis of, number one, we had not proven that they had been kidnapped, and number two, they were not missing for twenty-four hours, and therefore the FBI had no jurisdiction in this case." (Committee VII)

Comment: Negro lawyers from the Justice Department, as well as other Negro lawyers knowledgeable concerning the present role of the FBI and Justice Department attorneys, should go to communities in the South and give talks explaining policies and procedures of the FBI and the Department of Justice as presently obtaining, to allay false impressions and distrust of the FBI. Such presentations should be an immediate outgrowth of the White House Conference "To Fulfill These Rights" in order to show good faith and deny charges of timidity in facing the problem.

COMPLAINT: THE U.S. ATTORNEYS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE HAVE NOT ACTIVELY PURSUED THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES FOR ENFORCING RIGHTS GUARANTEED BY FEDERAL LAW. STRONG DIRECTIVES FROM THE CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION ARE NEEDED TO MAKE THEM PROCEED INSTEAD OF DRAGGING THEIR FEET.

EXAMPLE: "From the Justice Department I have heard too many times that 'Well, we can't pursue any legal action'; the U. S. Attorney sort of winks along with the law breakers...I don't know all the legal in's and out's, but I hope that the men on the panel will...recommend that the Justice Department take action where it is plainly needed." (Committee IV)

COMPLAINT: INEXPERIENCED LAWYERS ARE SENT TO THE SOUTH TO TRY COMPLICATED CIVIL RIGHTS CASES IN A HOSTILE ATMOSPHERE.

EXAMPLE: "Now in the most flagrant cases [of police brutality], the Justice Department every now and then will attempt to prosecute them; and when it attempts to prosecute them, instead of sending down experienced trial lawyers to try them, and everybody knows these cases are very, very difficult to win before juries in the South composed mostly of white people, they send down lawyers many of whom have never tried a case before, and the result is that we get very few, if any, convictions." (Committee II)

"[This case] ultimately came to trial, but the Justice Department attorneys who were there prosecuting the case in summation made an apology to the jury for having addressed black witnesses by courtesy titles. And this to me is one of the greatest affronts that I have ever experienced as an American citizen: to witness a Justice Department attorney, an extension of the Government of the United States, make an apology in a forum such as this--in a courtroom--for having addressed black witnesses by courtesy titles. It makes a mockery of the judicial process." (Committee IX)

COMPLAINT: THE POLICY FOR SELECTION OF JURORS IN CERTAIN LOCALITIES IN THE SOUTH IS TO DENY THE RIGHT TO JURY SERVICE TO THOSE NEGROES WHO HAVE REGISTERED TO VOTE.

EXAMPLE: "I think a census bureau of a given locality could give you the people in the community within the age for jury selection; and considering other qualifications, you would pick people at random from the people who are within the jury age and if they are otherwise disqualified, you wouldn't pick them. But you would refuse to pick people brave enough or rash enough in many cases to have gotten registered at a voter. Because there is still considerable evidence that in various areas of this country, and these are the areas in which we are most concerned with changing the jury policy, that pressure is exerted to keep people away from the polls." (Committee III)

COMPLAINT: LOCAL OFFICES OF GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES IN MANY INSTANCES FAIL TO ADVISE CLAIMANTS OF THEIR RIGHTS TO BE REPRESENTED BY COUNSEL

EXAMPLE: "...in too many instances where loan funds are available there are two different ways of issuing the funds."

"This is where white farmers get allocations of the funds that are available, where Negroes do not. Many of these agencies it is written into law they are entitled to representation when they appear before the agencies. In too many instances the administrators of these programs tell the Negro, 'You don't need a lawyer to represent you,' and their rights are being deprived."

"It seems to me that there ought to be at the Federal level something similar to the Legal Aid Society, assuring the Negro's rights when appearing before the various administrative agencies, who are increasing their power by virtue of the quasi-judicial authority in dealing with the problem coming before them."

CHAIRMAN: Your suggestion is a rather unique and novel one and worthy of consideration, but I think it would be helpful if you could specify which administrative agencies you have in mind where this is prevailing.

PARTICIPANT: I suppose I will have to go through the full list of all of the agencies that exist: Small Business Administration, for instance; FHA is another instance where we find these discrepancies. Another instance is, of course, the use of the one and three rule used by the Civil Service Commission in placing personnel and where these problems have been brought to their attention and complaints filed under existing statutes, Negroes have not been advised of their rights to be represented by counsel.

"Consequently the system, which is obviously ingrained in the insincere administrators who are charged with the responsibility of administering these laws, are not brought out clearly and weighed in the light of what the impact is on the Negro community." (Committee)

Comment: Cannot Guidelines from the Department of Justice, such as those issued in December 1965 to 21 Federal agencies administering assistance programs, instruct those officials and clerks who see claimants to advise them of their right to counsel.

COMPLAINTS OF THE CONFEREES OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE
"TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed To

THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

COMPLAINT: NO MORE DEPLORABLE SITUATION EXISTS THAN THE NOTE-TAKING ACTIVITIES OF F.B.I. AGENTS WHILE WITNESSING POLICE BRUTALITY AGAINST CIVIL RIGHTS PARTICIPANTS BECAUSE THE POLICY OF THE BUREAU IS DEFINED AS INVESTIGATIVE.

EXAMPLE: "Time after time...on demonstrations, the F.B.I. will stand by and take note and say, 'We are going to have to check this.' We will have to check this when somebody is being dragged down the steps by their feet. They are going to have to check the books to find out if this is a crime... the F.B.I. does not know that a crime is being committed when a little girl is having her head beaten..."
(Committee II)

"I have been in 43 states with civil rights and I have seen F.B.I. agents stand by and watch violence take place. You go up and ask them and you know what they tell you? 'We are just here to investigate.' I said, 'Would you permit Negroes to beat whites like that, and not do something about it?' You know what they said to me? They said, 'Mr. Hoover says we are to investigate.'" (Committee VI)

"...this policy should be changed. F.B.I. men do legally have the power of arrest for violation of Federal law."
(Committee I)

Comment: Said policy decision of the Department of Justice can be changed by the Attorney General or by the President. The President should direct the Department of Justice and the F.B.I. to make arrests. Such a policy change has enough precedence to be immediate.

Where there has been a systematic and flagrant abuse of a class of individuals' rights and the local law enforcement officers do nothing to prosecute or bring to justice the perpetrators, you thus have a denial of due process to the victims with whom we are concerned and here it is mandatory that the F.B.I. see that the offenders are duly charged and prosecuted.

COMPLAINT: TOO FEW F.B.I. AGENTS ASSIGNED TO SOUTHERN CIVIL RIGHTS PROBLEMS ARE GROUNDED IN AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE SENTIMENTS AND NEEDS OF CITIZENS IN THE NEGRO AREAS. THE F.B.I. AGENTS RELATE NOT TO THE NEGROES AGAINST WHOM BRUTALITY IS BEING COMMITTED BUT, RATHER, TO THE POLICE WHO ARE THE OFFENDERS.

EXAMPLE: "They (F.B.I.) work closely with law enforcement officials and there seems to be a feeling that they don't want to rock the boat by a vigorous investigation on complaints against local enforcement officials." (Committee X)

"I understand that it is hard for the F.B.I. to solve such crimes because of their relationship with local law officials dealing with crimes other than Civil Rights matters. As long as this working relationship exists, even though the new crimes will be more specifically delineated, I think the same problem will continue to exist." (Committee III)

"They (FBI) are on the scene when policemen beat and gas us and nothing happens. We need protection from those who ought to be protecting us... In Mississippi we have a most violent police state." (Committee V)

"I remember in June 1965 in the demonstrations in Jackson, Mississippi, where the Highway Patrol and the city police were practically slaughtering the demonstrators and the F.B.I. was standing across the street laughing and joking with the Highway Patrolmen. And when one of the photographers--one of the civil rights photographers--went up to take a picture of that, the F.B.I. grabbed the camera and smacked him in the face." (Committee IV)

"Now the failure of the FBI to act in these cases has not been due to any lack of legal authority or to any doubt whether the law enforcement officers locally were committing a Federal crime. To look at it honestly, and I think that's what we ought to do, it is simply that the FBI doesn't want that sort of confrontation with the local police." (Committee VII)

"Is there any qualification of FBI agents, any requirement that they should have a certain attitude about the matter of race? ...[or is] their first allegiance to the South and the Southern tradition rather than to the effectuation of justice?" (Committee III)

COMPLAINT: TOO FEW ARE THE NEGRO FBI AGENTS.

EXAMPLE: "...it is also known by us that interviews have been had in large colleges, but when they went as applicants to the FBI the Negro students were never considered." (Committee II)

"...I think it is known that they have to be CPA's or law school grads, but aren't some taken with just a year or so of law? Are any of these Negroes or do we always have to be overqualified?" (Committee VI)

COMPLAINTS OF THE CONFEREES OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE
"TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed To

THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
THE COMMUNITY RELATIONS SERVICE

COMPLAINT: POLICEMEN IN THE NEGRO GHETTO AREAS OFTEN ARE INSENSITIVE TO POTENTIALLY EXPLOSIVE MINOR OR MAJOR PROBLEMS, WHICH A TRAINING COURSE IN ATTITUTES COULD HELP ALLEVIATE.

EXAMPLE: "It has been proven in the thinking of most people, I am sure, that there should be a national standard for a policeman - because basically the thoughts of some of these Southern sheriffs have sort of crept up North and changed the thinking of Northerners; and people who live in so-called fair cities have built up resentment against the policeman... recommendation that would make rules for a policeman universal...the protection of life, limb, and property has the same needs. I don't care where you live; I don't care what the population of the city happens to be." (Committee II)

"When a policeman issues a ticket to a Negro, immediately most Negroes think he is picking on him...and the policeman is the enemy in the community...some cities like mine have the commissioner of human relations trying to conduct courses for policemen, but it is inadequate; they only get a few days exposure to it. Cannot the Federal Government develop some standardizing course that is really helpful in training policemen and somehow require the local police department personnel to take it?" (Committee III)

COMPLAINT: TOO OFTEN THE CIVILIAN REVIEW BOARD HAS THE CITY ATTORNEY AS THE CHIEF INVESTIGATING OFFICER AND THIS PRACTICE DEFEATS THE VERY PURPOSE OF THE BOARD.

EXAMPLE: "I hope you include in the recommendation that the civilian review boards [investigating complaints from citizens of police misconduct] be furnished independent staffs to do their investigative work, rather than having it done by the police themselves." (Committee III)

COMPLAINT: SOUTHERN COMMUNITIES WHICH HAVE CONSENTED TO TOKEN INTEGRATION OF POLICE FORCES DO NOT EMPOWER NEGRO POLICEMEN TO ARREST OR TICKET WHITE CITIZENS.

EXAMPLE: "...the colored policeman can give the Negro a ticket but he has to call the Chief of Police in order to give the white man a ticket..." (Committee VI)

COMPLAINT: REALISTICALLY, IT IS DIFFICULT TO ENTICE THE PRACTICING ATTORNEY TO REPRESENT CIVIL RIGHTERS OR INDIGENTS WITHOUT FEES.

EXAMPLE: "...I wonder if it would be satisfactory if we put into the record that there was a consensus here that every possible means be brought to bear, both of a private and public nature, in trying to bring about changes which would provide a greater willingness on the part of the American Bar to represent persons who are accused in the courts and who do not have the necessary facilities for their own defense. One of the agencies that might be interested in this would be the Community Relations Service of the Department of Justice." (Committee X)

AGRICULTURE



COMPAINTS OF THE CONFEREES

of

THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE

"TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

directed to

THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

~~The Office of the Secretary~~

The Farmers Home Administration

September 1966

COMPLAINTS OF THE CONFEREES OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE
"TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed To

THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

COMPLAINT: LOCAL OFFICES OF CONSERVATION ACTING FOR THE AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT FAIL TO GRANT NEGROES A FAIR SHARE OF CROPS AND FUNDS ALLOTMENTS.

EXAMPLE: "...in too many instances where loan funds are available there are two different ways of issuing the funds."

"This is where white farmers get allocations of the funds that are available, where Negroes do not. Many of these agencies it is written into law they are entitled to representation when they appear before the agencies. In too many instances the administrators of these programs tell the Negro, 'You don't need a lawyer to represent you,' and their rights are being deprived." (Committee III)

COMPLAINT: SHARECROPPERS IN THE NORTH CAROLINA BLACK BELT ARE BEING SQUEEZED OUT OF THEIR 30 AND 50 CENTS PER HOUR JOBS; APPROXIMATELY 40-50 PER CENT WILL HAVE TO MOVE BY 1975.

EXAMPLE: "...it seems to imply a kind of hands off policy of the Agriculture Department in its relationship to the small Negro farmer in the South who has been constantly discriminated against through the underwriting of the farming process in the South, and this is a way of backing off from breaking up this whole rotten business down there." (Committee XII)

COMPLAINT: NEGRO FARMERS OF LOW INCOME CANNOT GET HELP TO START BUSINESS.

EXAMPLE: Farmers from Beaufort County, a rural, low income area in South Carolina, are concerned with being able to acquire loans through governmental agencies. I have a very grass-roots problem here regarding trying to secure loans through the Farmer Home Administration for the amount of \$45,000, with a \$12,000 bird operation, which the Farmer Home Administration has a letter on file in the ATR 10, 1961, No. 703 404, special publication No. 41361 which prohibits the Farmer Home Administration make a loan to low income persons to exceed \$2,500. If we

intend to try to help low income families to improve their conditions, we will have to find other means than the existing agency. For example, the banks say 'No, we can't lend a low income man that type of money.' The Small Business Administration says 'No, this is out of our category.' The man is a veteran. The Veterans Administration says 'No.' Where can he go? The Farmer Home Administration spells out very clearly the funds disbursing have available is inadequate. He has no form of training in this general area; however, he has spent most of his life on the farm except going for a short time in the forces.

"Really, how do we really help a farmer, a fisherman, and this type person to really get into business so that they can employ others." (Committee XI)

COMPLAINT OF A CONFEREE OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE
"TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed to

THE SECRETARY, DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

COMPLAINT: OFFICIALS REPRESENTING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE MORE THAN ANY OTHER AGENCY IN THE STATE OF GEORGIA ARE IMMUNE TO THE NEEDS OF NEGROES

PARTICIPANT: Augusta, Georgia. "I would like to bring a recommendation that the Government will bring its agencies like FHA and the Agriculture Department, especially in the Southern States, especially the State of Georgia, into compliance! Just recently we had a meeting and we found that there isn't any agency anywhere in the state which discriminates any more than the Agriculture Department, that out of 159 counties there is not one county agent--and even the director, Mr. Eberhart, stated he didn't have one in the State of Georgia--who was qualified, and the Farmers Home Administration program was found to be discriminating in every effort. Certainly Negroes cannot live any cheaper in the area than the whites. And if anything, the Negroes have a greater need than the whites. So if we could have this in the record that the Government will bring its own agencies into compliance, this would help.

I know Mr. Friedman said by December 21st they were supposed to have been in compliance, but as of last Saturday they were not in compliance." (Committee XII)

SPECIFIC COMPLAINT OF A CONFEREE
OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE "TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed to

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

COMPLAINT: NEGRO PEOPLE IN SOUTH CAROLINA ARE NOT BENEFITTING FROM
THE FOOD STAMP PLAN OR SURPLUS FOOD DISTRIBUTION.

EXAMPLE: "In only six of the 46 counties in South Carolina is the
the Federal Food Stamp Plan being used and in none of the
counties of South Carolina is the direct distribution of
surplus food being used. The reason is that the programs
are administered by County Welfare Boards and even then
only upon the initiative of the County Senator and the Members
of the House of Representatives from that County. And that
is exactly the white power structure."

Comment: "I think that these programs which are immediate to use
should be taken from the hands of the people who have in
the past, and right now, have been the most immediate
oppressors of the Negro people in South Carolina, and placed
in the hands of Federal agencies. For example, the
Department of Agriculture-- the agricultural agency in the
county, some of whom are actually Negroes." (Committee I, pp.76)

COMPLAINTS OF THE CONFEREES OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE
"TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed to

FARMERS HOME ADMINISTRATION
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

COMPLAINT: REQUIREMENTS FOR LENDING MONEY TO LANDOWNERS FOR BUILDING HOMES ARE TOO STRINGENT.

EXAMPLE : "Some landowners with two acres of ground must have five or six hundred dollars down to obtain a loan for building a house. Local requirements call for a well to be drilled before a home can be built. The cost of drilling prevents getting a home building loan."

Comment: Federal monies should be available to landowners with the land used as collateral.

COMPLAINT: THE EX-MIGRANTS IN SO-CALLED RESETTLED AREAS ARE OUTSIDE THE MAINSTREAM IN THEIR RURAL COMMUNITIES. THEIR LIVING CONDITIONS ARE SEVERE AND THEY ARE UNABLE TO GET TITLE TO LAND OR HOUSING.

Comment: Some urban housing programs should be available in rural areas.

SPECIFIC COMPLAINT OF A CONFEREE TO THE
WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE "TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed to

FARMERS HOME ADMINISTRATION

COMPLAINT: MANY POOR PEOPLE IN SOUTH CAROLINA LIVE IN HOUSES WITH NO PLUMBING FACILITIES IN AREAS WITH NO SEWAGE OR WATER SYSTEM. THEY ARE UNABLE TO GET LOANS BECAUSE THEY CANNOT ESTABLISH A CLEAR TITLE TO THE LAND, ALTHOUGH THEY HAVE BEEN ON IT FOR GENERATIONS.

Comment: Is there no program which would provide improvement loans in these situations?

SPECIFIC COMPLAINT OF A CONFERE
OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE "TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed to

FARMERS HOME ADMINISTRATION
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

COMPLAINT: NEGROES IN HAYWOOD COUNTY, TENNESSEE CANNOT OBTAIN
100 PERCENT LOANS TO PURCHASE FARM LAND.

EXAMPLE : Eleven Negro families have been dispossessed. An
organization, the New Hope Cotton Pickers Association
cannot obtain land to raise cotton, while out-of-state
farmers are moving in.

COMMENT : Financial aid is needed for the dispossessed Negro
farmers.

SPECIFIC COMPLAINT OF A CONFEREE
OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE "TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed to

FARMERS HOME ADMINISTRATION
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

PARTICIPANT FROM KINGSTREE, SOUTH CAROLINA: "I come from a rural area. We see that bills are passed by Congress and yet when the people in my area apply to the Farm Home Administration or any Federal housing authority, they cannot get help. The money has suddenly disappeared. They have run out of money, and it seems to be the attitude of the officials there that they would rather turn you down than to help you.

I am certainly concerned with this. I would like this conference to make some recommendation where people like these can appeal directly to Washington or someplace, where we can break through this red tape and get some rural housing in our community for the elderly or anybody else.

Up to about three or four years ago, a Negro couldn't even get a house insured by the FHA or anyone in my county. Certainly all of these fine bills are passed, but we come from the poor, and represent the poor. And the poor person cannot break through the red tape in my county to get any kind of housing."

SPECIFIC COMPLAINT OF A CONFEREE
OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE "TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed to

FARMERS HOME ADMINISTRATION
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

COMPLAINT: FEDERAL AGENCIES IN THE STATE OF GEORGIA ARE NOT IN COMPLIANCE WITH NONDISCRIMINATION REQUIREMENTS.

EXAMPLE : Out of 159 counties, there is not one Negro who qualifies for county agent according to the Director, Mr. Eberhart. Consequently the FHA Program is discriminating throughout the program in the state.

COMMENT : The Federal Government should bring its own agencies into compliance.

SPECIFIC COMPLAINT OF A CONFEREE
OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE "TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed to

FARMERS HOME ADMINISTRATION
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

COMPLAINT: A STATE ADMINISTRATOR (VAN LANDEHAM) OF THE FARM HOME ADMINISTRATIONS' SELF-HELP HOUSING PROGRAM IN GEORGIA IS ON RECORD AGAINST THAT PROGRAM.

EXAMPLE : The state administrator testified before a hearing of the advisory committee of the U.S. Civil Rights Committee that he had no sympathy for the self-help housing program.

SPECIFIC COMPLAINT OF A CONFEREE
OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE "TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed to

FARMERS HOME ADMINISTRATION

COMPLAINT: NO FEDERAL PROGRAM IS SET TO MEET THE HOUSING NEEDS OF
SHARECROPPERS IN BENTON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI.

EXAMPLE : "Now I live in a small county with little less than
twenty thousand population, about fifty-fifty white and
Negro. Half of those Negroes or two thirds of those
Negros are sharecroppers. Now we don't need any share-
croppers. I have been working sharecroppers all my
life. I don't need them. And the power structure
don't need them because we have machines now to do the
work. I want to know what can be done to get those
sharecroppers some houses and some homes where they can
live where they were free and born.

I hope this panel will go back to the government and
try and find some way to house sharecroppers in Mississippi,
especially in Benton County, where they don't have nowhere
to live. The little huts that they are living in is just
ridiculous. And it looks like to me if the Federal
Government is sending money out of the United States,
and giving grants to big concerns, it looks like they
could fix some way to give those poor sharecroppers a few
thousand dollars to build them a home where they have
somewhere to have their children and wife to live."
(Applause)

LABOR

COMPLAINTS OF THE CONFEREES

of

THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE

"TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

directed to

THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Manpower Training Program

Bureau of Public Roads

Office of the Assistant Manpower
Administrator for Youth Programs

Office of Federal Contract Compliance

September 1966

COMPLAINTS OF THE CONFEREES OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE
"TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed To

THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

COMPLAINT: THE APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING PROGRAM AS PRESENTLY OPERATED IS AN EXTREMELY INADEQUATE AND SLOW METHOD OF INCORPORATING A SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF NEGROES INTO INDUSTRY.

EXAMPLE: "Now, in our state these skilled craft unions practice total exclusion of Negroes. We have no Negro bricklayers, no Negro plumbers, no Negro sheet metal workers, no Negro iron fitters -- you can go right down the list."
(Committee I)

"We find that 40 to 60 percent are trained on the job in industry. Yet you find in the entry program there exists a double standard. Industry will take the illiterate, the culturally unprepared white, if he shows any potential, and give him a chance on an entry level to go up. We want the same chance for our kids, our illiterate, and those who have not had the chance of education. But a double standard does exist there." (Committee V)

Comment: "...the Federal Government has the responsibility of creating a tremendous training program throughout this country...to move into the 21st Century..get rid of the old method of getting people on jobs ...utilize tools available. Equal Opportunity Acts to see that employers comply with those bills." (Committee V)

COMPLAINT: THE BUREAU OF PUBLIC ROADS NEEDS TO INSIST THAT NEGRO WORKERS BE INCLUDED IN PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS.

EXAMPLE: "'Your tax dollars are at work' in public works programs and in areas where there are no Negroes employed...I think it is good public relations for the Government, for people to at least see Negroes working on projects where their tax dollars are directly affected." (Committee VI)

"..the rebuilding going on in Watts today is being regarded with considerable resentment because all white work crews are coming in to be observed by the unemployed Negro who is standing around." (Committee VIII)

COMPLAINT: MANPOWER TRAINING PROGRAMS ARE SOMETIMES STYMIED
BECAUSE NO GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY TAKES RESPONSIBILITY.

EXAMPLE: "I would like to recite some problems in connection with a program in an attempt to create new job levels, to upgrade the level of employment. First, I find that the Office of Economic Opportunity does not realize the necessity of job training in localities that have a great deal of Negro unemployment. At the same time, that locality does have job openings for trained people. We have also discussed it with the Department of Labor. As we discussed it with the Department of Labor we find their hands are almost tied because they must deal through state agencies. They also discussed the matter with the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare because we wished to try to train some of the people on welfare rolls to make them taxpayers instead of tax users, and find we can do little here again because of state and local control. But the big problem as we see it in training on a local level which is going to be extremely important is lack of cooperation between the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, between the Department of Labor, and between the Office of Economic Opportunity. And specifically as a recommendation I would like to suggest that we begin immediately a crash program to offer aid to those communities that desire to set up a manpower training program, means of setting up such a program, with full cooperation of both the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, the Office of Economic Opportunity, and the Department of Labor. We need to tie those three together to get the program going." (Committee XII).

COMPLAINT OF THE CONFEREES OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE
"TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed to

THE OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT MANPOWER
ADMINISTRATOR FOR YOUTH OPPORTUNITY

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

COMPLAINT: THE CIVIL RIGHTS ARREST RECORDS OF SOME YOUTHS BECOME
A DETERRENT IN JOB PLACEMENT.

EXAMPLE: "I should like to know what protections are given to
youth who have been arrested--who have an arrest record,
either just arrest, or even maybe having been found
guilty by paying of fines, themselves or somebody else
paying for them, as they apply for jobs, and have to
answer the question on the Civil Service test, 'Have you
ever been arrested?' Is there any protection given to
make a distinction between the kind of reasons for an
arrest in connection with civil action in the South, or
marchings, and an arrest for other kinds of crimes?"
(Committee I)

COMPLAINT OF THE CONFEREES OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE
"TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed To

THE OFFICE OF FEDERAL CONTRACT COMPLIANCE

COMPLAINT: REGARDLESS OF CONTRACTS WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT,
SOME BUSINESS CONCERNS SUBTLY IGNORE THE NON-DISCRIMINA-
TORY DIRECTIVE.

EXAMPLE: "Out in Michaux there are three agencies: Maison Russe,
Chrysler and Vohning (phonetic). Maison Russe, there
is a contract with the sheet metal workers, with the North
Metal Trade Council, rather, wherein there are eighteen
affiliated unions which signed a contract with Maison Russe.
Of the eighteen, fourteen lily white. No Negroes in the
unions, no Negroes on the job. None at Maison Russe which
has a government contract and space agency installation."
(Committee)



COMPLAINTS OF THE CONFEREES

of

THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE

"TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

directed to

THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

The Office of the Special Assistant
to the Secretary for Civil Rights

The Office of Equal Health Opportunity

The Office of Education

The Equal Educational Opportunities
Program in the Office of Education

The Welfare Administration

The Women's Bureau

September 1966

SPECIFIC COMPLAINT OF A CONFEREE TO THE
WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE "TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed to

THE SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY FOR CIVIL RIGHTS
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

COMPLAINT: "PAPER COMPLIANCE" OBTAINS IN THE STATE OF VIRGINIA AMONG
MOST AGENCIES WHICH SIGNED HEW FORM 411, COMPLIANCE TO
RECEIVE FEDERAL FUNDS."

EXAMPLE : "There is ample evidence to prove that to date (May 10, 1966)
several State agencies have allowed separate facilities and
services to continue with little change by local hospitals,
schools of nursing, medical training, mental institutions,
and other related health services and institutions to change
their policy and practices so that in actual practice,
discrimination would cease now. There is evidence when
cases of actual complaints were filed by CORE, NAACP and
others against hospitals, etc., and the U.S. DHEW officials
investigated and found facilities were in non-compliance
(by the existing visual evidence), and apparently the DHEW
recommended to the Virginia state agencies not to continue
the use of the facility in question (because the State
agency was administering Federal funds and had signed a
compliance form, too), yet, there is little evidence that
the State agencies ever ceased to use the facility in question.
It could well be that there might be evidence of gross
illegal usage of Federal funds as it is related to the
Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title VI, Section 601, and the
directives and policies which the State agencies have agreed
upon by signing HEW Form 411 Compliance. It would further
appear, if this is a proven fact, that the U.S. Department
of Justice has the legal responsibility to protect all of
the citizens residing in the Commonwealth of Virginia by
filing suit to cease such practices by the State of Virginia,
certain local governments, and certain private health
institutions and services." (Committee VIII)

SPECIFIC COMPLAINT OF A CONFEREE TO THE
WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE "TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed to

SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR FOR CIVIL RIGHTS
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

COMPLAINT: AGENCIES IN ATLANTA, GEORGIA ADMINISTERING HEALTH AND WELFARE PROGRAMS "COVER UP" INEQUITIES DURING INSPECTION VISITS OF OFFICIALS FROM WASHINGTON AND REACTIVATE SEGREGATION AFTER THEIR DEPARTURE.

EXAMPLE : "I think that the Department of Health, Education and Welfare has a much greater responsibility than it has taken. Now, a few months ago in Atlanta, I heard the Regional Director of HEW talk about some of the inspections they made. I know that the people in these areas that they had inspected had told the same things that had happened in hospitals-- that everything was cleaned up very nicely when they know the inspectors were coming; when they know the representative of HEW was coming, because they were always notified before hand he was coming. But as soon as he left things changed. When they made complaints they had no opportunity for confrontation. The complaints were handled by Washington and the local officers, and the complainant was never heard, so that the local officer said that the complaints were not true. Now, it seems to me that we need to recommend here that some immediate steps be taken for the implementation of Title 6 in welfare departments all over the country. The staffing may be difficult, but staffs can be got; I am sure, by the Federal Government.

SPECIFIC COMPLAINT OF A CONFEREE TO THE
WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE "TO FULFILL THESE RIGHT"

Directed to

OFFICE OF EQUAL HEALTH OPPORTUNITY
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

"Now, the Petersburg General Hospital, in Petersburg, Virginia, de-segregated its beds for Federal inspection and before the team got out of the City, two wards in the hospital were completely re-segregated. A complaint was filed with the hospital, and with the same inspection agency, of HEW, and until this day nothing has been done to fulfill these rights. This calls for a little more than a tranquilizing conference with an invitation from the President, but it must mean an on the spot and on the scene Federal supervision of all these titles."
(Committee VIII)

COMPLAINTS OF THE CONFEREES OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE
"TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed To

THE OFFICE OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

COMPLAINT: THE LACK OF A FORTHRIGHT POLICY BY THE OFFICE OF EDUCATION
IN ADHERING TO PRESCRIBED REGULATIONS FOR NON-
DISCRIMINATION IN EDUCATION IS CONDEMNABLE.

EXAMPLE : "Are we likely to have a repeat performance of the
confrontation between Mayor Daly of Chicago and the
U. S. Office of Education.

It's our understanding you'd like to have this very
distinctly stated in the record, that as a member of this
group he would like to know and he believes that others
similarly situated would like to know from the Federal
establishment, whether it's going to take a firm position
in holding to the guidelines which have been spoken to by
several of the speakers in this second session this after-
noon or whether there's going to be a yielding, a compro-
mising, of these guidelines when the political pressure
becomes strong enough. We're mentioning this so that it
will go into the record in this manner." (Committee VII)

My question is now -- how long will Alabama go on not
complying and still get the money. (Committee I)

I showed the Educational Report and the entire report to
some persons who have been active in civil rights in
Tuscaloosa. They have put their lives on the line each
day. And their comment on it -- they asked me to convey
this to the people in Washington -- was that the report
looks very nice, "but we don't believe in Washington any
more -- we don't see Washington, we don't even think it
exists." This is their comment. (Committee IX)

What I am trying to get across is the idea that when we
talk about effecting changes in opinions of people toward
law and order, that everyone will support the attempt to
make our streets safe, to make our property safer, and any-
one who dares to violate this is considered in the eyes
of the public a criminal. But at the same time the
sophisticated and overt methods used by those who violate
the civil rights laws, by those who discriminate against

a person based on race, this is acceptable to the general public. The attitudes you see do not condemn this, they condone it. The Office of Education is the best example of this. You see we take our time in enforcing the laws against discrimination in education. Why? Because the Office of Education says, all right, let's give them time.

I am saying if you are not going to give the hoodlum time on the streets to mend his ways, to come into conformity with society's expectations, we ought not to give the guy time who is sitting up in the State House or the guy who is sitting in the Mayor's Office or the guy running the Department of Education, time to bring his ideas into conformity with the law. We ought to say that these, too, are criminal acts and we ought to call them as such.
(Committee I)

COMPLAINT: TOO MANY OFFICIALS REPRESENTING THE OFFICE OF EDUCATION IN CHECKING ON COMPLIANCE WITH NONDISCRIMINATION GUIDELINES ARE THEMSELVES DILATORY: TIMID BEFORE WHITE ADMINISTRATORS AND PATERNAL TO NEGRO COMPLAINANTS.

EXAMPLE : "Now, we don't want you to send somebody again to our county or our area and set down in our little rooms and talk with us and say, "We are going to see what we can do about it." Then they go to the white officials and cross their legs and figure that is enough about the Negroes' complaints about what is going on in the schools."
(Committee V)

"I said to this representative from the Office of Education of HEW, "I happen to have a degree in teaching. I have one in nursing, I am married to a physician. I am the mother of seven children, and I believe that I am fairly intelligent and I feel that in addition to all this I am a practicing lawyer and I am not afraid to speak. What can I do to help evaluate the plans for integration and what can other people do who are qualified and able to help?" The answer I got was this: "Honey Chile, don't call us, we'll call you." (Committee II)

COMPLAINT: THE PLANS OF A LARGE NUMBER OF BOARDS OF EDUCATION ARE DESIGNED SO AS TO EFFECT COMPLIANCE THROUGH THE LEAST POSSIBLE CHANGE FROM EXISTING PRACTICES.

EXAMPLE : "I certainly feel the Office of Education has not done what it could do to enforce the active guidelines that have been drafted with reference to school desegregation. This is particularly true I believe in the South, where a school board can be very recalcitrant and very reluctant to do what they could do." (Committee IV)

"It has been 12 years since the Brown decision, and we see that in those 12 years the one thing that is clear is that there has been no significant change in the basic racial organization of our schools from Head Start through graduate and professional schools. We see that 12 years after the Brown decision we can still get recommendations from a serious group of professionals, charged with the responsibility of presenting recommendations for our consideration, which are still using the term, Negro colleges, you see, as if there could possibly be any such thing as a Negro college except in a society that is dominated by racist concerns." (Committee XII)

Comment: "I would like to know if there is some kind of way an administrative decision can be made to automatically make local school boards come into compliance with the HEW thing instead of placing the burden on the local people to go back into the court for the next two or three years in order to bring local school boards up to what the guidelines are and further to recommend that this council urge HEW to put more strength in cutting off Federal funds which I don't think has happened at all where school boards do not come into compliance with what the orders are." (Committee VI)

COMPLAINT: AN INEQUITABLE SALARY SCALE PREVAILS FOR NEGRO COLLEGE TEACHERS OF COMPARABLE QUALIFICATIONS TO WHITE TEACHERS IN COMPARABLE SITUATIONS.

EXAMPLE : ".... we have under Title a proviso to exempt municipalities and state governments from doing justly by their employees. And in the colleges in North Carolina, Negro college presidents, white college presidents, colleges of the same number, same standing, Negro college presidents receive \$3000 to \$5000 less than white college presidents, and that goes on down to the professors."

Comment: The Federal Government can come in to make salaries equal if the concerned institutions are recipients of Federal funds.

COMPLAINT: THE ENFORCEMENT MACHINERY UNDER TITLE VI LACKS SUFFICIENT STRENGTH THROUGH INSUFFICIENT PERSONNEL.

Comment. ".... as you may be aware, the House has eliminated almost \$1 million that was intended for the purpose of adding additional personnel to the Civil Rights enforcement machinery of HEW." (Committee II)

COMPLAINT: ACADEMIC PREPARATION IS NOT SUFFICIENT FOR TEACHERS IN PREDOMINANTLY NEGRO SCHOOLS: PROPER ATTITUDES IN DEALING WITH SPECIAL PROBLEMS OF YOUNGSTERS IN THESE SCHOOLS MUST BE TAUGHT.

EXAMPLE : "I would say that teachers seem to feel that they are not prepared in human relations skills to teach in this new idea of teaching children from all walks of life. They articulate this. They respond to in-service training institutes and I think that we ought to spend much much more money in orienting them to the behavioral sciences and in giving them institutes and training." (Committee X)

"Recently we had a boycott of the Seattle schools. Perhaps some of you may have heard about it. We asked that the Seattle school board publicize some sort of method of erasing the imbalance of segregation within the schools and that they start a program where the teachers would have a human rights or human relations program for the teachers. The boycott was far beyond any such that we expected, but what we got our surprise from was that the Federal, someone from the Federal office came to Seattle and we have high regard for the Federal office and we usually expect some sort of help from the Federal office. But they came to Seattle and we asked them what could they do to help out in our situation. Their answer was a flat nothing." (Committee II)

"All morning we did not talk about the guidance nor did we talk about the personnel that are going to teach the youngsters, and I have before me here a proposal that a federally-sponsored program, which would include scholarships for students going into city ghettos and areas, slum areas for teaching or guidance counsel, and that in this proposal that these students would work during the summer for credits in the poverty area. This would give them some knowledge and some preparation for classroom work when they graduate.

I feel that for too long now we have been receiving youngsters who have gone into these suburban schools and then on to a segregated college for the most part, and then you transfer them into a ghetto or into a slum area to teach, and they have no idea of any of the problems that are there." (Committee VII)

Comment: Cannot the Office of Education set up national guidelines to be used by school systems for guidance of teachers in special areas?

SPECIFIC COMPLAINT OF A CONFEREE
OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE "TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed to

THE OFFICE OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

"...this council must be concerned with the policy and the personnel (in the Office of Education) whereby if a person does the job he is sent out into the field to do, he will be reprimanded because he takes a stand--a strong stand on civil rights, as a result of which he is fired or resigns his employment because of the sanctions placed upon him. I think we can better effectuate Title 6 if we had people who had integration at heart, not like to sit around the conference table... the personnel within the Office of Education is not that kind of personnel which can better carry forth the meaning of Title 6. I have sixty-six affidavits out of seventy-five persons who have, in fact, resigned or quit primarily because of the personnel administering Title 6 in the Office of Education." (Committee IX)

SPECIFIC COMPLAINT OF A CONFEREE
OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE "TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed to

EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM
OFFICE OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

COMPLAINT: OFFICIALS IN DORCHESTER COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA
MISUSE FEDERAL FUNDS FOR EDUCATION. THEY SEEK AND ACCEPT
FEDERAL FUNDS UNDER FALSE PRETENSES OF DESEGREGATION OF
SCHOOLS.

EXAMPLE: "I am from South Carolina, too, from a little town in
Dorchester County, and my reasons and what I want to speak
about is the control of these schools which are called
desegregated. I think that the Federal Government will
have to do a little more than place it on the papers,
"desegregated," because in Dorchester County they don't
know what that means. In my school they accept the
children to receive the Federal aid, but the school is not
integrated. The Negro children sit through school in one
block, the whites in another side and then we have another
where the Indians sit. Even when they go to the boards,
for example, the teacher will call--if Mary, Mike and Joe
are Negro, then she will not mix the Negro children.

You know, the last school board tried as long as they
could to keep from desegregating the schools but when
the funds were low they had to have them and then they
accepted the children, and they only accepted the amount
that they wanted to accept, they didn't accept all that
were enrolled, and this is where I think that the Federal
Government will have to do a little more than what they
have been doing. Even on the buses, the Negroes ride in
the back of the bus, the Indians in the middle and the whites
in the front. So now what? We can't do anything about
it. We might say "No" but they have got guns and they do
say "Yes," so your hands are tied.

I am aware and experienced about this thing because I have a
house and it looks just like a polka dot dress--with shots,
you see, so this is why I am talking about desegregation.
This is what happens and unless HEW sends somebody down
there--because they sent somebody one time--I know in Washington
they have got a lot of people from South Carolina and there
are critics, too, and so these people, some of them, they come
down there--they won't even go close to the school. They didn't

go to check it out to see what was going on. We insisted that they go in the school and see how the school is operated, even check the buses, and they would see those things for themselves, but they didn't do it. They came right on back to Washington just in a week. (Committee VII, pp. 245-246)

SPECIFIC COMPLAINT OF CONFEREE
OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE
"TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed to

EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM
OFFICE OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

COMPLAINT: BECAUSE OF THE DENIAL OF APPROVAL BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION IN BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS TO THE "OPERATION EXODUS" PROGRAM, WHEREBY PARENTS ARE BUSSING CHILDREN OUT OF ROXBURY AREA SCHOOLS TO LESS CROWDED SCHOOLS IN THE BROADER COMMUNITY, NO FUNDING FOR THE COST OF THE PROGRAM CAN BE RECEIVED FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. (To date [September 1966] the cost is \$1,250-\$1,300 per week at \$50 a day for each of six busses to transport 500 children. Expansion of the program is foreseen as over 200 more applications for bussing have been received.)

EXCERPT

TRANSCRIPT: Mrs. Ellen Jackson - "Operation Exodus" I am the director of this program, and we have now taken it upon ourselves to bus our children out of the Roxbury schools, into schools in the broader community of Boston. And we don't do this to integrate the school. We do this to alleviate the crowded condition.

Basically, if the schools in Roxbury were okay, there would be a lot of us to keep our children right there. There would be no room for the suburban parents to come back into town.

We have sat across the table and looked eye-to-eye at our school committee. We have looked eye-to-eye at our State Board of Education. We have even summoned HEW to Boston to look our schools over and to talk to our parents, and to talk to our school people, and to talk to other community people. We, ourselves, have been to Washington several times, on our own committee, to talk to the HEW people's office of education, and also to our senators and speakers of the House.

Now you know, our problem of school bussing. It is \$50 a day per bus to bus five hundred children, and we have had excuses and excuses as parents, and we would like to know just how long is it going to take for these learned individuals to come up with some definite and constructive guidelines to define segregation northern style, because whether it is northern style, or southern style, it is still discrimination de facto or de jour.... when are we going to receive some relief from our problem.

Also, when some new legislation is going to be introduced to help such problems as ours, because the thing that's holding us up from being federally cited, is the fact that it has not been signed by the school committee.

The School Committee is not going to sanction the school program, once we start bussing. They said we were bussing to integrate. This is not true. I'm very concerned, and I am sure you will find many from Boston are concerned.

THE CHAIRMAN: Could you stay there, please. I want to get the record clear in identifying the totality of this problem for this court reporter. As I understand it, who pays this?

MRS. JACKSON: We do. It has been raised through bake sales, cake sales, raffles, plays, etc.

THE CHAIRMAN: And you have asked the Office of Education to fund this?

MRS. JACKSON: We have asked everyone to fund it.

THE CHAIRMAN: And you have been denied that?

MRS. JACKSON: That's right.

THE CHAIRMAN: And the reason given was because the school board --

MRS. JACKSON: (int'g), Has not okayed this program.

THE CHAIRMAN: So that I gather you are raising the question for the identification of the problem is that to what extent should the Federal Government deal with private groups, if the school board has indicated a hostility to the philosophy under the act and, therefore, you are asking for the Government to come up with policies where a school board

could be circumvented, where it has indicated that hostility? Is that a fair description?

MRS. JACKSON: Dr. Higginbotham, it is over a year that the schools in Washington has been sending people to Boston to evaluate this problem and we are talking about holding up Federal funds.

People are concerned because we have a law, Title VI. We have programs. If you don't comply which our school committee has not done, they have not come up with a program yet to alleviate racial imbalance, these funds could be cut off.

There are programs which are counterpoised. We are supposed to deal with culturally deprived children. My child, in my estimation, along with many hundreds of other parents, in Roxbury, are not culturally deprived. We don't take them on field trips? We take them on field trips. We subscribe to the Readers Digest. We give them pencils and crayons at this stage of childhood.

They are deprived because they are not educated in the racially desegregated schools.

When is a construction guideline going to be set up, when you set up what we call northern facto desegregation?

THE CHAIRMAN: I want you to understand that I am not hostile at all to what you said. What I was really trying to do because someone is going to read this record and I was trying to state it may be unfortunately like a lawyer but one of the issues may be and your request would be twofold:

1. Why shouldn't funds be cut off, if the school board is hostile in what you can call northern style de facto segregation?

MRS. JACKSON: Right.

THE CHAIRMAN: And, secondly, I gather you were suggesting why shouldn't there be separate funding agreements to help this problem; is that your problem?

MRS. JACKSON: Thank you.

MISS BEVANS: Let the record show all northern states. Miss Lena Bevans, Detroit, Michigan.

MR. AUSTIN: David Austin from Waltham, Massachusetts. I think that there are a couple of underlying principles that ought to be pinned down in this discussion, that we ought to be sure we come back to them in the final session when we are told we can adopt position statements.

One is that for this Conference, though it is in a sense a radical statement, I think we need to identify that education is a Federal and national issue and not a local issue. As long as we approach this problem on the basis of Federal supplementation, Federal bailing out or Federal arm-twisting on locally run educational patterns, we will be pursuing this issue at a conference a decade from now.

SPECIFIC COMPLAINT OF CONFEREE
OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE
"TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed To

EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM
OFFICE OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

"Northern Virginia, Berryville, Virginia area, the Federal Government now issues certain announcements. To a Negro high school, the graduating class, they issued the announcements for janitor, while to the other schools they gave them on the same date, April 1, applications for jobs, summer work and work within the Federal system in this particular area." (Committee II)

COMPLAINT OF THE CONFEREES OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE
"TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed To

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

WELFARE ADMINISTRATION

COMPLAINT: THE ATTITUDE OF MANY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF WELFARE'S LOCAL OFFICES IS REPREHENSIBLE IN THAT IT IS GEARED TO DENYING RATHER THAN AIDING.

EXAMPLE: "We have found in Boston, for example, that one very serious problem is the game that is played by Welfare workers who think it is their business to vent their own attitudes upon the recipients of the Welfare program, with the result being that quite frequently recipients of Welfare are unable to find out what they are entitled to, what sort of benefits they are eligible for.

"This results in extreme irritation and it is the sort of thing, it would strike us, that the Government could move on at once, by requiring that Welfare agencies on the state and local levels now functioning be required to notify their clients, either by printed or mimeographed charts or in some other way concerning the benefits to which they are entitled."
(Committee VII)

Comment: Human relations guidelines, teaching and discussion sessions need to be established nationally so that a sympathetic and understanding, though not condoning, relationship ensues between recipient and Welfare worker.

Case

SPECIFIC COMPLAINT OF A CONFEREE
OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE "TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed To

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
WELFARE ADMINISTRATION

COMPLAINT: "In the State of Kansas, because of my experience as an ABC recipient, I asked to serve on the public assistance study committee of a local organization and to my dismay and horror discovered what public assistance is coming to in the State of Kansas.

"I understand that in 1962 the Federal Government established a law providing the possibility of doing several things. The states were to choose as to how they would use these possibilities. One of those was under certain programs the recipients of aid could be asked to work for that aid. Another was that the state would provide training or retraining possibilities for recipients of this aid. The state of Kansas has chosen one of those, the item of work. I'd like to tell you about that.

"These persons, most of them are unemployed men who have felt the onslaught of automation, who helped to build the industries of this country and now are found no longer useful. They've had to then fall back on public assistance programs and they do, indeed, have to work for their aid. In fact, if their aid is enough they must work five days a week, full time, with one day off a month. One day a month to look for work. And in order to get that one day they must arrange in advance to work on Saturday to make up for it. Now, if they don't meet this requirement, deductions are made from their aid at the rate of \$1.25 per hour for the amount of time they missed on that job. Their jobs are such things as maintaining county parks and roads and so forth. When the weather is inclement they cannot work and they must report to the job even though they must sit there all day. Some of these men have lost job opportunities because they had to work at the time the opportunity for the job was available. Since there are in the Kansas program no provisions for training or retraining it amounts to me as clearly as I can understand it a system of indentured slavery if there ever was one."

COMPLAINT OF THE CONFEREES OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE
"TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed To

THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
THE WOMEN'S BUREAU

COMPLAINT: "THE SPECIAL NEEDS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS HAVE NOT RECEIVED
ADEQUATE EMPHASIS AND ESPECIALLY ADEQUATE FUNDING IN
FEDERAL AND STATE PROGRAMS." (Committee IX)

EXAMPLE: "...four [of six women in service occupations] work as
domestics, meaning that over half of us still work at the
skills of our ancestors whose entry into the occupational
field was labeled 'slave.' ... The plight of the domestic
deserves national attention." (Committee X)

H U D

COMPLAINTS OF THE CONFEREES

of

THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE

"TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

directed to

THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

The Office of the Secretary

Federal Housing Administration

Public Housing Administration

September 1966

COMPLAINTS OF THE CONFEREES OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE
"TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed To

SECRETARY, DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

COMPLAINT: RENT SUPPLEMENTS ONLY MAINTAIN A TERRIBLE STATUS QUO. WHAT IS NEEDED IS A PROGRAM OF PURCHASE SUPPLEMENTS TO PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR HOME OWNERSHIP.

EXAMPLE : Families in need of rent supplements are often doomed to stay where they are. Ghettos of the poor Negro are perpetuated. Supplemental payments to welfare departments for remission to landlords of run down property rewards irresponsibility in maintaining decent housing. (Committee IX)

Comment: HUD should review the adverse effect of rent supplements and assure that the program will not be self defeating. A program to provide supplemental payments toward the purchase of a home should be devised.

COMPLAINT: HOMEOWNERS IN NEIGHBORHOODS CONSIDERED BY FHA TO BE BLIGHTED, CANNOT RECEIVE FEDERAL ASSISTANCE TO REHABILITATE THEIR HOMES. INDIVIDUAL NEEDS SHOULD BE GIVEN PRIORITY OVER AREA CLASSIFICATION WHEN REHABILITATION LOANS ARE SOUGHT. (Committee IX)

Comment: HUD should ask FHA to study and recommend ways to assist homeowners in obtaining rehabilitation loans in any area.

COMPLAINT: HOUSING PROGRAMS DEVELOPED IN WASHINGTON ARE NOT FULLY IMPLEMENTED BY FEDERAL OFFICIALS AT THE LOCAL LEVEL. LOCAL NON-FEDERAL FORCES HAVE MORE EFFECT THAN TOP WASHINGTON OFFICIALS ON LOCAL FEDERAL PERSONNEL. FURTHER, ALL FEDERAL AGENCIES SHOULD BE SUBJECT TO PERFORMANCE REVIEWS BY AN AGENCY SUCH AS A SPECIAL PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION.

EXAMPLE : "I have had personal experience trying to remold a Federal program, trying to make it meaningful to people that live in the ghettos. I find that this is harder than pulling teeth. The Federal officials at the local level simply are--out of touch with [their] top people." (Committee IX)

COMPLAINT: HOUSING FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS IS CRITICALLY NEEDED. LACK OF ADEQUATE HOUSING REFLECTS PROBLEMS OF MORALE AND DISCIPLINE NOT UNRELATED TO THE PROBLEMS OF THE CITIES.

EXAMPLE : See separate specific complaint.

COMPLAINT: SHARECROPPERS LIVE IN BAD HOUSING (HUTS). ABOUT ONE-HALF OF THEM ARE NEGROES AND CANNOT ACQUIRE SHORT-TERM HOUSING SUCH AS TRAILERS.

EXAMPLE : "Some sharecroppers are absolutely without income. They can't even heat the places in which they live."

Comment: Rural housing must be made more available, particularly where sharecropping prevails. One result of the absence of such a program will be more migration to the city ghettos. There are soil banks for land. There should be subsidies for the people who worked the land.'

COMPLAINT: LOCAL HOUSING CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS ARE OFTEN NOT CONVERSANT WITH THE AREAS IN WHICH THEY WORK.

EXAMPLE : Local governments employ a number of code enforcement personnel who neither live in nor have an interest in the neighborhoods where they work. Also, they are only as effective as the power structure permits.

Comment: Residents of the ghetto areas should be selected and trained to seek out code violations. HUD could underwrite the program by both paying for the training of the personnel and subsidizing their salary for a limited time, the local governmental unit responsible for code enforcement.

COMPLAINT: NEGROES USUALLY HAVE TO PAY MORE FOR HOUSING THAN DO WHITES. WHEN URBAN RENEWAL TAKES THEIR PROPERTY AT MARKET VALUE THE NEGROES' HIGHER COSTS ARE COMPOUNDED.

EXAMPLE : The Negro must often pay a premium to buy a house. Urban renewal paying only market value for property puts Negro families out in the higher replacement market with the usual premium or "Negro taxes" to pay.

COMPLAINT: INDIGENOUS GROUPS DISLOCATED BY URBAN RENEWAL'S FEDERAL FUNDS DO NOT GET FEDERAL HELP TO RELOCATE.

EXAMPLE : Federal housing has helped builders put up segregated housing for years. No Federal money has been spent to teach displaced

families how to get and keep adequate housing.

Comment: The Federal Government should provide instruction on how to obtain housing.

COMPLAINT: THE TIGHT MONEY POLICY IS MAKING IT DIFFICULT TO BUILD BOTH ADEQUATE HOUSING AND SCHOOLS.

EXAMPLE : "I think we should call upon both the Administration and the Federal Reserve Board to get off the tight money policy. The tight money policy is acting as a real curb on housing. It certainly is acting as a curb on school construction. And that is needed."

COMPLAINT: AREA BROKERS HANDLING FHA PROPERTIES DISPOSE OF THEM IN A DISCRIMINATORY MANNER.

EXAMPLE : Brokers are in a position to know in advance of a repossessed property being offered for sale. During the time the house is put into shape for sale the brokers can discriminate and they do.

Comment: Federal housing employees should be responsible for renovating a repossessed house and only then make it available for sale with a broker.

COMPLAINT: PUBLIC HOUSING UNITS ARE TOO EXPENSIVE FOR THE MILLIONS WHO NEED THEM.

EXAMPLE : Present costs of public housing runs from \$15-\$20 a square foot.

Comment: Federal funds must be provided for researching ways to reduce public housing construction costs: "There is not a single word in these recommendations asking for studies into specific means of decreasing the costs of construction. This is the thing that is most needed. These people cannot be housed at present housing costs. The taxpayer cannot pay the subsidy of providing these housing units for non-producing families of \$20,000 to \$30,000 a unit. It is essential to bring down the cost of housing units. This has to be done by research." (Committee)

COMPLAINT: PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITIES EVICT UNWED MOTHERS

EXAMPLE : Decent housing is a necessity for illegitimate families, not a reward. Eviction is a punishment that throws the families back into the slums and into the hands of heartless landlords. The eviction policy is implemented far more in nonwhite projects than in those which are all-white.

COMPLAINT: THE GRANTING OF DEMONSTRATION CITIES PROGRAM FUNDS IS BEING BASED ON SURFACE PROMOTION RATHER THAN REALISTIC CRITERIA.

EXAMPLE : HUD position on a city's eligibility for the funds is "the money is going to go to the cities with the most imagination, the real sharp planning, the ones with the greatest ideas, the ones who can think of real good things to do with it. I think somehow absent from all of this are the ones with the greatest need and somehow this must become a preliminary criteria." (Committee)

Comment: The basis for financial assistance should be need.

COMPLAINT: FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IS SUPPORTING AND PERPETUATING SEGREGATED HOUSING BY LEAVING THE INITIAL DECISION MAKING POWER IN THE HANDS OF THE LOCAL HOUSING AUTHORITY.

Comment: Particularly in hard core areas which resist change, Federal authority should establish some control over local housing commissions.

COMPLAINT: FHA 221(d)(3). SINGLE PERSONS SUCH AS WIDOWS CANNOT QUALIFY FOR THIS MODERATE INCOME HOUSING AND THEY HAVE A SERIOUS NEED.

Comment: The eligibility limits should be extended to include single persons.

COMPLAINT: ENFORCEMENT OF EXECUTIVE ORDER AND THOSE PARTS OF TITLE VI AFFECTING HOUSING MUST BE STRENGTHENED.

EXAMPLE : There should be a Presidential directive to the Secretary of HUD to the effect that all of the programs being administered by Federal assistance have to be affirmatively and vigorously implemented with the objective of not only desegregation but developing racially and economically diversified communities.

COMPLAINT: IN SOME AREAS, THERE ARE NUMEROUS FHA FORECLOSED HOUSES AND PROJECTS. COULD THE SBA ASSIST TO QUALIFY NEGROES TO TAKE OVER THESE PROPERTIES AND MANAGE THEM.

COMPLAINT: PUBLIC HOUSING: PUBLIC HOUSING IS SUBSTANTIALLY SEGREGATED THROUGHOUT THE SOUTH. TO IMPROVE THIS SITUATION THERE MUST BE BETTER REPRESENTATION OF MINORITY GROUPS ON LOCAL HOUSING AUTHORITIES.

COMPLAINT: PUBLIC HOUSING: THERE IS A CONSPIRACY AMONG ELECTED LOCAL OFFICIALS, FEDERAL OFFICIALS AND THE MANAGERS OF PUBLIC HOUSING WHICH CONTINUES SEGREGATION. IS THERE NO LAW TO PUNISH THIS FORM OF CONSPIRACY?

COMPLAINT: ELDER CITIZENS ARE DISCRIMINATED AGAINST IN URBAN RENEWAL.

EXAMPLE : Urban renewal takes their houses and the older person cannot get financing to replace his "taken" home because he or she is too old.

COMPLAINT: HOUSING TAKEN BY URBAN RENEWAL IS REPLACED BY HOUSING COSTING SEVERAL TIMES MORE.

EXAMPLE : In Philadelphia \$2,000 homes were taken and replaced by housing units costing \$32,000.

COMPLAINT: DISPLACED FAMILIES FROM DOWNTOWN CITY AREAS FIND THEY CANNOT STAY IN PUBLIC HOUSING BUILT FOR THIS REPLACEMENT.

EXAMPLE : Relocated families may have to move soon after getting public housing because their incomes go up enough to be ineligible to stay.

SPECIFIC COMPLAINT OF A CONFERE
OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE "TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed to

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

COMPLAINT: MANAGEMENT BROKERS WORKING WITH FARMERS HOME ADMINISTRATION IN KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI DEVISE SCHEMES TO PREVENT NEGROES FROM BUYING HOMES IN WHITE AREAS.

EXAMPLE : "In our city (Kansas City, Missouri) we have found that when property is repossessed by the FHA, it is given to the management broker to see what condition it should be put in, and the management broker has authority to inspect this house all the way along until it is ready for sale. Now we have a law, an FHA law, that you are not supposed to go in this house until it is ready for sale, but the management broker, being a broker, also, and able to sell houses, he has the opportunity to keep with this house and other brokers in the city are able to get a contract.

When this house has been on the market for sale, when you call him up and have him submit a contract, he will say the contract is already on the house.

Now, last week we had a lady, a white lady, that went out and investigated this. She asked for this house, if he can sell it. He said "Yes, I can sell it to one of the management brokers. I can sell it."

She said "You are not supposed to sell it before it came out."

He says, "I can sell it. It is the only way we can keep Negroes out of white neighborhoods, and that is to sell the house before it is put up for sale by the FHA."

I think it would be a good idea if we would have a manager look after these houses to see if they are in condition without putting a broker in at all, not even a real estate man. Someone else should see the house is put in proper condition to be sold by all brokers of the city."

(Committee VIII)

SPECIFIC COMPLAINT OF A CONFEREES TO THE
OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE "TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed to

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

COMPLAINT: RELOCATION AND URBAN RENEWAL. THE URBAN RENEWAL PROGRAM IN INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI IS DESIGNED TO DISPLACE AND REMOVE EVERY NEGRO FAMILY LIVING IN INDEPENDENCE. EVERY NEGRO HOME IS IN THE URBAN RENEWAL AREA WHICH, AFTER CLEARANCE, WILL BECOME AN ALL-WHITE SUBURB OUTSIDE KANSAS CITY. THE ONLY RELOCATION HOUSING THAT HAS BEEN FOUND IS IN KANSAS CITY.

Comment: One hundred letters have been written to the Federal Government but the program continues.

SPECIFIC COMPLAINT OF A CONFEREE
OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE "TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed to

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

COMPLAINT: CITY PLANNING COMMISSION OF MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA
WHICH RECEIVES TWO-THIRDS OF ITS FUNDS FROM THE FEDERAL
GOVERNMENT FAVORS THE MAINTENANCE OF NON-WHITE GHETTOES.
THIS POLICY CAN BE FOUND IN THE "NORTH STAR REPORT."

EXAMPLE : The Commission has reported that Negroes are happy in the
ghetto and are afraid to leave.

COMMENT : The Housing Redevelopment Authority and Planning Commission
should be required to work together to prevent the
establishment and maintenance of ghettos.

SPECIFIC COMPLAINT OF A CONFERE
OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE "TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed to

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

COMPLAINT: AN URBAN RENEWAL PROGRAM FOR DANBURY, CONNECTICUT
HAS BEEN HELD IN OBEYANCE FOR EIGHT YEARS.

EXAMPLE : "We had the experience of submitting a workable
program in 1958, in Danbury, Connecticut, for
redevelopment of the downtown area. Now this is
1966, there's still no homes constructed in that
community. We have been to the Regional Office in
New York numerous times. There seems to be no
understanding of an administrative hearing. There
is no procedure for recourse, effectually, to help
the community, even though we have program planners
on the regional level." (Committee IX)

SPECIFIC COMPLAINT OF A CONFEREE
OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE "TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed to

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

COMPLAINT: ADMINISTRATORS OF PUBLIC HOUSING PROJECTS IN NEWBURY, NORTH CAROLINA EVICT WOMEN WITH ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN. THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT KNOWS OF AND HAS FAILED TO ACT TO CORRECT THIS PRACTICE.

EXAMPLE : "For about six months the local civil rights organization has provided full information to the Department of Housing and Urban Affairs on problems they are having in the Public Housing Authority there. Finally, after it was seen nothing was going to be done by the federal government or the local housing authority, suit was filed which is now pending in the federal district court attacking this policy.

This raises this suit and this policy raises a whole broad range of problems which I would like to see dealt with in section two and that is to be recommended to the Department of Housing and Urban Affairs that they begin and attempt an investigation of the policies and practices adopted by many public housing authorities throughout the country, specifically the provisions of leases and specifically the leases.

In Newbury, for example, the tenants there had to sign away all legal rights, practically everything to get into the Public Housing Authority Public Housing.

These leases could have been examined by the federal government. They made clear the kinds of problems that are going to arise. We have been led to understand that the federal government feels it really doesn't have any control over these kinds of policies."

(Committee)

SPECIFIC COMPLAINT OF A CONFEREE
OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE "TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed to

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
PUBLIC HOUSING

COMPLAINT: IN WILMINGTON, DELAWARE MANAGERS OF HOUSING UNITS
"EVICT UNWED MOTHERS FOR GIVING BIRTH TO CHILDREN
OUT OF WEDLOCK."

COMMENT: "This strikes me as being one of the most heartless
and --well very cruel instruments or form of punishment.
It actually denies a woman who has made a mistake the
right to decent housing.

Now, the question I want to bring out is to tell me if the
housing administration, the office, say here in Washington,
gives support to this type of cruel and inhuman action.

I am not here to debate the morals of anyone. I am here
asking for work, for something on a need that exists in
my community.

Mothers come to me and tell me they face eviction, 30-day
and 90-day notices. This seems to relegate and turn
these people back into the slums, to be victimized by
heartless landlords.

Why don't we get the facts on that and look into it. That
sounds very unfair."

SPECIFIC COMPLAINT OF A CONFEREE
OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE "TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed to

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

COMPLAINT: SLUMLORDS IN CONNECTICUT ARE CHARGING AND GETTING EXHORBITANT RENT FOR DILAPIDATED AND RAT-INFESTED APARTMENTS. FURTHER, MANY OF THESE TENANTS ARE ON WELFARE AND, THUS, THE CITY AND STATE ARE REALLY PAYING THE SLUMLORD.

COMMENT : What can be done to stop these practices?

SPECIFIC COMPLAINT OF A CONFEREE
OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE "TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed to

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

COMPLAINT: AT LANGSTON UNIVERSITY IN LANGSTON, OKLAHOMA LACK OF ADEQUATE STUDENT HOUSING IS ACUTE WITH NO RELIEF IN SIGHT IN SPITE OF REQUESTS FOR SAID RELIEF.

EXAMPLE : "Langston University is one of Oklahoma's eight supported or State assisted institutions for the past five years. Our enrollment increase has been third over the past three years. Enrollment increase has been first among all these eighteen institutions. For nearly a year now we have had an application before the House and local finance agency in Fort Worth for some additional college housing. Now, I know that with the first of the year no new applications were taken. I know also that the decreased interest rates made the volume of applicants higher, but every once in a while we see where some institution in the state or outside the state has been granted a loan, has been granted these funds. Many of our problems are problems of morale; problems of discipline are not unrelated to the problems you face in the cities. We have students packed three and four in a room, and this makes for the similar kind of problems that you find in the cities where people are crammed together in housing.

We need some relief. Now, what help we can get I don't know. We have been told that after July 1, we may get a message. Now, that isn't saying that we are going to get any help, but we don't know anything until after July 1, and I am wondering if this panel can give us any assistance. This is a limited problem I know, but one of great importance to us." (Committee IX)

COMPLAINTS OF THE CONFERREES OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE
"TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed To

THE FEDERAL HOUSING ADMINISTRATION

COMPLAINT: LOCAL OFFICES OF GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES IN MANY INSTANCES FAIL TO ADVISE CLAIMANTS OF THEIR RIGHTS TO BE REPRESENTED BY COUNSEL.

EXAMPLE: "...in too many instances where loan funds are available there are two different ways of issuing the funds."

"This is where white farmers get allocations of the funds that are available, where Negroes do not. Many of these agencies, it is written into law they are entitled to representation when they appear before the agencies. In too many instances the administrators of these programs tell the Negro, 'You don't need a lawyer to represent you,' and their rights are being deprived."

"It seems to me that there ought to be at the Federal level something similar to the Legal Aid Society, assuring the Negro's rights when appearing before the various administrative agencies, who are increasing their power by virtue of the quasi-judicial authority in dealing with the problem coming before them."

CHAIRMAN: Your suggestion is a rather unique and novel one and worthy of consideration, but I think it would be helpful if you could specify which administrative agencies you have in mind where this is prevailing.

PARTICIPANT: I suppose I will have to go through the full list of all of the agencies that exist: Small Business Administration, for instance; FHA is another instance where we find these discrepancies. Another instance is, of course, the use of the one and three rule used by the Civil Service Commission in placing personnel and where these problems have been brought to their attention and complaints filed under existing statutes. Negroes have not been advised of their rights to be represented by counsel.

"Consequently the system, which is obviously ingrained in the insincere administrators who are charged with the responsibility of administering these laws, are not brought out clearly and weighed in the light of what the impact is on the Negro community." (Committee)

F P C

COMPLAINTS OF THE CONFEREES

of

THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE

"TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

directed to

THE FEDERAL POWER COMMISSION

September 1966

COMPLAINT OF THE CONFEREES OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE
"TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed To

THE FEDERAL POWER COMMISSION

COMPLAINT: AS PART OF THE PUNITIVE PROCESS IN THE SOUTH AGAINST
VOCAL PARTICIPANTS IN THE CIVIL RIGHTS STRUGGLE, A COM-
MON REPRISAL IS TO DOUBLE AND TRIPLE GAS AND LIGHT BILLS
OF PARTICIPANTS.

EXAMPLE: Conferee from Augusta, Georgia indicates that practice
is prevalent in that city.

Comment: Granted that the primary function of the FPC is to see that
power gets into the states and that a state regulatory agency may take
over and granted that a number of cases must be cited to establish a
pattern for the ultimate purpose of prosecution, state agencies should
nevertheless be made aware of "watching" by the Federal Power Commission
of companies contracting power from the Federal government who in raising
rates of recipients may possibly be engaging in extortion.

S B A

COMPLAINTS OF THE CONFEREES

of

THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE

"TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

directed to

THE SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

September 1966

COMPLAINT OF A CONFEREE TO THE
WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE "TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed to

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

COMPLAINT: IN SOME AREAS, THERE ARE NUMEROUS FHA FORECLOSED HOUSES AND PROJECTS. COULD THE SBA ASSIST TO QUALIFY NEGROES TO TAKE OVER THESE PROPERTIES AND MANAGE THEM.

COMPLAINT: THE PROGRAM OF LENDING \$6,000 ON A SIX YEAR TERM TO NEGROES IN SMALL BUSINESS IS NOT COMPREHENSIVE ENOUGH.

EXAMPLE : "The six by six program is certainly a very good one, but it is not adequate to provide for the types of business activity that Negroes should participate in, aside and apart from just the service activity. We must get into the industrial, into the manufacturing area, where we are not. And six by six is not going to be adequate to that end." (Committee I)

"The second question I would like to ask is this: I am also a representative of the Small Business Development Committee in Detroit. We are putting emphasis on small business for Negroes. But I wonder why there is no discussion here of the possibility of developing co-op businesses? There is a reference in the rural areas to co-op farms, but I wonder why the whole concept of co-op businesses for the mass areas for Negroes is not mentioned here? (Committee V).

COMPLAINTS OF THE CONFERREES OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE
"TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed To

THE SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

COMPLAINT: LOCAL OFFICES OF GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES IN MANY INSTANCES
FAIL TO ADVISE CLAIMANTS OF THEIR RIGHTS TO BE REPRESENTED
BY COUNSEL .

EXAMPLE: "...in too many instances where loan funds are available there
are two different ways of issuing the funds."

"This is where white farmers get allocations of the funds that are available, where Negroes do not. Many of these agencies it is written into law they are entitled to representation when they appear before the agencies. In too many instances the administrators of these programs tell the Negro, 'You don't need a lawyer to represent you,' and their rights are being deprived."

"It seems to me that there ought to be at the Federal level something similar to the Legal Aid Society, assuring the Negro's rights when appearing before the various administrative agencies, who are increasing their power by virtue of the quasi-judicial authority in dealing with the problem coming before them."

CHAIRMAN: Your suggestion is a rather unique and novel one and worthy of consideration, but I think it would be helpful if you could specify which administrative agencies you have in mind where this is prevailing.

PARTICIPANT: I suppose I will have to go through the full list of all of the agencies that exist: Small Business Administration, for instance; FHA is another instance where we find these discrepancies. Another instance is, of course, the use of the one and three rule used by the Civil Service Commission in placing personnel and where these problems have been brought to their attention and complaints filed under existing statutes. Negroes have not been advised of their rights to be represented by counsel.

"Consequently the system, which is obviously ingrained in the insincere administrators who are charged with the responsibility of administering these laws, are not brought out clearly and weighed in the light of what the impact is on the Negro community." (Committee)

O E O



COMPLAINTS OF THE CONFEREES

of

THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE

"TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

directed to

THE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

September 1966

COMPLAINTS OF THE CONFEREES OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE
"TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed To

THE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

COMPLAINT: THE FEDERAL MONEY PROVIDED FOR HELPING THE POOR DWINDLES BEFORE IT REACHES THEM BY FILTERATION THROUGH MANY BUREAUCRATIC PLANS.

EXAMPLES: Chicago. "Federal money that goes into our community only goes to one purpose: to perpetuate poverty...particularly the horrors of welfare and public housing."

Detroit: "I represent 8000 welfare people and voluntarily work for these people and have for ten years... You don't know what it is to have a child drop out of school because he cant walk across a stage in gym shoes and so forth...they send funds into Detroit. They never reach the poor. The Federal Government needs to take a good hard look before they send another penny into Detroit and calling themselves helpers of the poor."

Alabama: "The politically influenced poor programs have to go through states in the South and breeds frustration...not effective in reaching a large number of people who need help."

Missouri: "Paternalism, personal authority pirate with higher salaries from existing agencies losing public support and furthermore you get into a conflict of interest situation where on the one hand you are administering and on the other hand you are trying to coordinate."

Mississippi: "The Poverty program is administered by people who keep poor people poor...Why? Very simply, because the Federal Government turns over this food and that money to the local power structure, and they do with it what they feel."

COMPLAINT: REALISTICALLY, IT IS DIFFICULT TO ENTICE THE PRACTICING ATTORNEY TO REPRESENT CIVIL RIGHTERS OR INDIGENTS WITHOUT FEE.

EXAMPLE: "...I wonder if it would be satisfactory if we put into the record that there was a consensus here that every possible means be brought to bear, both of a private and public nature, in trying to bring about changes which would provide a greater willingness on the part of the American Bar to represent persons who are accused in the courts and who do not have the necessary facilities for their own defense."

COMPLAINT: POLITICAL CONTROL DOMINATES TOO MANY O.E.O. PROGRAMS.

EXAMPLE: "I see no provision in the Commission's report regarding removing programs such as the O.E.O. from political control. It is my understanding that in many, many cities, the chairman of the local O.E.O. programs usually at the same time is chief administrator of the city. I see within this framework the difficulties for the poor of becoming anything--they may become a little more affluent, but they almost never become independent because of the threat which lies at the top of the structure to that independence.

Therefore, the despair and the anger which originated because of poverty remains, and I would recommend that somewhere the Committee find in its deliberations to recommend, so much as possible, programs of this nature be administered by what we might say is disinterested persons as far as such people can be found."

CIVIL RIGHTS



COMPLAINTS OF THE CONFEREES

of

THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE

"TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

directed to

THE UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

September 1966

COMPLAINT OF THE CONFEREES OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE
"TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed To

THE UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

COMPLAINT: NO PROVISION HAS BEEN MADE FOR INDEMNIFYING PEOPLE FOR
LOSS OF PROPERTY DAMAGE IN THE CIVIL RIGHTS STRUGGLE.

EXAMPLE: "What could be done to declare the civil rights violence
a disaster measure and to have the churches of the South
that are destroyed by bombs restored and other property? We
who are in the borderline areas are constantly requested to
send funds to these churches, and we want to do it, but we
do not have the resources to constantly spend money on
restoration of property. And we feel that there should be
a larger frame-work to not only provide money damages to
victims for personal injury to their person, but also to
the property." (Committee IV)

Comment: PANELIST: This I think suggests a possible amendment to
the Douglas-Case bill.

CHAIRMAN: Right.

E E O C



COMPLAINTS OF THE CONFEREES

of

THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE

"TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

directed to

THE EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION

September 1966

COMPLAINTS OF THE CONFEREES OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE
"TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed To

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION

COMPLAINT: IN MOST PERSONNEL OFFICES, PRIVATE AS WELL AS GOVERNMENTAL, THERE IS ALMOST A TOTAL ABSENCE OF NEGROES TO HELP IN THE HIRING. SINCE THE PERSONNEL OFFICE IS OFTEN THE AREA IN WHICH MUCH OF THE DISCRIMINATION CAN OCCUR (INITIAL EMPLOYMENT AS WELL AS PROMOTIONAL), THESE OFFICES SHOULD COME UNDER SCRUTINY.

EXAMPLE: "The White House ought to know that we are not satisfied with the employment picture in the Federal Government itself. You have got Negroes in government who have trained whites to be their supervisors. And they stay in the same spot for ten or fifteen years and don't move."
(Committee I)

"Complaints have been white-washed. In other words, nothing has been done. The Civil Service Commission, whoever is responsible, continues to keep this person in position, analyzing these complaints.

"I would recommend to this Council that a re-evaluation be made of Federal agencies where there has been considerable problems of racial discrimination in promotion of grade." (Committee III)

COMPLAINT: STATE FEPC AGENCIES ARE LAX IN IMPLEMENTING EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES.

EXAMPLE: "...plead with the council and with the conference to urge an examination by some federal agency, whether it be EEOC or the Civil Rights Commission, an investigation of the actual operations of various state FEP bodies, which up until now have not vigorously enforced the law, and until they do, a good deal of the affirmative programs which are designed to change the entire fabric of American society, and therefore are unobjectionable by anyone with conscience, will simply not be implemented." (Committee XII, pp. 104)

SPECIFIC COMPLAINT OF A CONFEREE
OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE "TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed to

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION

"I would like to recommend that consideration be given to the appointment to the Federal Home Loan Bank Board of Negro member, competent and experienced in housing, so that the Bank Board, itself, in operating and setting out policies and procedures, and practices, governing Federal savings and loans, will always be conscious of the need and of the situation of the minority groups, and particularly Negroes."

SPECIFIC COMPLAINT OF A CONFEREE
OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE "TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed to

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION

COMPLAINT: EEOC DOES NOT HAVE ENOUGH POWER TO BE AS EFFECTIVE AS IT MIGHT BE.

EXAMPLE: "I think one of the things we have not addressed ourselves to sufficiently in this report is the whole question of the new role of organizations like the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and the numerous state and local agencies in this field. Are we not too narrowly defining the scope of these programs? Should we now go beyond what our current conception of these groups is? Should we now begin to look at whether or not we need some more complaint initiation, some more authority, some more definition of what we mean by affirmative action, and how are you going to enforce affirmative action by these groups?"

I would like the group to react to this whole question of the current status of fair employment practice groups, and how they may be strengthened to provide the kinds of opportunities and to provide the necessary impetus to make equality of opportunity a reality instead of a phrase.

I am very concerned about the techniques we are currently using. I do not believe that the tool of the fair employment practices laws as they now stand are related to 1966 problems in discrimination. I think it is a horse and buggy approach to a jet age problem." (Committee I, pp. 32-33)

"...and we were interested in strengthening the powers that EEOC has, which I think is one way to speed that process up, even though they have some time limits on their own conciliation process." (Committee V)

COMMENT: Above feeling of conferees may help substantiate requests for greater enforcement powers.

CIVIL SERVICE

COMPLAINTS OF THE CONFEREES

of

THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE

"TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

directed to

THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

September 1966

COMPLAINT OF THE CONFEREES OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE
"TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed To

THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

COMPLAINT: THE CIVIL RIGHTS ARREST RECORDS OF SOME YOUTHS BECOME
A DETERRENT IN JOB PLACEMENT.

EXAMPLE: "I should like to know what protections are given to youth
who have been arrested--who have an arrest record, either
just arrest, or even maybe having been found guilty by
paying of fines, themselves or somebody else paying for
them, as they apply for jobs, and have to answer the
question on the Civil Service test, 'Have you ever been
arrested?' Is there any protection given to make a dis-
tinction between the kind of reasons for an arrest in
connection with civil action in the South, or marchings,
and an arrest for other kinds of crimes?" (Committee I)

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made of Federal agencies where there has been considerable
problems of racial discrimination in promotion of grade."
(Committee III)

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION (Cont'd)

COMPLAINT: NO AGENCY CAN OR DOES TAKE THE INITIATIVE TO HELP AN APPLICANT WHOSE NEEDS DO NOT SPECIFICALLY FALL INTO THE RANGE OF THE GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY TO WHICH HE APPLIES.

EXAMPLE: "I would like to recite some problems in connection with a program in an attempt to create new job levels to upgrade the level of employment. First, I find that the Office of Economic Opportunity does not realize the necessity of job training in localities that have a great deal of Negro unemployment. At the same time, that locality does have job openings for trained people. We have also discussed this matter with the Department of Labor. As we discussed it with the Department of Labor we find their hands are almost tied because they must deal through state agencies. They also discussed the matter with the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare because we wished to try to train some of the people on welfare rolls to make them taxpayers instead of tax users, and find we can do little here again because of state and local control. But the big problem as we see it in training on a local level which is going to be extremely important is lack of cooperation between the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, between the Department of Labor, and between the Office of Economic Opportunity. And specifically as a recommendation I would like to suggest that we begin immediately a crash program to offer aid to those communities that desire to set up a manpower training program, means of setting up such a program, with full cooperation of both the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, the Office of Economic Opportunity, and the Department of Labor. We need to tie those three together to get the program going. (Committee XII)

COMPLAINTS OF THE CONFERREES OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE
"TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed To

THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

COMPLAINT: LOCAL OFFICES OF GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES IN MANY INSTANCES FAIL TO ADVISE CLAIMANTS OF THEIR RIGHTS TO BE REPRESENTED BY COUNSEL .

EXAMPLE: "...in too many instances where loan funds are available there are two different ways of issuing the funds."

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P C E O H

COMPLAINTS OF THE CONFEREES

of

THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE

"TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

directed to

THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE ON EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IN HOUSING

September 1966

COMPLAINTS OF THE CONFEREES OF THE WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE
"TO FULFILL THESE RIGHTS"

Directed to

THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE ON EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IN HOUSING

COMPLAINT: EXECUTIVE ORDER 11063 SHOULD BE EXTENDED TO COVER HOUSING NOT NOW INCLUDED.

COMPLAINT: ENFORCEMENT OF EXECUTIVE ORDER AND THOSE PARTS OF TITLE VI AFFECTING HOUSING MUST BE STRENGTHENED.

EXAMPLE : There should be a Presidential directive to the Secretary of HUD to the effect that all the programs being administered by Federal assistance have to be affirmatively and vigorously implemented with the objective of not only desegregation, but developing racially and economically diversified communities.