

Efforts To End Racial Discrimination Told



Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara has told a group of prominent business leaders in Washington that the Department of Defense "has been one of the leaders in our society in eliminating racial discrimination."

Secretary McNamara made the remark during a report, delivered at the invitation of Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey, to members of firms being invited to join Plans for Progress, a national voluntary equal employment effort supported by more than 380 major companies.

The Defense Secretary noted that the efforts to eliminate discrimination "began in 1948 under the direction of President Truman, when he integrated the services. It was a courageous move; it's had tremendous effect not only in the Department but outside the Department."

NOTING THAT "we're far from perfect," Mr. McNamara cited some of the recent Defense Department activities aimed at combating racial discrimination:

--The campaign to open off-base housing near military bases to all military personnel, regardless of race, creed or color, during which in the Virginia and Maryland areas alone the number of non-discriminating off-base housing units near military bases has more than trebled from 15,000 to 47,000;

--"Project Transition," a program to give additional job training to veterans returning to civilian life, now numbering about 750,000, a year with the help of other Federal Departments, including Labor, Health, Education and Welfare and the Post Office as well as a number of state and local agencies;

--"Project 100,000," a program to accept into the military service men who previously have been considered unqualified for military service and train them as fully qualified men in uniform and then return them to civilian life. The Secretary said that as a start he had announced in September, 1966, plans to take in 40,000 of these men. He noted that after 12 months 46,000 have been taken in and a goal of 100,000 has been established for the 12 months beginning October 1, 1967."

He said only 4 percent failed to qualify at the end of their basic training.

Secretary McNamara told the businessmen that the primary responsibility of the Department of Defense is to "achieve a high degree combat readiness." We are not a "philanthropic organization."

But, he said, "we don't consider it inconsistent with our primary responsibility to move in ways that will relieve the distress in our society."

RED CROSS BABY AND MOTHER CARE CLASS

Mrs. Dorothy Miller, R.N., announces a Red Cross class in mother and baby care for prospective parents.

Starting October 31, the class will meet Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Red Cross Chapter House, 212 Mesquite, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. for a minimum of six sessions.

Mrs. Miller states that the classes cover nutrition, birth of the baby, bathing, dressing and feeding the baby, and is intended for the fathers as well as the mothers.

The instructors, R.N. Jean Rambo and Mrs. Miller, are well-qualified, having taken a special 30-hour training from a Red Cross Nursing Consultant. Questions will be answered and the parents will practice on life-sized dolls with real baby equipment.

Registration may be made for this free class by phoning 384-1225.

RED CROSS ADVANCED FIRST AID AVAILABLE

Advanced first aid is being offered by the local Red Cross beginning October 17, 1967. Volunteer instructor Robert Bridgewater states the classes will be held Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

A current standard first aid certificate is a prerequisite for the class, which is free of charge as this is a United Fund Agency.

The meetings will be held at the Red Cross Chapter House, 212 Mesquite. No advance registration is necessary.

CO-CHAIRS REGION I MEMBERSHIP DRIVE



In an all-out effort to meet and surpass last year's nationwide membership of more than 40,000, Gloster B. Current, Director of Branches and Field Administration, of the NAACP, has named a seven-person campaign committee to recruit some 200,000 members between now and December 31.

Attorney Donald McCullum, Oakland, was named as Chairman of Region I on the Pacific Coast.

In identical telegrams to the seven regional chairmen, Mr. Current asked that each of them appoint a co-chairman to serve with him. "We must," he said, "recruit 200,000 members between now and the end of the year."

Attorney McCullum has appointed Attorney Charles Kellar, President of the Las Vegas Chapter, to serve as co-chairman.

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For additional information, contact Personnel Department, 231 Las Vegas Blvd., No. 382-4940, An Equal Opportunity Employer.

Negro Elected Officials Cautioned To Fly Right

CHICAGO - (NPI)--Negro office holders have been doubly urged to identify with "black power"--and warned of possible danger from rioters if they don't fly right.

Dr. Kenneth B. Clark, a noted psychologist, warned Negro officials that they must not ignore the "powerful political reality" of the black power movement.

And Dr. Carleton Goodlett, publisher, San Francisco Sun-Reporter, urged the officials to "get with the black-power movement," which he called "the visible part of the 'iceberg of discontent' made up of white and black 'disadvantaged persons.'"

Both men addressed the recent Conference of Elected Negro Officials.

ACCORDING TO Dr. Clark, unless Negro officials find ways to produce "observable, positive results" on community grievances, they may become "specific" targets of riots.

Many Negro officials are viewed by the Negro masses "with suspicion and distrust or considered cynically irrelevant," he said.

Elected Negro officials are seen as middle-class persons benefiting from racial advances "at the expense of the masses." The office holder hardly are considered "unalloyed racial heroes," he added.

The black-power movement, according to Dr. Clark, has a "tremendous psychological appeal for the masses of Negroes who have nothing to lose, and some middle-class Negroes who are revolted by empty promises and the moral dry rot of affluent America."

He urged Negro elected officials to find "some formula whereby there can be a reasonable working relationship with some elements of Negro nationalism."

This is particularly necessary, he indicated, because of the widening cleavage between the Negro masses and classes.

HIGHLAND COUNCIL MEETING OCT. 23

The Jo Mackey Neighborhood Council will meet Monday, October 23, 6:30 p.m. at the Aloha Trailer Court Office, 500 W. Miller. Council Service Worker Sarah Ray announced that Jo Mackey Neighborhood Council meetings are always held at the Aloha Trailer Court; not at the Jo Mackey Elementary School as was erroneously reported in last week's issue of the VOICE.

According to Council Chairman Thomas Clay, Monday's meeting will be one of open discussion and members and all residents are urged to be present to discuss individual problems or those of concern to all residents of the Council area.

NAACP CONFERENCE BAR-B-Q NAACP
Saturday, October 21 --- 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Red Williams' **THE PLACE** 1236 Blankenship
NAACP NAACP