

June 18, 1969

se/ew

CR: ~~2~~ <sup>3</sup> 2

*Cones added*

COPY

Miss Stephanie Padgett  
c/o Housekeeping Dept.  
The Grand Hotel  
Mackinac Island, Mich. 49757

Congressional Liaison  
Civil Rights Division  
Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

XX

For appropriate consideration.

Steve Engelberg

Honorable Walter F. Mondale  
United States Senate  
Washington, D. C. 20510

JUL 2 1969

Dear Senator Mondale:

This will acknowledge your correspondence dated June 19, 1969 enclosing a letter from Miss Stephanie Padgett, c/o Housekeeping Department, The Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island, Michigan. Miss Padgett, a student at Marquette University, is employed this summer at the Grand Hotel. She alleges that black employees are discriminated against in terms of employment, specifically by having separate restroom, eating and housing accommodations and that the races are discouraged from associating with each other. She requests copies of applicable civil rights legislation.

I am enclosing copies of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Fair Housing Act of 1968 with explanation as well as copies of pertinent Michigan state legislation and regulations.

As Miss Padgett's allegations indicate a possible violation of both the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Fair Housing Act of 1968, we have asked the Federal Bureau of Investigation to investigate this matter.

Sincerely,

JERRIS LEONARD  
Assistant Attorney General  
Civil Rights Division

MAY 28 1969

Steve

% Housekeeping Dept  
The Grand Hotel  
Mackinac Island,  
Mich. 49757  
May 26, 1969

Senator Mondale,

Could you please send me any information in the way of civil rights bills concerning on the job discrimination in hiring and/or eating, housing, and bathroom facilities of any people? I had been lead to believe that such practices are illegal. Recently, I started work as a maid at the Grand Hotel. I was aghast to learn that blacks have separate bathroom, housing, and

eating facilities.

When I applied for the job, none of the forms asked me of my color or race (although a picture was required and I suppose this is one way of evading the question). (By the way, I am white). So until I arrived I had no idea that such a situation might exist.

Then, yesterday, a fellow maid told me of the conditions and also added that association with the blacks was frowned upon. She also said the Grand has airtight contracts with us and can fire us upon

their own discrimination

As a person who is used to very integrated positions, I find it very hard to accept or even tolerate these type conditions. In my past two years at Marquette University in Milwaukee, I've come to meet many black people and have lived life (i.e. babysit, eat, dance, date, study) with some of my black friends.

I do not believe I should get up on a soap box and emancipate these people. My say as a maid will have little effect. However, as

a Christian, I will not be tolerant of dehumanizing conditions. To remain silent and believe as I do would be hypocritical. So I write to you to learn of existing legislation on the matter. If things are as said (I do plan to get the black people's side to this story), some legal action should be taken against the Grand Hotel. Again, it is not my place but again I write to you because you, as part of the legislative body, should know of the proper people who could do this. Therefore, I would greatly

appreciate any information so that I could know the law and what to do if something need be done.

I hope I have explained the situation clearly enough so that you know what it is I am trying to relate. Also, I am from Brainerd, Minnesota, and this is why I write you. You are my Senator, my representation. I will probably write to Michigan Congressional men however I do not feel I know them. And again, I have heard that you have been on

6/

or written parts of several  
civil rights bills so that  
you are somewhat aware or  
close to the situation.

Anything would be greatly  
appreciated.

Thank you,

Miss Stephanie Packett

P.S. Write to me

% Housekeeping Dept

The Grand Hotel

Mackinac Island, Mich 49757

I would appreciate prompt-  
ness.



JUN 24 1969

# Grand Hotel



WORLD'S LARGEST SUMMER HOTEL



MACKINAC ISLAND • MICHIGAN

R. D. MUSSER, President

June 22, 1969

Senator Walter F. Mondale  
United States Senate  
Committee on Banking and Currency  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Please file

Dear Senator Mondale:

Thank you very much for your letter dated June 18, 1969. I was glad to see that you had sent a copy of my letter to the Civil Rights Division of the Justice Department. Hopefully, something will be done about the situation.

Having worked here a full month, I am a little more sensitive to the policies and can add some things to what my first letter did not say. As I stated before, separate eating and housing facilities are in effect. separate bathrooms are not. They supposedly can hold to the housing policy by saying that the same type workers house together. For instance, all the maids stay at May house. But all the maids just happen to be white just as all the waiters just happen to be black. However, there are departments such as the cocktail waitresses, kitchen help, and bartenders that have black and white help and yet separation exists.

As for association, I was approached by a supervisor who asked me if any of the maids were dating blacks. To avoid trouble, I said no. Then I started to add that I heard that there was a policy whereupon she interrupted me and said that they could not set a policy because it was illegal. However... she did infer that association was frowned upon. We have two recreation rooms: the Coral Room for whites and the Rainbow (pun on color) Room for blacks. Until this year, no blacks had been into the Coral Room. However, as the Rainbow Room was late in being opened up and now is not open in the day, the Coral Room has been frequented by all. The Rainbow Room had a lot of younger people, black and white, who like to dance there at night. So far nothing has been said. But before it opened, we used to sit in there and listen to music and several times, names of the white maids in there were taken down.

I think that is about it. I hope discretion is being used. I imagine so as discrimination is hard to prove and if one were to openly accuse another, the accused would change conditions enough to avoid being taken down.

# Grand Hotel



WORLD'S LARGEST SUMMER HOTEL



MACKINAC ISLAND • MICHIGAN

R. D. MUSSER, President

to fit within the law. Besides, I have ironically been given the job of personal maid and babysitter to Mr. Musser who is the general manager, President of the hotel, and nephew of the owner, Mr. Woodfill. This places me in a top position and therefore, I am carefully watched. It would shake the Grand's foundation if my activities were to be found out. It may sound hypocritical to want to be so discreet but I feel I can do more from within that from outside.

Again, thank you. I will be looking forward to hearing from you very soon.

Sincerely,

*Stephanie Padgett*  
Stephanie Padgett

COPY

June 18, 1969

Miss Stephanie Padgett  
c/o Housekeeping Department  
The Grand Hotel  
Mackinac Island, Michigan 49757

Dear Miss Padgett:

Thank you very much for your recent letter concerning enforcement of the civil rights laws.

I believe that the situation which you describe at the Grand Hotel in regard to minority employees may well be in violation of the 1964 Civil Rights Act. I have, therefore, sent a copy of your letter to the Civil Rights Division of the Justice Department asking them to respond to the situation which you describe.

I appreciate your calling this matter to my attention, and you will hear from me as soon as I have something further to report.

With warmest regards,

Sincerely,

Walter F. Mondale

se/ew

CR: 2

COPY

November 11, 1969

Mrs. Bruce B. Benson, President  
League of Women Voters of the U.S.  
1730 M Street, N. W.  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Benson:

Thank you very much for your recent message  
urging support of S. 2453.

As you may know, I am a co-sponsor of this  
measure. I think there is no more important issue  
before us than the need to ~~insure~~ ensure equal employment  
for all persons. Many of the provisions for S. 2453  
will make it possible to achieve this goal.

Thank you again for taking the time to express  
to me your views on this important measure.

With warmest regards,

Sincerely,

Walter F. Mondale



# Telegram

1969 NOV 4 AM 12 31

NFC234 NNA454

(NY 307NN105454)PD WU RB BCH WSH 1011P EST11/03/69

ZCZC 190 SD POM PDB RB WASHINGTON DC 3 NFT

WALTER F MONDALE 443

U S SENATE

WASHDC

BT

REAFFIRM SUPPORT OF S. 2453 EEOC ENFORCEMENT POWERS AND PROTECTION  
OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

MRS BRUCE B BENSON PRESIDENT LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE U S  
NNNN(1049P EST)

1730 M St. N.W.

NOV 4 1969

*Have*



COPY

November 11, 1969

Miss Shirley Damrosch  
494 Ford Hall  
University of Minnesota  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455

Dear Miss Damrosch:

Thank you very much for sending me a copy of your letter to the President of General Telephone and Electronics.

I believe your response to this ad is justified. Too often, we tend to think of employment discrimination only in terms of race or religion. I agree with you that discrimination on the bases of sex is just as serious, and may be just as prevalent.

Thank you again for calling this matter to my attention.

With warmest regards,

Sincerely,

Walter F. Mondale

# Moratorium talks are only activity in St. Paul

By JOANNE MURPHY

St. Paul campus students participated in the Vietnam Moratorium march with subdued, tentative discussions Wednesday in the Student Center North Star Ballroom.

**WARREN GORE**, rhetoric instructor, initiated the discussions to replace his Rhetoric 1 class meetings. There were about 35 persons at the 11 a.m. group.

At the 1 p.m. meeting, two men who had marched in Minneapolis assured others that "SDS and those kind of people" had not dominated the demonstration.

The importance of "patriotism" went unchallenged, but students were groping for new definitions.

~~THIS DAY I~~ have always thought it was unpatriotic to the abstractness of the conditions that he describes. What is needed in a graphic illustration of exactly what he means: that is, a starving, disease-ridden specimen, as the obvious sincerity of his writing indicates that he would be most willing to do, we would all have the benefit of viewing such people first-hand, as he has no doubt done. Then, perhaps, his rather unusual brand of humanitarianism might be somewhat easier to accept.

*Anthony N. Larson  
CLA sophomore*

## ● No females wanted

The General Telephone & Electronics ad carried in the Daily's Oct. 8 issue tended to set one's teeth on edge.

This ad, which was presumably designed to interest college graduates in working for that company, carries a picture of seven people. Six of these—including a token Black—are males who are dressed to look like junior executive types. The only female depicted is carrying a stenographer's pad. Naturally the copy beneath the picture carries the obligatory line, "We are an equal opportunity employer."

In the bad old days, some want ads used to carry the notice, "Irish need not apply." Perhaps the unwritten policy of some companies today is, "Females need not apply—except for clerical and secretarial positions."

*Shirley Damrosch  
graduate student*

Dear Senator Mondale:

I thought you might be interested in reading this copy of a letter which I am sending to the President of General Telephone & Electronics concerning an ad which I thought carried implications of bias.

NOV 6 1969

494 Ford Hall  
University of Minnesota  
Minneapolis, Minn. 55455  
November 1, 1969

*JA*

Leslie H. Warner, President  
General Telephone & Electronics  
730 3rd Avenue  
New York, New York 10017

Dear Sir:

Enclosed are two items from our College newspaper which may be of interest to you: a copy of one of your Company's ads, as well as my letter to the editor outlining my objections to this ad.

I know, of course, that you were not personally responsible for this ad, but I would like to have your comments as to why someone in your organization saw fit to approve the use of such material. I consider the ad to be patronizing, offensive, benighted, and possibly a violation of the spirit, if not the letter, of the 1964 Civil Rights Bill which, as you undoubtedly know, prohibits employment discrimination on the basis of sex as well as of race.

Sincerely yours,

*Shirley Damrosch*  
Shirley Damrosch

C. C.: Senator Walter Mondale, United States Senate, Washington, D. C.  
Representative Donald M. Fraser, House of Representatives,  
Washington, D. C.



COPY

July 14, 1969

Miss Stephanie Padgett  
c/o Housekeeping Department  
The Grand Hotel  
Mackinac Island, Michigan

Dear Miss Padgett:

In response to your original letter of May 26, 1969 I am enclosing a letter from the Department of Justice, along with pertinent information concerning civil rights laws.

If I can be of further assistance in this matter please let me know.

With warmest regards,

Sincerely,

Walter F. Mondale

COPY

May 20, 1969

Reverend Ralph D. Abernathy  
334 Alburn Avenue, N. E.  
Atlanta  
Georgia 30303

Dear Reverend Abernathy:

On May 15, 1969, a bipartisan group of 17 Senators wrote to President Nixon, urging him to send a Federal official to Charleston, South Carolina to mediate the strike of public hospital workers. As we said in our letter, the Charleston strike "is a test of the principle of nonviolence at a time when many in America are losing faith in that principle as a strategy for social change."

Knowing of your concern for the rights of the Charleston hospital workers, I am enclosing a press summary which contains a copy of our letter to President Nixon.

With warmest regards,

Sincerely,

Walter F. Mondale

Letter to ~~civil rights leaders:~~

Rev. Ralph David Abernethy  
C/O SCLC - Atlanta, Ga.

Dear \_\_\_\_\_:

Moe Foner  
Secretary  
National Organizing Committee

On May 15, 1969, a bipartisan group of 17 Senators wrote to President Nixon, urging him to send a Federal official to Charleston, So. Car. to mediate the strike of public hospital workers. As we said in our letter, ~~The~~ Charleston strike "is a test of the principle of nonviolence at a time when many in America are losing faith in that principle as a strategy for social change."

~~As~~ Since you are interested

Knowing of your ~~interest in the~~ concern for the rights of the Charleston hospital workers, I am enclosing a press ~~release~~ <sup>Summary</sup> which contains a copy of our letter to President Nixon.

With warmest ~~personal~~ regards,

Sincerely,

↓  
Of Hospital and Nursing Home  
Employees  
276 W. 43rd St.  
New York, N.Y. 10036

COPY

May 26, 1969

Mrs. Wilma L. Gorman  
911 Third Avenue N. W.  
Austin  
Minnesota 55912

Dear Mrs. Gorman:

This is in further reply to your recent correspondence.

I am enclosing, for your immediate consideration, an informative Executive agency report on this matter which I believe you may find of interest. I appreciate having this opportunity to be of service to you.

With warmest regards.

Sincerely,

Walter F. Mondale





# THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20540

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE SERVICE

MAY 6 1969

May 2, 1969

TO: Honorable Walter F. Mondale  
FROM: Education and Public Welfare Division  
SUBJECT: "Middle-Aged and Older Workers Full Employment Act of 1968"

A constituent of yours, Mrs. Wilma L. Gorman, of Austin, Minnesota, has requested information on S. 4180, the "Middle-Aged and Older Workers Full Employment Act of 1968." The Senate bill, introduced in the 90th Congress, 2d session, on October 10, 1968, was co-sponsored by Senators Jennings Randolph, Edward Kennedy, Harrison A. Williams, George Smathers, Frank Carlson, Jack Miller, Walter Mondale, Frank Moss, Ralph Yarborough, and Stephen Young. An identical bill H.R. 20429, was introduced in the House by Congressman James H. Scheuer. Though the legislation expired at the end of the 90th Congress, the Senate Special Committee on Aging has stated that the bill will be revised and re-introduced in the 91st Congress.

The employment problems of older people have been receiving increasing attention in the programs carried out under the Older Americans Act. Pilot projects have been undertaken in several states to demonstrate the abilities of older people, and studies have been made to point out the value of the older worker's experience and reliability. Older Americans Act funds are being used in several States to provide employment referral, counselling, and placement services for older people. To find out what Older Americans Act programs are in effect in Minnesota, your constituent should write to:

Mr. Gerald A. Bloedow, Executive Secretary  
Governor's Citizens Council on Aging  
555 Wabasha, Room 204  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

We are enclosing material describing the Older Americans Act, and relevant chapters from "Developments in Aging 1968". We hope that this information, as well as the enclosed material, will be helpful. If we may be of further service, please let us know.

Katherine S. Warnell

Enclosures

OFFICE OF  
SEN. EDWARD KENNEDY  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

MAR 28 10 41 AM '69

911 Third Ave NW.  
Austin, Minnesota 55912  
March 20, 1969

Senator Edward M. Kennedy  
United States Senate  
Special Committee on Aging  
Washington D. C. 20510

Dear Senator Kennedy:

I have a copy of the "Middle-aged and Older Workers Full Employment Act of 1968".

What can you tell me about this act? Is it just in the development stage?

My reason for being interested is that I happened to be one of these middle-aged people that has been unemployed for the past seven months. If I were alone I am sure that I could move and try something other than general office work. However, I have my mother with me, she is seventy-seven years of age and has a pacemaker installed and has one hip that is very arthritic which is very painful and limits her ability to walk.

I became a victim of a large corporation which was not unionized that caused me to change jobs and the job I went to did not work out for me.

I am trying so hard to help myself remain self-supporting until I at least reach the age of 62 and also continue to care for my mother.

Unfortunately, I am of the generation that came out of high school to a depression. Our generation was not given the privilege of a college education.

I wrote to Albert H. Quie, Member of Congress, of the 1st District, Minnesota. He mentioned "New Careers" but apparently there is no money for it in Mower County as well as no openings.

He also mentioned "Manpower Development and Training Act" but, since I have a general office work background--eighteen years of Federal Civil Service and eight years of experience in private industry. I was told at the State Employment Service Office, it would be of little benefit to me.

I was told to ask at the Minnesota State Employment Service office in Austin about the "Older Worker Services Program" but was simply told there were no jobs.

Any suggestions that you may have will be most appreciated.

Sincerely,  
Wilma L. Gorman (Mrs.)

COPY

April 10, 1969

Mrs. Wilma L. Gorman  
911 Third Avenue N. W.  
Austin  
Minnesota 55912

Dear Mrs. Gorman:

Thank you so much for your letter of recent date. I appreciate your courtesy in writing.

This is just a brief message to acknowledge receipt of your letter and to let you know that I am giving it my immediate attention. You may be sure that I will be back in touch with you again as soon as I have a more detailed report for you.

With all best wishes.

Sincerely,

Walter F. Mondale



April 10, 1969 <sup>G</sup>  
**COPY**

Mrs. Wilma L. Gorman  
911 3rd Ave. N.W.  
Austin, Minn. 55912

Legislative Reference Service  
Library of Congress

X

Mr. Avery



COPY

April 10, 1969

Mr. Robert A. Hillstrom  
Route 3  
Osseo  
Minnesota 55369

Dear Bob:

Thank you very much for your kind note concerning my exchange with the Senior Senator from South Carolina.

As you know, I feel very strongly about the enforcement of our Civil Rights laws. The issue arising over the Federal government's Contract Compliance Program and Executive Order 11246 is an extremely important one, since approximately 1/3 of the jobs in this country are affected by the Executive Order. If the Administration pursues its present course, the Federal government will have lost its most effective tool in dealing with discrimination in employment.

Thank you again for taking the time to pass on words of encouragement to me.

With warmest personal regards,

Sincerely,

Walter F. Mondale

ROBERT A. HILLSTROM  
APPRAISER - REAL ESTATE CONSULTANT  
ROUTE 3  
OSSEO, MINNESOTA 55369

March 28, 1969

MAR 31 1969

*Wm*  
*Daniel*

Senator Walter F. Mondale  
Old Senate Office Bldg.  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Senator:

I just caught a portion of your exchange with the part time patriot from South Carolina on the TV news reel. I was extremely proud of you, as I know all Minnesotans will be. Nothing would make the Thurmonds of this country happier than if the Mondales of this country went back to and concerned themselves only with the problems of their own state, but we all confidently know that is not going to happen.

I was in D.C. recently at which time I visited your office. I extend my best regards to Mike Berman and those charming girls who treated me so warmly. Keep up the great effort.

Very truly yours,

*Robert A. Hillstrom*  
Robert A. Hillstrom

# COPY

May 20, 1969

Mr. Moe Foner, Secretary  
National Organizing Committee of  
Hospital and Nursing Homes Employees  
276 West 43rd Street  
New York, New York 10036

Dear Mr. Foner:

On May 15, 1969, a bipartisan group of 17 Senators wrote to President Nixon, urging him to send a Federal official to Charleston, South Carolina to mediate the strike of public hospital workers. As we said in our letter, the Charleston strike "is a test of the principle of nonviolence at a time when many in America are losing faith in that principle as a strategy for social change."

Knowing of your concern for the rights of the Charleston hospital workers, I am enclosing a press summary which contains a copy of our letter to President Nixon.

With warmest regards,

Sincerely,

Walter F. Mondale

Sc/ew

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# COPY

May 22, 1969

The Honorable Strom Thurmond  
3311 New Senate Office Building  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator Thurmond:

I have just received your letter of May 20, 1969, concerning a request to the President, made by 17 Senators, to send a mediator to Charleston South Carolina. As one of the sponsors of that appeal, I feel that it is important to correct several misunderstandings in your letter, both as to the nature of that request and the reasoning underlying it.

To begin with, our letter did not call on the President "to intervene on behalf of Local 1199, Drug and Hospital Employees Union." While the signers of the letter expressed their belief that the hospital workers were entitled to a decent wage and the right to bargain collectively, our purpose was to urge the President to defuse a situation which could easily lead to violence and tragedy. In calling for a Federal mediator, we were echoing the President's own plea to the disputing parties to "resolve their differences in a calm atmosphere of mutual good faith."

Nor did we reason that non-violent demonstrations inevitably represent a just cause and that all demands arising from such demonstrations should be met before violence occurs. What we said was that where people pursued social change in a nonviolent manner, it is essential that our



The Honorable Strom Thurmond

May 22, 1969

Page 2

COPY

institutions provide some procedure for hearing and responding to their greivances. Unfortunately, this had not occured in Charleston, as both local and state officials have taken the position that there is nothing to discuss with the strikers.

But it would be a mistake to assume that the attitude of these officials is unique. What is happening in Charleston illustrates the increasing failure of all levels of government to respond to nonviolent demands for social change at a time when many have turned to violence as a means of achieving their goals. This is not to say that all nonviolent demands must be granted; rather, if our institutions are to keep faith with those who respect our system of government and believe in its principles, these institutions must learn to listen.

That is why I wrote to the President. The prestige of his Office enables him to establish a forum whereby the hospital workers can enter into a dialogue with their employers "in a calm atmosphere of mutual good faith." If you know of any reasons why mediation under the auspices of the President of the United States will result in more harm than good, I would appreciate hearing them.

Sincerely,

Walter F. Mondale

March 27, 1969

SJ/w

CR: 2

March 27, 1969

Honorable Philip A. Hart  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Phil:

I'd like to thank you for the kind things you said about me concerning my work on the southern textile mill contract issue, that were printed in the "Congressional Record" of March 17, 1969.

I sure hope we can keep the pressure on and save the contract compliance program.

With warmest personal regards.

Sincerely,

Walter F. Mondale

opened tomato is much tastier, the American consumer is hurt in two ways. He has to pay more for less tasty tomatoes.

The Mexicans, according to the Wall Street Journal, are incensed about these new regulations. Ambassador Hugo Margain has filed a formal protest at the State Department. And the Mexican press has savagely attacked this protectionist policy. For instance, one cartoon depicts a large Uncle Sam stabbing a small Mexican farmer in the back.

For their part, many tomato connoisseurs in this country are passing up the mature green tomatoes available at their supermarkets and are instead opting for tomato-less salads.

Something has to be done, and the best things to do is for the Agriculture Department to rescind its new regulations so that housewives can once again pay less for tastier tomatoes.

[From the Wall Street Journal, Mar 14, 1969]

#### TOMATOES AND TRADE

American businessmen complain, quite justifiably, of the nontariff trade barriers that other nations erect against U.S. goods. The U.S. will have a better chance to reduce such obstacles, however, if it stops putting up its own.

In January, for example, the Agriculture Department imposed minimum-size restrictions on all tomatoes sold in the U.S. Mature green tomatoes, those that ripen after picking, have to be at least two and  $\frac{1}{2}$  inches in diameter, while vine-ripened tomatoes must measure at least two and  $\frac{1}{4}$  inches in diameter.

The average consumer is likely to consider such rules pretty silly; because tomatoes are sold by the pound, not the dozen, a difference of  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch or so is of little concern. But he may figure the restrictions are fair enough since they apply across the board to all tomatoes.

Actually, though, the rules discriminate against tomatoes grown in Mexico and in favor of those produced in Florida, the other major source of winter tomatoes for the U.S. market. For one thing, they are more lenient on green tomatoes, which make up most of Florida's crop and very little of Mexico's output. Mexican growers say the restrictions may bar as much as half of their crop from the American market.

One result is soaring prices for consumers. Winter tomatoes, already viewed as a luxury by many housewives, are rapidly becoming even more so—a trend that could mean smaller sales for growers in Florida as well as Mexico. The tomato rules, moreover, are another step toward worsening already shaky relations between the U.S. and Latin America.

So the restrictions peril moves toward freer trade, irritate friendly neighboring nations, penalize U.S. consumers and may even be self-defeating for U.S. growers. We'd say that makes them look about as appealing as, say, a rotten tomato.

#### DISCRIMINATORY EMPLOYMENT POLICIES OF SOUTHERN TEXTILE MILLS

Mr. HART. Mr. President, I hope all Members of Congress have had an opportunity to read the lead editorial in last Thursday's Washington Post, under the headline "The Pentagon Dispenses Southern Comfort." The editorial analyzes what it calls "one of the more mystifying episodes of the past several weeks"—the circumstances surrounding the recent award of contracts to three southern textile firms whose employment policies had been found to be discriminatory.

No one is challenging the commitment to equal opportunity of the Deputy Secretary of Defense, who has received assurances that the three companies will take steps to bring themselves into compliance with the requirements of the Executive order on contract compliance. The assurances received by Secretary Packard were not in writing, however, and only he and the contractors apparently are aware of the steps which will be taken.

This procedure is not only inconsistent with the requirements of the Executive order but it also puts all parties in an awkward position. The sooner the details of the agreements are reduced to writing, the better. I join the Washington Post in urging that the details of the agreements be made public without further undue delay so that those of us with an interest in the Federal Government's contract compliance program will have an opportunity to make our own judgments about the adequacy of the assurances provided by the three textile contractors.

Mr. President, I think it appropriate at this time to give credit to the distinguished junior Senator from Minnesota (Mr. MONDALE) for the excellent work he has done in calling to public attention a number of important questions about the procedures followed in awarding the contracts to the three textile firms. Without his persistence in this matter, the public would know considerably less than it does about the circumstances of the contract awards.

Mr. President, for the benefit of Members of Congress and other readers of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD who may have missed the Post editorial, I ask unanimous consent that it be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the editorial was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

#### THE PENTAGON DISPENSES SOUTHERN COMFORT

One of the more mystifying episodes of the past several weeks has concerned a verbal agreement reached between the Deputy Secretary of Defense, David Packard, and the representatives of three Southern textile firms—J. P. Stevens, Burlington Mills and Dan River Mills. The employment policies of all three firms had been under investigation and review by the Pentagon and the Office of Federal Contract Compliance for over a year owing to well substantiated charges that they were racially discriminatory; and all three firms had been so unyielding to Government efforts to bring them anywhere near compliance with the guidelines for Federal contractors that neither the Pentagon's own investigators nor the OFCC would recommend that contracts with them be approved.

Early in February, however, Mr. Packard awarded the three offending firms \$9.4 million in Federal contracts, asserting that he had received assurances that they would put "affirmative action plans" into practice. Ordinarily, and by provision of an Executive Order, such assurances would have been put in writing. However, no one but Mr. Packard and the textile firms' representatives seems to know of what these assurances or "plans" consist. They were not committed to paper or shared with officials at the OFCC or elsewhere in the Department of Labor who were involved in the cases and who have a clear responsibility for the outcome. Indeed, more

that a month after the contracts have been awarded and despite the OFCC's effort to find out more about them, the most that could be learned was that the firms had assured Mr. Packard that they would try to meet the Government's standards.

There are a couple of things that ought to be said by way of providing some background and perspective on all this. One is that Mr. Packard's own reputation in this field appears to be good, as is that of the firms for which he was responsible in private life. The other is that contract cut-off or denial has been anything but standard operating procedure in these tangled matters—the custom has been to threaten it or to delay the award until the Government's racial requirements were met. But when you have said this, you have pretty well exhausted what assurance or extenuation is to be found in Mr. Packard's odd act.

The dangers inherent in what he has done are more readily apparent. The Southern textile cases had been building for a long time. They were ripening for a big decision and had acquired the status of test cases, being widely watched in the South and elsewhere for evidence of Washington's seriousness on the question of contract compliance. Now whatever meaning they had in that regard has been spent. Moreover, weak as the Government apparatus for assuring compliance had been, there is little question that it has been drastically further weakened by the exclusion of the OFCC—presumably the maker and judge of compliance policy—from the deliberations between Mr. Packard and the spokesmen for the mills.

Finally, there is the matter of example and direction. In the South, and especially in the areas of greatest recalcitrance, Federal guidelines and official statements about them are read with excruciating, comma-picking care, there is a kind of stock market effect at work, whereby the most minute evidence of loss of resolve in Washington is registered at once in declining cooperation on the part of those companies or school districts or local governments still holding out. Reportedly, right on the heels of Mr. Packard's decision, inquiries did start coming in—from other Government agencies as well as from private concerns—as to whether this did not mean new and relaxed procedures were now in effect.

By May 1, the Southern textile firms in question will be obliged to issue a quarterly report on their progress in meeting Government requirements. Customarily, the Pentagon would issue instructions as to what it wished answered in that report. This routine procedure offers an opportunity to retrieve the situation somewhat: a public and specific list of what the Federal Government expects to hear about in that report would have the effect, retroactively to be sure, of establishing the compliance terms the mills are expected to meet. Nor would it be a bad idea to issue such a public declaration before the end of March, since additional contracts are scheduled for award by then and some are expected to go to the same three firms. The Administration, via the Pentagon and the Labor Department, should be trying to strengthen the compliance program, not weaken it. They will have the most cause for regret if they open a Pandora's box of resistance and regression.

#### ESTONIA MARKS 51ST ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE

Mr. SAXBE. Mr. President, Americans of Estonian descent recently celebrated the 51st Anniversary of independence of the Republic of Estonia.

Following the outbreak of World War II Estonia and the other Baltic States, Latvia and Lithuania, were victimized



# COPY

March 3, 1969

Mrs. Richard Rystrom  
60 Pine Valley Drive  
Athens  
Georgia 30601

Dear Mrs. Rystrom:

Thank you for your recent letter concerning my correspondence with Secretary Finch on the question of school desegregation in the south. I appreciate very much your support on this matter.

I am enclosing, for your information, a set of materials I have sent to Secretary Finch.

With warmest regards,

Sincerely,

Walter F. Mondale



5:2  
Dear Senator Mondale -

FEB 19 1969

I want you to know I appreciate your challenge to Robert Finch regarding his expressed opinions on desegregation.

Since we have moved to the South I have come to realize how those unwilling to obey the law hang on the words of such officials, reading into them the message that they need not implement the law, that if they drag their feet they may never have to do what they should have done years ago.

Secretary Finch seems to change his tune every day (at least President Nixon has only switched once, from the pre-election baloney to post-election realism), but those who oppose desegregation only heed him on his "overzealous" or "really trying" days. I doubt that Mr. Finch realizes just how much damage his statements can cause. Your efforts are appreciated.

Sincerely,

Barbara Rysman

# COPY

O. B. AUGUSTON  
CR: 2

February 27, 1969

Mr. O. B. Auguston, General Manager  
West Central Daily Tribune  
Willmar, Minnesota 56201

Dear O. B.:

I am enclosing three items that may be of interest to you. The first is a statement issued in Washington yesterday which outlines and explains what can only be called federal support of firms engaging in discriminatory practices against Negroes; in violation of federal regulations; the second, my remarks introducing this statement; the third a letter from Deputy Secretary of Defense Packard to Secretary of Labor George Shultz in which Mr. Packard, on page two, outlines the extent of discrimination in the firms to which he has awarded some \$14 million in federal contracts in February 1969.

As you will note in my statement, I have requested Secretary of Labor Shultz to exercise his legal authority to cancel these contracts and to refrain from entering into further contracts with the firms.

I hope these will be of interest.

Most Sincerely,

Walter F. Mondale

# COPY

PHILIP S. DUFF  
CR: 2

February 27, 1969

Mr. Phillip S. Duff, Publisher  
Daily Republican Eagle  
Red Wing, Minnesota 55066

Dear Phil:

I am enclosing three items that may be of interest to you. The first is a statement issued in Washington yesterday which outlines and explains what can only be called federal support of firms engaging in discriminatory practices against Negroes; in violation of federal regulations; the second, my remarks introducing this statement; the third a letter from Deputy Secretary of Defense Packard to Secretary of Labor George Shultz in which Mr. Packard, on page two, outlines the extent of discrimination in the firms to which he has awarded some \$14 million in federal contracts in February 1969.

As you will note in my statement, I have requested Secretary of Labor Shultz to exercise his legal authority to cancel these contracts and to refrain from entering into further contracts with the firms.

I hope these will be of interest.

Most Sincerely,

Walter F. Mondale

COPY

March 4, 1969

Mr. Clarence Mitchell, Director  
Washington Bureau, NAACP  
422 First Street, S.E.  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Clarence:

Thank you for the most flattering  
comments in your very useful article,  
"The Warren Court and Congress: A Civil  
Rights Partnership."

The only problem is that you didn't  
give yourself enough credit. I think I  
will write a sequel for the Nebraska Law  
Review and tell the truth!

With warmest personal regards.

Sincerely,

Walter F. Mondale





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