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# ASKS MILITARY BASE CHIEFS FOR RACE DATA

## Pentagon Aid Sends Out Questionnaire

Washington, Oct. 2—An assistant secretary of defense has ordered service commanders across the United States to compile a confidential report on racial discriminations in local communities.

The report, it was disclosed today at the Pentagon, is to be back in the hands of Norman Paul, secretary for manpower, no later than Nov. 8. The report calls for detailed information on public and private clubs in every area where there is a military installation.

Some questions cover areas of discrimination—such as local business laws—already well known to federal agencies and the department of public health, education and welfare.

### Asks School Report

Paul asked commanders to determine if there are equal housing and educational facilities. His request is a follow-up to a report of a Presidential committee on June 22 which recommended that activities of military installations be curtailed or terminated in areas where discrimination is prevalent.

Robert S. McNamara, secretary of defense, subsequently instructed commanders to consider putting off-limits areas of discrimination—provided a civilian secretary of the service approved the action.

Rep. Vinson (D., Ga.), chairman of the powerful House Armed Services committee, immediately objected to the McNamara move and introduced legislation which would prohibit

military officials from inspecting civilian establishments not in their jurisdiction. Vinson was out of the city today and could not be reached for comment on the latest directive by Paul.

### Request Kept Secret

The request for information was made by Paul on Sept. 24, but did not leak out to reporters until today. His memorandum to the commanders was not intended for public view on the theory that it was an official working paper.

Paul asked for a statistical breakdown of the number of Negroes and whites assigned to each base, where they went to school, and whether or not they lived on or off base. The Presidential committee complained that when it conducted its study there was not enough statistics on Negroes to make a complete report. Many official government forms no longer identify persons by race because of complaints from civil rights groups.

Other questions included whether local transportation is integrated and if waiting rooms in terminals bar Negroes or require separate facilities. The memorandum wanted to know if local educational institutions would conduct on-base classes, and if white and Negro children travel in separate school buses.

Paul also asked commanders to describe "segregation practices of any affecting military personnel and their dependents in use of publicly owned or controlled properties" such as

"parks, libraries, municipal golf courses, tennis courts, etc."

Then he asked for similar information on privately owned places of businesses such as theaters (including drive-ins), bowling alleys, saloons, and golf driving ranges. This portion of the memorandum asked for information on lunch counters, hotels, and motels.

### Asks About Local Laws

Other items in the questionnaire included:

"Briefly describe any local customs or laws which prevent or are enforced in a manner which discourages voluntary off-base association by white and Negro military personnel and their dependents when traveling in private automobiles, using public sidewalks or visiting each other's residence.

"Is the treatment accorded Negro military personnel by the local police in any way different from that accorded white military personnel? If so specify. Summarize state law or local ordinance, if any, which either prohibits or purports to require racially discriminatory practices in public accommodations other comments necessary to a full understanding of local conditions."