

WDCSA 291.21 (7-1-42)

July 14, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR JUDGE HASTIE:

The War Department is charged with the herculean task of organizing, training, and operating an Army of tremendous magnitude. This requires the utmost in sacrifice, discipline, and efficiency from every member of the Army if this government is to survive as a nation.

As a practical matter, regulation of this problem must be handled in coordination with accepted social customs. For the War Department to attempt the solution by regulation or fiat of a complicated social problem which has perplexed this country for a number of years is bound to produce diversions that may go so far as to affect the full effectiveness of our war effort. The intermingling of the races in messing and housing would not only be a variation from well established policies of the Department, but it does not accord with the existing customs of the country as a whole.

It is therefore not thought advisable to adopt the policies suggested by you in your memorandum of July 1, 1942.

/s/ John R. Deane

JOHN R. DEANE,  
Colonel, General Staff,  
Secretary, General Staff.