

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

August 14, 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL CARROLL

FROM: Max Rabb *MMR*

(1) I have studied the material which you sent me relative to the establishment of an Interdepartmental Committed on Migratory Labor. This seems to me to be the right way to set about solving a long-neglected problem. I am sure that such a Committee will be able to initiate and coordinate effectively more successful action in this field.

(2) This idea has been cleared with the Departments of Agriculture, Health, Education and Welfare, Interior, Labor and with the Housing and Home Finance Agency and the Bureau of the Budget. Approval to the plan has been obtained.

(3) I have investigated the suggestion that the Department of Justice might be included. Deputy Attorney General Rogers thinks that the Department has a vital interest in this project. However, the Department of Labor, confidentially, does not agree because of past Congressional opposition. They feel that appropriations might prove more difficult to obtain if the Department of Justice is a part of the Committee. Under these circumstances, it seems best to leave Justice out.

(4) There is one phase of Interdepartmental Committees that does disturb me. While my comments may be considered inadvisable to apply in the instant case, this may be as good a time as any to broach the subject. For some time I have been gathering together, for possible Cabinet presentation, a list of all existing Interdepartmental Committees and I find it extremely difficult to make such a compilation. Many of these Committees are hard to trace because they are either dead letter affairs or are operated independent of any other activity. A method should be used to keep track of these Committees and to evaluate occasionally the necessity for continuing them. Maybe some such device as the enlarged Cabinet organization would be a good mooring place for this and future interdepartmental committees.

*Continuity  
is already  
being done  
by Cabinet  
offices*

REPORT ON GENERAL CARROLL'S MEMORANDUM

The Subject: a suggested letter from James P. Mitchell to send to the President, asking that an INTERDEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON MIGRATORY LABOR, made up of the Secretaries of the Departments of Agriculture, Health, Education and Welfare, Interior, Labor, and the Administrators of Housing and Home Finance, be established. Attached to the letter from Mr. Mitchell are two suggested replies for the President to release—one to the Secretary of Labor, formally establishing the Committee; the second to the various Secretaries and Administrators proposed for the Committee.

Reaction: good start at solving a long-neglected problem

General Carroll asks for your comments; a draft memo is below, but I think that you ~~may~~ have a few more affirmative comments to make?????

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I have studied the material which you sent me relative to the establishment of an Interdepartmental Committee on Migratory Labor. This seems to me to be the right way to set about solving the problem, and I am sure that such a Committee will be able to initiate and coordinate effectively a more successful action in this regard.

ues.