

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

(N. A. A. C. P.)

DETROIT OFFICE

WARGREEN BUILDING — 446 E. WARREN AVE.

TEMPLE 1-3609

July 21, 1943

Mr. Walter White
69 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York

Dear Walter:

Governor Kelly said Tuesday that he intends to keep Federal Troops available for riot duty in Michigan until the State Troops make themselves fit to take over the job. He has pointed out, however, in a press statement that circumstances may force a change in his plans. War needs, army training schedules, and other factors may interfere. The Governor plans to leave in effect the Presidential Order, which gives him authority to summon army units to put down disorder. The understanding is that the order will remain in effect until Kelly notifies the President that the need for the troops has ended.

The Mayor's Committee voted Tuesday to request a one-man grand jury investigation into the causes and circumstances of the recent race riots. The request was presented to Prosecutor William E. Dowling by a sub-committee, headed by Attorney Fred M. Butzel. The committee was not in agreement on this procedure. Several members ^{DISSENTED} ~~disagreed~~, feeling that the request for a grand jury should be presented directly to the Mayor since they were the Mayor's Committee, and that the Mayor, in turn, should pass on the request for a grand jury to the Prosecutor. The Committee, however, was in unanimous agreement that there should be a grand jury. The sub-committee made the following report:

"This Committee believes that the appointment of a one-man grand jury would be highly useful in determining the causes of the late riot and preventing future riots. Therefore, we direct the appointment of a sub-committee of the bi-racial board, acting as citizens, to petition Prosecutor William E. Dowling for a one-man grand jury."

The Mayor's Committee also adopted its report to the Mayor, which included, outlining a program for immediate action in the city's tension areas; that these areas be defined and that

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The Mayor's Committee also adopted its report to the Mayor which included, outlining a program for immediate action in the City's Tension areas; that these areas be defined and that a program of action be formulated in conjunction with the Council of Social Agencies. Other proposals call for a recreational program, more housing, and added public health facilities, better employment relationships, and a program to be worked out with the Board of Education. ^{As soon as} Since the report is available in its completed form, I will forward it to you.

As far as I can determine there is no definite attitude on whether removal of the troops will create future rioting. Although tension has died down, and the soldiers are not very much in evidence, I believe the Governor is on sound ground in asking for the ⁱⁿ retainment until the state is ^{able} ~~about~~ to assume full responsibility.

At this time, I do not believe it necessary for you to return to Detroit, but should any new trend develop, I will advise you immediately.

Very truly yours,

GBC:LMG

Gloster B. Current
Executive Secretary
NAACP