

The original documents are located in Box 29, folder “Input - Doug Bennett” of the Michael Raoul-Duval Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

Copyright Notice

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. Michael Raoul-Duval donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections. Works prepared by U.S. Government employees as part of their official duties are in the public domain. The copyrights to materials written by other individuals or organizations are presumed to remain with them. If you think any of the information displayed in the PDF is subject to a valid copyright claim, please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Date Oct. 12

TO: MIKE DUVAL

FROM: DOUGLAS P. BENNETT

Please Handle _____

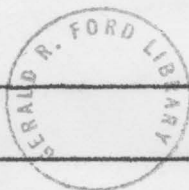
Please See Me _____

Per Our Conversation _____

For Your Information _____

For Comment _____

Other:



Q. Mr. President, your delay in acting promptly on the Secretary Butz matter seems to indicate an insensitivity on your part to the tone of the obviously racial statement which the Secretary made. We have noted that you have failed to appoint a new Chairman of the EEOC since the former Chairman, Lowell Perry, resigned in late Spring. How do you answer the charge that you are insensitive to Blacks?

A. I have stated very clearly my feelings about Earl Butz.

Regarding the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, I appointed Lowell Perry to that position about a year and a half ago. He served ably in a very difficult job until his recent resignation. I directed my staff to work diligently to find the right person to take on that large responsibility. In addition to others, we consulted closely with Black leaders including those from the NAACP and the Urban League. I received the recommendation of an individual who was superbly qualified and who could carry out the letter and the spirit of the law. Very shortly before I was ready to announce this person, I was advised that for health reasons that prospective appointee was unable to accept. I made a very serious and diligent effort to fill this position and I think that fact can be verified with the NAACP and the Urban League. I fully intend to make this appointment early next year and to appoint a highly qualified individual.

I want to point out that I recently nominated Mr. Thad Garrett to be the first Black member of the Consumer Product Safety Commission. It should be noted that the Democratic Congress failed to approve this appointment. It is also interesting to note that Mr. Ralph Nader, who according to reports, would be advising Mr. Carter on appointments to Regulatory Commissions, had a member of his organization testify against Mr. Garrett. I reiterate it was the Democrats who delayed and failed to act on this appointment. If Mr. Carter and his colleagues in the Democrat Party act this way when they are not part of the Executive Branch, I wonder how responsible, with respect to Blacks, they would be should he become President.

Let me point out my record on Black men and women in my Administration. Bill Coleman, the Secretary of Transportation, is the second Black ever to serve in a Cabinet position. Likewise, I have appointed Blacks to senior policy positions in the fields of both domestic and foreign affairs, including ambassadorial, judicial, regulatory and departmental posts.



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 12, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

DOUG BENNETT ✓

FROM:

MIKE DUVAL *Mike*

SUBJECT:

Bob Gallagher

What is the status of Bob Gallagher's request to be named as a member of the Home Loan Bank Board?

Bob is from Florida and has done advancing for us. He is an extremely qualified individual.

