

[2/15/79-Not Submitted] [CF, O/A 548]

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WASHINGTON

DF
MEMORANDUM

Date: 2/15/79

FOR ACTION:
PHIL WISE
FRAN VOORDE

FOR INFORMATION:

THE FIRST LADY

FROM: Rick Hutcheson, Staff Secretary

SUBJECT: EIZENSTAT-MARTIN MEMO, "WHITE HOUSE OBSERVANCE
OF THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BROWN DECISION"

YOUR RESPONSE MUST BE DELIVERED
TO THE STAFF SECRETARY BY:
TIME: 12:00 PM
DAY: MONDAY
DATE: 19 FEBRUARY 1979

ACTION REQUESTED:

Other: Your comments

STAFF RESPONSE:

I concur. No comment.
Please note other comments below:

Roady

FEB 19 1979

PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 14, 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

FROM: STU EIZENSTAT *Stu*
LOUIS MARTIN

SUBJECT: White House Observance of the
25th Anniversary of the Brown
Decision

May 17, 1979 is the 25th anniversary of the Supreme Court decision in Brown v. Topeka, Kansas Board of Education. That historic decision by the Warren Court led to the integration of public schools. All leading civil rights groups plan major celebrations. We have met several times with them to discuss their observance plans. The NAACP and the Legal Defense Fund plan to hold separate seminars and dinners in cooperation with other civil rights groups. You have been invited to participate in those activities.

HEW has commissioned a study to be released May 17, 1979, on the impact of the Brown decision on American education. Although the Brown decision is the result of private initiatives, we believe special White House attention to the anniversary is expected and would be desirable.

We recommend that on Thursday, May 17, 1979, from 4 to 6 p.m., you host a White House reception for the lawyers and participants in the Brown decision, and major civil rights leaders.

Anne Wexler, Bob Lipshutz and Joe Califano support this recommendation. Although the Attorney General also agrees that White House acknowledgement of the 25th anniversary would be appropriate, he believes it unnecessary to host a White House reception. He also believes that it might detract from the "Bench and Bar" reception now being planned for Law Day, May 1.


We believe at this time of budget stringency, that such a reception, with appropriate informal remarks from you, would be extremely useful and symbolically important to our relationships with the black community.

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