National Committee
January 17, 1947

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
29 Washington Square West
New York City

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I want to thank you once more for your courteous reception and likewise to express the appreciation of all of the members of the Citizens Committee on Displaced Persons for your willingness to be named as a vice chairman.

With very kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

Lessing J. Rosenwald

LJR:mm
Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I am writing this letter to inform you of the progress of the activities of the National Committee on Segregation in the Nation's Capital. At the organizational meeting of the National Committee, an executive committee was appointed and authorized to select a permanent national chairman. After a considerable exploration, Dr. George Shuster, President of Hunter College, was singled out, and the executive committee is delighted to report that he has consented to serve.

A further action of the national body empowered the executive committee to proceed with a program "to study racial segregation, including discrimination, in the nation's capital with a view to obtaining the facts as to present conditions, extent, development, legal, economic and social causes and results". A study staff has been at work in Washington since January of this year and completed its field operations as of July 1. The findings of the study are being prepared in manuscript form and will shortly be submitted to the members of the National Committee for their consideration.

The study has proceeded as a strictly technical problem. However, the more important policy and action implications of the study are matters which will require the active participation of the National Committee from this point on. With this in mind Dr. Hunter proposes to convene the National Committee in Washington sometime this fall. This will be after the members have had time to study the report. At that time the committee can go forward with the second and third phases of the program as set forth in the policy statement of the organizational meeting; namely:

"To recommend such policies as may seem necessary or advisable to make interracial conditions in Washington conform to the requirements and judicial interpretations of the American Constitution and the American democratic creed.

"To act in furtherance of the recommendations of the Committee."

Very sincerely yours,

Joseph D. Lohman
Executive Secretary