

NAACP DISPUTES GOVERNMENT: NAACP, Gov't Disagree On Africa Trip

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Although the United States Department of Defense said that the Jan. 15 and 16 visit of the aircraft carrier, Midway, to Capetown, South Africa, was successful and that none of 400 non-white members of the carrier's crew were discriminated against, the NAACP differed sharply and stated that "the Navy made no protests (to South Africa) and thus allowed its personnel and the American flag to be insulted."

The NAACP's protests appeared in the February issue of *The Crisis*, the official publication of the organization.

According to the NAACP, the 400 non-white crew members of the aircraft carrier "had to carry special permits to drink liquor in 'Negro' bars and they could not take any away in bottles—simply because it is against the law for non-European South Africans to do this. All European bars, white hotels, movies and bathing beaches were out of bounds to them."

Through the Defense Dept., Capt. Reynold D. Hogle, commander of the carrier, Midway, asserted that all the crew members, white and non-white, attended ball games and functions completely unsegregated. The functions, said the Department, were arranged by the local government authorities.

It was admitted, however, that the only functions non-white members could not attend were dances which included white people. In regards to the policy of not permitting people of color to buy liquor, the Defense Department said that local laws were waived to permit the Negro sailors to buy on the same basis as white comrades. Negro American sailors were also permitted to enter hotels owned by Indians, it was learned. Hotels owned by Negroes with Negro guests were "out of bounds" for American Negro sailors.