

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA



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INCORPORATED FEBRUARY 8, 1910

CHARTERED BY CONGRESS JUNE 15, 1916

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INTERRACIAL SERVICE

STANLEY A. HARRIS, DIRECTOR A. J. TAYLOR, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

March 26, 1946

Mrs. Jessie P. Guzman
Department of Records and Research
Tuskegee Institute
Tuskegee, Alabama

Dear Mrs. Guzman:

Dr. Fretwell referred your letter of March 5th to me and I am glad to give you the information you request insofar as I can.

On December 31st there were 3,587 Scout Troops and 790 Cub Packs, a total of 4,377 Units, each of which has a leader. The regulations do not allow us to give the names of the leaders of Units to anybody but you could not use 4,377 names if you had them.

Each Troop and Pack has a committee composed usually of four or five men. There are about 300 what we call Divisional Committees in the United States, most of which are in the South. These are organized for the purpose of supervising and promoting Scouting in a certain geographical area. We have about 100 men employed for the promotion of work among Negroes. I am attaching a copy of that list. We have 545 Local Councils in the United States, all of which have Troops in Negro institutions if there are Negroes in their territory. A few Councils, mostly in the Northwest, do not have Negroes. We could give you a list of the Executives of these 545 Councils if it would be of any service to you.

Both National Baptist Conventions and all three of the General Conferences of the Methodist Church have officially adopted the Scout Program. I am sending you booklets published by these two religious groups with some additional literature and a copy of the bulletin I sent out last March. I have not yet had an opportunity to release a bulletin this year. I hope to get one out soon and will ask my secretary to see that you get a copy.

The total number of Negro men and boys now enrolled in Scouting is 120,023. Our Registration Service does not record the race or creed of a boy and we know that these figures from our Local Councils are not quite complete. Generally, they

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include only Troops and Packs organized in distinctly Negro institutions, and there are a considerable number of boys in Troops with white boys, so I would say the membership undoubtedly includes at least 121,500 men and boys. That is out of a total membership of about 2,000,000.

If you need any additional information, let me know and I will try to get it for you.

Cordially yours, BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

STANLEY A. MARRIS National Director Interracial Service

SAH:MT