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Fair Employment Agency

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Brief for
Goldin Unit

Mr. Harrison J. Goldin,
Comptroller,
The City of New York
Office of the Comptroller,
NEW YORK,
U. S. A.

Your ref:

Our ref:

Date: 22nd May, 1985.

Dear Mr. Goldin,

Many thanks for your letter of 25th April.

There are a couple of points in the letter which I would wish to mention. Nothing which I said should be taken in any way as suggesting that those who have been discriminated against should be asked to accept the status quo pending recovery. That would be totally opposed to my own philosophy and the philosophy of the Agency and, indeed, we are frequently attacked in Northern Ireland for taking the opposite viewpoint. All I was anxious to suggest was that with the present economic situation, the opportunities for employment for those who have been subject to discrimination are very limited and, therefore, it is crucial that we receive far more inward investment.

13-6-85

I am not quite sure what has given rise to the belief that the Agency has only found 6 cases of discrimination in industrial employment during its existence. We have, in fact, made 35 findings of individual cases of discrimination of whom 17 were in the private sector and almost all of those would be in industrial employment. Some of those in the public sector would also be in industrial type employment. In addition, of course, we have made findings of patterns of inequality and discrimination in industry and would regard those findings as of more long term importance than the individual findings.

My concern about discouragement of American investment arises because of the fear that a company faced with the choice of running the risk of losing stockholders because it has not signed the McBride Principles or running the risk of having to pay large sums of money to complainants who allege the company has indulged in reverse discrimination will decide to avoid having to make this choice and invest elsewhere. In those circumstances, those who will suffer most will be the most disadvantaged i.e. the Catholics.

I have seen a comment in the paper recently that you intend to visit Ireland in the near future and when and if you do, I would be very glad to meet you and discuss these matters. I welcome the support which you have given for greater resources for the Agency.

Yours sincerely,

Bob Cooper

R. G. COOPER,
Chairman.

RGC/cd

RECEIVED

MAY 30 1985

COMPTROLLER
NEW YORK CITY