

well as in amount. If my recommendations, discussed subsequently, for legislation to provide civil remedies in the Department of Justice for the enforcement of voting and other civil rights are followed, the Department's duties and activities in the civil courts will increase even more rapidly than in the past.

It is essential that all the Department's civil rights activity, both criminal and non-criminal, be consolidated in a single organization, but it is not appropriate that an organization with important civil as well as criminal functions should be administered as a part of the Criminal Division.

Consequently, I most earnestly recommend that the appointment of a new assistant attorney general be authorized by the Congress in order to permit the proper consolidation and organization of the Department's civil and criminal activities in the area of civil rights into a division of the Department and under the direction of a highly qualified lawyer with the status of an assistant attorney general. A draft of legislation to effect this result was transmitted with my letters to the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate.

III. Amendments to Give Greater Protection to the Right to Vote and to Provide Civil Remedies in the Department of Justice for their Enforcement.

The right to vote is one of our most precious rights. It is the cornerstone of our form of government and affords protection for our other rights. It must be zealously safeguarded.

