

White House

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No. 211

Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Military Operations

SITUATION REPORT: ARKANSAS

051700 - 061700 Eastern Standard Time February 1958

1. Events at Central High School

a. Central High School opened at 0830 hours, Central Standard Time, 6 February 1958 and closed at 1530 hours, Central Standard Time. Eight Negro students arrived and departed in private vehicles (Minnie Brown departed early). One Negro student was absent because of illness.

b. There was no significant change in attendance at Central High School.

2. Dispositions

a. During school hours

(1) Central High School

One Platoon, Task Force, 153d Infantry

(2) Camp Robinson

One Platoon, Task Force, 153d Infantry (30 minute alert)
One Company (-), Task Force, 153d Infantry (60 minute alert)
Balance of Task Force, 153d Infantry

b. During all other hours - Camp Robinson

One Platoon, Task Force, 153d Infantry (30 minute alert)
One Company (-), Task Force, 153d Infantry (60 minute alert)
Balance of Task Force, 153d Infantry

3. Items of Significant Interest

a. Shortly after the opening of school, a military guard observed Minnie Brown (colored student) walking down the hall, followed by Frankie Gregg, a white female student. The colored girl stopped and the white girl bumped into her. Both girls then proceeded down the hall exchanging words. The guard overheard Frankie Gregg saying something to the effect, "Don't call me white trash, you nigger." After Minnie Brown had entered a class room, Frankie Gregg threw her purse into the room. The guard was not in a location to see where the purse landed but the colored girl came out with the purse and dropped it in front of the white girl. The guard took both girls to the office of a school official. Frankie Gregg is withdrawing from school at her own request.



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By bc NLE Date 3/28/79

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b. At 1020 hours, Central Standard Time, a telephone call was received by the switchboard operator at Central High School stating that there was a bomb in the school. A routine search was conducted by a city policeman and school custodial personnel with negative results.

c. At 1200 hours, Central Standard Time, Charletta Walls (colored student), accompanied by two white boys (Herbert Blount and Dennis Aylon) approached a guard. She stated she had been kicked by the two white boys. The guard took the three students to the Principal's office. Action taken is unknown at this time.

d. At 1210 hours, Central Standard Time, the switchboard operator at Central High School received a call stating that there was a bomb in the school. A search was conducted by a city policeman and school custodial personnel with negative results. In addition, there were two city detectives sent to the school to investigate the incident.

e. At 1225 hours, Central Standard Time, Minnie Brown (colored student) and Lester Judkins (white student) were involved in a soup spilling incident. Sergeant Blackwood, a military guard, saw the complete incident. A teacher held Judkins' arm and restrained him until Sergeant Blackwood, who was outside the door, could get inside. As Sergeant Blackwood accompanied Judkins to the Principal's office, Judkins bragged in a loud voice that he had poured soup on Minnie Brown. On hearing this, a group of about 15 students rushed to the telephone booth in the lobby. Ten minutes later the incident was reported during a news broadcast. Lester Judkins has received a normal three day suspension for the incident.

f. Minnie Brown received a normal three day suspension for the incident described in 3a above.



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