Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Military Operations

SITUATION REPORT: ARKANSAS
261700 - 271700 Eastern Standard Time February 1958

1. Events at Central High School

   a. Central High School opened at 0830 hours, Central Standard Time, 27 February 1958 and closed at 1530 hours, Central Standard Time. Eight Negro students arrived and departed in private vehicles. (One of the eight Negro students (Carlota Walls) arrived two hours after school had opened. The reason for her tardiness has not been revealed.)

   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

   On the evening of 26 February 1958, Superintendent Blossom and two other school officials had a conference with Sammie Dean Parker and her parents. As Mrs. Huckaby, Assistant Principal, was leaving the meeting she was viciously and physically attacked by Sammie Dean and Mrs. Parker and had to be protected in a separate room until the Parkers finally left. Mr. Blossom has indicated that he will strongly recommend to the School Board that Sammie Dean be permanently expelled.