

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 5, 1957

James C. Hagerty, Press Secretary to the President

THE WHITE HOUSE

U. S. Naval Base
Newport, Rhode Island

THE PRESIDENT TODAY SENT THE
FOLLOWING TELEGRAM TO THE
HONORABLE ORVAL E. FAUBUS,
THE GOVERNOR OF ARKANSAS

The Honorable Orval E. Faubus
Governor of Arkansas
Little Rock, Arkansas



Your telegram received requesting my assurance of understanding of and cooperation in the course of action you have taken on school integration recommended by the Little Rock School Board and ordered by the United States District Court pursuant to the mandate of the United States Supreme Court.

When I became President, I took an oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States. The only assurance I can give you is that the Federal Constitution will be upheld by me by every legal means at my command.

There is no basis of fact to the statements you make in your telegram that Federal authorities have been considering taking you into custody or that telephone lines to your Executive Mansion have been tapped by any agency of the Federal Government.

At the request of Judge Davies, the Department of Justice is presently collecting facts as to interference with or failure to comply with the District Court's order. You and other state officials -- as well as the National Guard which, of course, is uniformed, armed and partially sustained by the Government -- will, I am sure, give full cooperation to the United States District Court.

Dwight D. Eisenhower

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September 14, 1957

James C. Hagerty, Press Secretary to the President

THE WHITE HOUSE

U. S. NAVAL BASE
NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT



At the request of Governor Faubus of Arkansas I met with him this morning in a constructive discussion regarding the carrying out of the orders of the Federal Court in the matter of the high schools of Little Rock.

The Governor stated his intention to respect the decisions of the United States District Court and to give his full cooperation in carrying out his responsibilities in respect to these decisions. In so doing, I recognize the inescapable responsibility resting upon the Governor to preserve law and order in his state.

I am gratified by his constructive and cooperative attitude at our meeting. I have assured the Governor of the cooperation of Federal officials. I was pleased to hear from the Governor of the progress already made in the elimination of segregation in other activities in the State of Arkansas.

I am sure it is the desire of the Governor not only to observe the supreme law of the land but to use the influence of his office in orderly progress of the plans which are already the subject of the order of the Court.

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STATEMENT BY THE GOVERNOR OF ARKANSAS

The President and I had a friendly and constructive discussion of the problem of compliance with Court orders respecting the high schools of Little Rock.

This trip to Newport has been worthwhile from my point of view.

I recognize that the situation calls for clarification, and I have assured the President of my desire to cooperate with him in carrying out the duties resting upon both of us under the Federal Constitution. In addition, I must harmonize my actions under the Constitution of Arkansas with the requirements of the Constitution of the United States.

I have never expressed any personal opinion regarding the Supreme Court decision of 1954 which ordered integration. That is not relevant. That decision is the law of the land and must be obeyed.

At the same time it is evident even from the language of the decision itself that changes necessitated by the Court orders cannot be accomplished overnight. The people of Little Rock are law-abiding and I know that they expect to obey valid Court orders. In this they shall have my support.

In so doing it is my responsibility to protect the people from violence in any form. As I interpret the President's public statements, the national Administration has no thought of challenging this fact. In meeting this obligation, it is essential that, in proceeding to implement the orders of the Court, the complexities of integration be patiently understood by all those in Federal authority.

When I assured the President, as I have already done, that I expect to accept the decision of the Courts, I entertained the hope that the Department of Justice and the Federal Judiciary will act with understanding and patience in discharging their duties.

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I think there is a little
Rich file
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DIARY

Notes dictated by the President on October 8, 1957 concerning visit of Governor Orval Faubus of Arkansas to Little Rock on September 14, 1957.

Interview was held in the President's tiny office at the Naval Station at Newport. At the beginning of what was approximately a two hour session, the President and the Governor were alone in the President's office for about twenty minutes. They then adjourned to acw's office, which was larger.

make one

"What he had to say was pretty well represented in the press releases given out that day (attached). Governor Faubus protested again and again he was a law abiding citizen, that he was a veteran, fought in the war, and that everybody recognizes that the Federal law is supreme to State law. So I suggested to him that he go home and not necessarily withdraw his National Guard troops, but just change their orders to say that having been assured that there was no attempt to do anything except to obey the Courts and that the Federal government was not trying to do anything that had not been already agreed to by the School Board and directed by the Courts; that he should tell the Guard to continue to preserve order but to allow the Negro children to attend Central High School. I pointed out at that time he was due to appear the following Friday, the 20th, before the Court to determine whether an injunction was to be issued. In any event, I urged him to take this action promptly whereupon the Justice Department would go to the Court and ask that the Governor not be brought into Court. I further said that I did not believe it was beneficial to anybody to have a trial of strength between the President and a Governor because in any area where the Federal government had assumed jurisdiction and this was upheld by the Supreme Court, there could be only one outcome -- that is, the State would lose, and I did not want to see any Governor humiliated.

"He seemed to be very appreciative of this attitude and I got definitely the understanding that he was going back to Arkansas to act within a matter of hours to revoke his orders to the Guard to prevent re-entry of the Negro children into the school.

"He told me of his war experiences and vigorously asserted his deep feelings of loyalty and dedication to the Federal government, and repeated several times that he had shown respect for the law in all his actions.

"After some 20 minutes of personal conference, we invited Governor Adams and Brooks Hays, and later, the Attorney General, to join us. The ensuing conversation was generally along the same lines as he had talked to me in private."

Texarkana, Arkansas
September 17th. 1958

The School Board
Little Rock, Arkansas

I cannot salute you as anything except:

Dear Communists:

I have married daughters in Little Rock and they do not intend to send their children to an integrated Central High. You know Arkansas voted our Governor back into office for the main purpose of keeping our all white Southern children from the association of negroes and he is keeping his promise to us and if you think for one moment that you can overthrow that promise, I sincerely hope each of you will be shot or replaced. We find at the last moment that you are a Judas - selling the very souls of our white children to the Devil - negroes. They have schools there. You are so damn smart and yet so dumb that you will not face the fact that in the North there are such a few negro people that one or two or three make no difference - but here in our Southland we have more negroes than whites in so many states and communities until it will be destruction for all. Have you never stopped to think that God made even the birds different???? Did you ever see a Red Bird mix and mate up with sparrows or Blue Jays??

God made them different in color for a purpose and they stay with their own kind. Even the mexicans never try to mingle and push and trample over white people???? Did you know that some few weeks ago on a train traveling toward California there was a Chicago Negro Wench on the train placing negroes in seats beside white people when there were other vacant seats? She placed a burly, drunken negro man beside a little old white haired woman, every inch a Southern Lady? When night came and pillows were passed out this negro man turned his knees and face toward the Little old Lady and drew up his knees into her side and breathed into her face in such a manner that she left her seat and sat in the Ladies Lounge all night without a bit of sleep??? May God punish your Mothers or children in the same way before long and what can you do? Did you suggest in your mind and do you suggest that white women snuggle up to such a negro and be insulted - just to raise the negro's thinking? Well, I saw that happen, Sirs. Did you ever look up the F. B. I. Reports recorded in Washington that over a thousand Communist trained ministers were placed all over the United States???? Then you allow the Press to print what a Communist Presbyterian Fool says. You should rise up in indignation. God will return this stand of yours in toward you and your a million fold and, ah then, tears won't help you, regrets won't help you. That great eternal word "IF I had KNOWN" won't help you, either. Did you ever stop to think we have thousands of negroes down South whereas the North have a great minority and so few niggers in some communities they have no schools for them and they go to white schools

and are segregated even in recess times.

By your actions, you are no better than she is and you know what she is! She is too good for you and perhaps if you will face up to your negro bastards, why God might show you some mercy. We are naming you names, and we are going to make you swallow all you sneakingly do and become known Traitors throughout the state of ours and elsewhere.

We demand that you get out or stick by our Governor. If you do not, there will be gun play from here even with your gunmen being trained. We hate you just this much in Texarkana and while hate is an awful word, it is what Christ turned his back upon. Hatred but even he hates a Judas, though not the man but his acts. You know our southern negroes are well treated by all those for whom they work; we have made good schools for them and they vote without question - and you are too dumb to realize all this bewailing the negro is just primarily a bid for negro votes come next election time and Communists are keeping our people so busy fussing over negroes that they shall slip in unawares and overthrow our county entirely! Then you will wake up amid wailing and gnashing of teeth to you and your childrens destruction! Remeber all this is not the words of a fool nor a railer. Unless you release your present actions and turn toward the right, all this is coming out in a wild protest from the people here as well as Little Rock. There is a time when the Klu-Klux Clan should ride, regardless of Federal Communists. What about States Rights? You are fools and too well paid off by NAACP to know it. We know it is their money at your back in this. Traitors! Did you take pains to have a local FBI tell

Judas betrayed your Lord and Savior for a few pieces of silver and just so - you men are the same Judas - betraying our children, taking away the football games, etc. just to appease Communists and the NAACP? God turned the negro black and in the bible you will find him saying: for this sin, you and your children's children, etc. shall remain black and servants of servants".? God never changes His Holy word and you, Little, small mean men try to change it. May God send his destruction down upon you and yours and if Govenor Faubus feels Little Rock people are whipped into cold fury, likewise Texarkana is whipped into cold fury by you, Members of the School Board and all are in accord that each should be shot! Blossom and your Atty. showed in their faces the victory they hoped they had gained over our Gov. It reflected in all it's filth the gloating grins and swaggering walk of those two men. So, we feel Blossom should be shot. This is too good for all of you Judases!

Keeping football away from the children is your cold war against Faubus, in his supreme effort to keep our schools clean and all white. well, The State is backing him and may God have mercy on you men when he wins over your betrayal! We unite in Prayer over this, SIRS and God is mightier than you and your Communist Presbyterian preacher. We want none of you! So beware of the fate of all traitors. If the people in Little Rock do nothing with you, we will! Now, grin up your sleeves and pat "Daisy" on the back and sleep with her for all we

care.

**C. INJUNCTION ISSUED SEPTEMBER 21, 1957 BY
JUDGE RONALD N. DAVIES**

The following is a verbatim text of the preliminary injunction signed September 21, 1957 by Judge DAVIES:

"This cause having been heard upon separate applications of the United States, as amicus curiae, and of the plaintiffs for a preliminary injunction, and it appearing that:

"1. Certain Negro students have been accepted for admission to the Little Rock Central High School and are eligible to attend classes there in accordance with a plan for gradual school integration, adopted by the Little Rock School District on May 24, 1955, and applicable at the senior high school level upon the opening of the school term in the fall of 1957; this Court, by decree and judgment of August 28, 1956, approved said plan of gradual school integration and its decree was affirmed by the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit; and this Court on September 3, 1957 ordered the members of the Little Rock School Board and the Superintendent of the Little Rock Public Schools to comply forthwith with the plan of school integration approved by this Court's decree of August 28, 1956, as to senior high school classes in the Little Rock School District.

"2. The foregoing orders of this Court confirmed and enforced the constitutional right of the Negro children involved to attend the Little Rock Central High School.

"3. On September 2, 1957, upon orders of Defendant Orval E. Faubus, Governor of the State of Arkansas, and in conformity therewith Defendant General Sherman T. Clinger, Adjutant General of the State of Arkansas, and Defendant Lt. Col. Marion E. Johnson, of the Arkansas National Guard, stationed members of the Arkansas National Guard at the Little Rock Central High School and said Defendant Governor Faubus ordered that the Arkansas National Guard prevent and restrain by force the Negro students, eligible to attend classes in said high school under the plan of school integration referred to above, from entering the school and attending classes, and since September 2, 1957, Defendants Governor Faubus, General Clinger and Lt. Col. Johnson have prevented said Negro students from attending such school by the armed force of the Arkansas National Guard.

"4. The use of the Arkansas National Guard to deny access to the school by the Negro children upon the orders of the Defendant Governor Faubus obstructs and interferes with the carrying out and effectuation of this Court's orders of August 28, 1956, and September 3, 1957, contrary to the due and proper administration of justice.

"5. Although the use of the armed force of the State of Arkansas to deny access to the school by Negro children has been declared by Governor Faubus to be required to preserve peace and order, such use of the Arkansas National Guard was and is unlawful, and in violation of the rights of the Negro children under the Fourteenth Amendment as determined by this Court.

"6. An injunction is necessary in order to protect and preserve the judicial process of this Court, to maintain the due and proper administration of justice and to protect the rights guaranteed by the Constitution to the Negro children involved; now, therefore,

"IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND DECREED that Defendant Orval E. Faubus, Governor of the State of Arkansas, General Sherman T. Clinger, Adjutant General of the State of Arkansas, and Lt. Col. Marion E. Johnson of the Arkansas National Guard, their officers, agents, servants, employees, attorneys, all persons subject to their joint or several orders and directions, and all persons in active concert, participation or privity with them, be and they are hereby enjoined and restrained from hereafter (a) obstructing or preventing, by means of the Arkansas National Guard, or otherwise, Negro students, eligible under said plan of school integration to attend the Little Rock Central High School, from attending said school or (b) from threatening or coercing said students not to attend said school or (c) from obstructing or interfering with the constitutional right of said Negro children to attend said school.

"PROVIDED that this Order shall not be deemed to prevent Orval E. Faubus, as Governor of the State of Arkansas, from taking any and all action he may deem necessary or desirable for the preservation of peace and order, by means of the Arkansas National Guard, or otherwise, which does not hinder or interfere with the right of eligible Negro students to attend the Little Rock Central High School."

September 21, 1957

James C. Hagerty, Press Secretary to the President

THE WHITE HOUSE

U. S. NAVAL BASE
NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

In the last few hours three events of major importance have occurred in the City of Little Rock.

1. The Governor of Arkansas has withdrawn the contingent of Arkansas National Guard at Central High School.

2. The Little Rock School Board has announced its intention to proceed to carry into effect its plans for school admissions.

3. The local law enforcement agencies have announced that they are prepared to maintain law and order.

The sincere and conscientious efforts of the citizens of Little Rock prior to September second show that they are persons of good will and feel a responsibility to preserve and respect the law -- whether or not they personally agree with it. I am confident that they will vigorously oppose any violence by extremists.

All parents must have a sympathetic understanding of the ordeal to which the nine Negro children who have been prevented from attending Central High School have been subjected. They and their parents have conducted themselves with dignity and with restraint. As I said this morning, I am confident that the citizens of the City of Little Rock and the State of Arkansas will welcome this opportunity to demonstrate that in their city and in their state proper orders of a United States Court will be executed promptly and without disorder.

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O.F.
142-A-5-A

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The White House
Washington

SEP 24 1957
CENTRAL FILES

repeated to
Mr. Haggerty
6:35 pm
23 Oct 57
SEPT
and to
Mr. Brownell
1:30 pm
23 Oct 57
SEPT
X OF 5

WA024 PD

1957 SEP 23 PM 6 24

LITTLE ROCK ARK SEP 23 344PMC

THE PRESIDENT

THE WHITE HOUSE

THE CITY POLICE, TOGETHER WITH THE STATE POLICE, MADE A VALIANT EFFORT TO CONTROL THE MOB TODAY AT CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL. IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS, IT WAS DEEMED ADVISABLE BY THE OFFICER ON THE GROUND AND IN CHARGE TO HAVE THE COLORED CHILDREN REMOVED TO THEIR HOMES FOR SAFETY PURPOSES.

X OF 142-A

THE MOB THAT GATHERED WAS NO SPONTANEOUS ASSEMBLY. IT WAS

Little Rock, Ark, School Integration

AGITATED, AROUSED, AND ASSEMBLED BY A CONCERTED PLAN
OF ACTION.

ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL AGITATORS IN THE CROWD WAS A MAN BY THE
NAME OF JIMMY KARAM, WHO IS A POLITICAL AND SOCIAL INTIMATE OF
GOVERNOR FAUBUS, AND WHOSE WIFE IS NOW WITH GOVERNOR'S PARTY
AT THE SOUTHERN GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE. KARAM HAS A LONG RECORD
OF EXPERIENCE IN STRIKE-BREAKING, AND OTHER ACTIVITIES SUCH AS
HE ENGAGED IN TODAY.

THE MANNER IN WHICH THE MOB WAS FORMED AND ITS ACTION,
TOGETHER WITH THE PRESENCE OF JIMMY KARAM, LEADS TO THE INEVITABLE

CONCLUSION THAT GOVERNOR FAUBUS AT LEAST WAS COGNIZANT OF WHAT WAS GOING TO TAKE PLACE.

DETAILED INFORMATION ON THE EVENTS OF THE DAY WILL BE TURNED OVER TO THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT FOR SUCH ACTION AS THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT DEEMS APPROPRIATE.

IF THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT DESIRES TO ENFORCE THE ORDERS OF THE FEDERAL COURT IN REGARD TO INTEGRATION IN THIS CITY, THE CITY POLICE WILL BE AVAILABLE TO LEND SUCH SUPPORT AS YOU MAY REQUIRE.

I AM NOT MAKING THIS WIRE PUBLIC. THIS IS FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND FOR THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT TO USE AS IT CONSIDERS NECESSARY
WOODROW W MANN, MAYOR LITTLE ROCK ARKANSAS.

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a fast message unless it is deferred class-
 service is indicated by the
 proper symbol.

WESTERN UNION

TELEGRAM

SYMBOLS

DL=Day Letter

NL=Night Letter

LT=International
Letter Telegram

1201

W. P. MARSHALL, President

The filing time shown in the date line on domestic telegrams is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

1957 SEP 24 AM 10 37

NP328 P LRA006 LONG PRD RX=LITTLEROCK ARK 24 916AMC=
 PRESIDENT DWIGHT D EISENHOWER=
 THE WHITE HOUSE NEWPORT RI=

THE IMMEDIATE NEED FOR FEDERAL TROOPS IS URGENT. THE MOB
 IS MUCH LARGER IN NUMBERS AT 8AM THAN AT ANY TIME
 YESTERDAY PEOPLE ARE CONVERGING ON THE SCENE FROM ALL
 DIRECTIONS MOB IS ARMED AND ENGAGING IN FISTICUFFS AND
 OTHER ACTS OF VIOLENCE. SITUATION IS OUT OF CONTROL AND
 POLICE CANNOT DISPERSE THE MOB I AM PLEADING TO YOU AS
 PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES IN THE INTEREST OF
 HUMANITY LAW AND ORDER AND BECAUSE OF DEMOCRACY WORLD

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a fast message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.

WESTERN UNION

TELEGRAM (30)

W. P. MARSHALL, President

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NL = Night Letter

LY = International
Letter Telegram

1201

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WIDE TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY FEDERAL TROOPS WITHIN
SEVERAL HOURS. ACTION BY YOU WILL RESTORE PEACE AND
ORDER AND COMPLIANCE WITH YOUR PROCLAMATION =
WOODROW WILSON MANN MAYOR OF LITTLEROCK ARKANSAS =

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

