

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

White House

No. 218

Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Military Operations

SITUATION REPORT: ARKANSAS

161700 - 171700 Eastern Standard Time February 1958

1. Events at Central High School

a. Central High School opened at 0830 hours, Central Standard Time, 17 February 1958 and closed at 1530 hours, Central Standard Time. Eight Negro students arrived and departed in private vehicles (seven arrived late because of snow. See 3a below). Minnie Brown (colored student) is in suspended status.

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. School officials have announced that, in order to prevent snow-ball incidents, the colored students will be permitted to enter school after classes have started on days when there is snow.

b. Shortly after the opening of school on 17 February 1958, several white students were observed passing out small cards which read, "One down and eight to go."

DECLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Authority MR 79-96 #4

By bc NLE Date 2/28/79

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

c. Billy Ferguson (white student) received a normal three-day suspension for pushing Gloria Ray (colored student) down a flight of stairs. Miss Ray maintained her footing and was not injured.

d. Howard Cooper (white student) received a normal three-day suspension for having a slip pinned on his clothes, which read, "One down and eight to go." This was in violation to a previous agreement that he would not display items of this nature on his clothes.

e. Sammie Dean Parker (white student) received an indefinite suspension for passing out slips which read, "One down and eight to go."

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~