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Return to Central High, Thursday, September 5, 1957

Students Get Bulletin On Behavior at School

Central High school students were urged today "not to report to school before 8:15 a.m. if possible, and to come directly into the building as soon as they arrive."

This request was contained in a special bulletin distributed to students. It was signed by Principal Jess W. Matthews and noted that Col. Marion Johnson of the National Guard had suggested this procedure.

"Considerations of safety and common sense dictate these suggestions," the bulletin said. It added:

"Furthermore, excitement and strife are hindrances to good school work.

"Tardiness to school because of the delay of a student as a spectator or participant in demonstrations or gatherings will not be tolerated.

"The right of any citizen to circulate printed matter or petitions is recognized. However, the circulation of such matter or petitions is a hindrance to class and school progress, and should not take place at school."

In another bulletin, which is distributed daily, Principal Matthews praised the reaction of students "to the very intense situation." It noted, however, that some cases of misconduct had been reported. The bulletin stated:

"We have been proud of the way our student body has reacted to the very intense situation which has confronted us since the opening day of school. The longer the controversy continues, the harder it will be for our students not to become involved.

"This is a time of testing. The law and its interpretation we must leave to authorities charged with those duties. The less we discuss these matters, the better. But we have an obligation of our own: To keep our feet on the ground and proceed with school. This, many of our students are doing. But actions and speech lacking in the courtesy and respect that educated people owe to all people have also been reported.

"What you do and say now becomes your record. We hope each student will keep a good one -- one of which he will never be ashamed."

Reprinted from the *Arkansas Democrat*, September 5, 1957

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Thursday, September 5, 1957

Selected stories from the inside pages of the *Arkansas Democrat* and *Arkansas Gazette* from this day 40 years ago are listed below the newspaper images.



(Image size: 265 K)



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Militia Chief Was Jailed / In 1809 Case, State Lost to Federal Court
Nashville, Tenn., Sept. 4 -- The last time that state troops were used in an effort to balk a federal court order, as Governor Faubus did yesterday, the state militia commander wound up in jail.

'What They're Saying About Little Rock': Press and Individuals React
With Brickbats and Bouquets - *Gazette Washington Bureau, 1202*
National Press Building

Washington, Sept. 4 -- Senator Richard L. Neuberger (Dem. Ore.) telegraphed today to both Secretary of Defense Charles E. Wilson and Neil McElroy, who soon will succeed Wilson, calling for a review immediately of federal contributions to the Arkansas National Guard.

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Militia Chief Was Jailed

In 1809 Case, State Lost to Federal Court

Nashville, Tenn., Sept. 4 -- The last time that state troops were used in an effort to balk a federal court order, as Governor Faubus did yesterday, the state militia commander wound up in jail.

It is doubtful that Pennsylvania's Gen. Michael Bright actually spent much time behind bars, but he was indicted, tried, convicted, and sentenced after the "Battle of Rittenhouse Square" in 1809.

Details were dug out of old law books by Professor Paul H. Sanders of Vanderbilt University Law School and director of the *Race Relations Law Reporter*.

The *Race Relations Law Reporter* is a non-partisan publication which collects and prints legal material which developed as a result of the 1954-55 United States Supreme court segregation decisions.

The case began with a privateer's capture of a British sloop in 1778 and wound up with Pennsylvania state militiamen staring across a Philadelphia square at 2,000 armed deputy United States marshals in 1809.

The contest between state and federal power actually was joined in 1778, before the Constitution was adopted. Numerous separate cases were decided before the final issue pitted the legislature and governor of Pennsylvania against the federal courts and Chief Justice John Marshall.

Pennsylvania courts originally decided the contest for money realized from the sale of the British sloop *Active* and the money was paid over to Pennsylvania's state treasurer, a man named Rittenhouse, as stockholder.

Decision Reversed

The state decision was reversed by the Committee on Appeals of the Continental Congress under the old Articles of Confederation. The reversal was not recognized by the Pennsylvania courts and the case hung fire for a quarter of a century.

In 1803, Gideon Olmstead and others brought action in the still new Federal Circuit Court in Philadelphia, and Judge Richard Peters granted him a judgment.

The Pennsylvania legislature promptly passed an interposition resolution declaring the federal courts had no jurisdiction in the case and that the judgment "ought not to be supported or obeyed."

Peters then refused to issue an order to enforce his judgment and Olmstead brought a mandamus action against the judge in the famous case of *U. S. v. Peters*, which is cited for lawyers' convenience as 9 U. S. (5 Cranch) 115.

In that case, Chief Justice Marshall gave the idea of interposition short shrift and ordered Judge Peters to enforce the judgment.

Then came the showdown. Judge Peters issued an order to United States Marshal John Smith to get the money from the executors of the estate of Rittenhouse who was dead.

Militia at Scene

When the marshal arrived at the Rittenhouse home, Governor Simon Snyder already had surrounded it with state militia troops under

the command of General Bright.

Smith then summoned a posse of 2,000 Pennsylvania citizens, armed them and appointed officers. The details of the "Battle of Rittenhouse Square" are not too clear in the books but apparently no shooting occurred.

"It sounds like they had troops on one side of the street and the posse on the other," Sanders said. "This went on for several weeks, apparently."

The stalemate was broken by an exchange of letters between Governor Snyder and President James Madison.

Snyder asked the president to intervene. Madison, who had a large part in framing the Constitution replied:

"The executive is not only unauthorized to prevent the execution of a decree sanctioned by the Supreme Court of the United States, but is expressly enjoined by statute, to carry into effect any such decree."

Money Was Paid

Governor Snyder then threw in his cards and paid over the money "to avoid further embarrassment" to Rittenhouse's executrix.

But a federal Grand Jury indicted General Bright and eight of his subordinates for resisting the law of the United States and they were tried before Circuit Judge Bushrod Washington, a nephew of President George Washington.

They were convicted and sentenced to fines and prison terms. The legal issue having been settled, however, President Madison pardoned them almost immediately.

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'What They're Saying About Little Rock'

Press and Individuals React With Brickbats and Bouquets

GAZETTE WASHINGTON BUREAU, 1202 NATIONAL PRESS BUILDING

Washington, Sept. 4 -- Senator Richard L. Neuberger (Dem. Ore.) telegraphed today to both Secretary of Defense Charles E. Wilson and Neil McElroy, who soon will succeed Wilson, calling for a review immediately of federal contributions to the Arkansas National Guard.

In a message, Neuberger asked "Is it either advisable from the standpoint of public policy or within the law for such contributions to continue if the Arkansas National Guard is to be an instrument used for avoidance of complying with an order of the federal District Court? This situation calls for a review at the highest level of the Defense Department. Trust you will undertake such action."

Defense Department records show that in the fiscal year which closed June 30, Uncle Sam contributed \$3,320,700 in the Army Guard in Arkansas \$2,288,220 to the Air Guard.

The acting chief of the National Guard Bureau of the Defense Department, Maj. Gen. Winston B. Wilson, had no comment on the use of National Guard by Governor Faubus.

The president of the National Guard Association of the United States, Maj. Gen. Ellard N. Walsh, retired, also said "no comment."

Newspapers Comment

Eastern newspapers are playing Little Rock as the top news event of the day.

The *New York Times*, in a personality sketch of Governor Faubus in its "Man in the News" column, said he "has always exhibited an almost painful desire for 'legitimacy,' that is, acceptance by the conservative element that opposed him almost to the man in his first campaign."

The *Washington Post* and *Times Herald* said editorially: "It would be tragic indeed if Governor Faubus had responded to a manufactured scare, to a threat of violence fabricated by lawless elements in no sense representative of the community. One wonders whether the governor did all he could do to promote and encourage observance of the law, whether, in this situation, order might not have been coupled with law for the maintenance of both."

The *Washington Evening Star* said in an editorial. "The reasonable inference [from events in Arkansas] is that the governor, despite his earlier disclaimer, intends to bring about a court test of his power to resist the court order. If so, he has embarked on a lost cause. For while the governor has a duty to use the Guard to maintain order, he has no duty to prevent Little Rock's school Board from carrying out its own plan of integration."

Griffin Applauds

From the Associated Press

Georgia's Governor Marvin Griffin commended use of troops to prevent integration of Little Rock's Central High School and said he

would have done likewise.

"I would like to extend my encouragement and appreciation to the governor of the great state of Arkansas," Griffin said yesterday at his news conference.

In his formal comment on the Arkansas situation, Griffin added that "one of the guarantees of the Constitution of the United States is the right of the people to bear arms, and it has not been changed."

"The governor of Arkansas is the commander-in-chief of the military forces and preservator of the peace..." he said.

"Thus it becomes a matter of whose judgment will prevail--the governor of the state or one of many federal judges, particularly one sent to Arkansas from North Dakota."

"Governor Faubus is within his rights. I remember sitting at the Williamsburg (Virginia, governors') conference and hearing the president call on the governors for restoration of states' rights. This would be a good place for Mr. Eisenhower to make a beginning."

Griffin was then asked "Would you have taken the same action Governor Faubus did?"

"Yes sir," the Georgia governor snapped briskly.

Hailed by Citizens Council

The New Orleans Citizens Council sent Governor Faubus a telegram supporting his stand in the dispute.

The telegram said, in part:

"Should all chief executives in the Southern states take your courageous stand, there would never be any racial strife in the South.

"We urge you to stand firm and keep faith so that you may serve as an example for others to do likewise."

Segregationist Pleased

Circuit Judge Tom Brady, Mississippi segregationist, said at Brookhaven, Miss., Little Rock dispute might determine whether the states become "satellites of an all-powerful federal judiciary."

In a statement praising Governor Faubus for "acting courageously," the author of the pamphlet "Black Monday" said Mr. Faubus exercised "the police powers...granted to each state of the Union by the federal Constitution.

"It is not believed that even the present United States Supreme Court will presume to proclaim that its decrees supercede the sacred police powers vested in the state under our Constitution.

"If it does, however, then the fact is that the states as such have been destroyed and are now satellites of an all-powerful federal judiciary and the people of the South are its vassals."

Ike Urged to Intercede

At Washington, the political organization Americans for Democratic Action called on President Eisenhower to intercede with the governor, "and persuade him to desist from his course of forcing segregation at the point of rifles and carbines."

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Friday, September 6, 1957

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Stories from this day, 40 years ago:

Faubus Cites Support, Hits Mann's Stand

Governor Faubus last night issued through an aide a statement in which he declared he was receiving almost unanimous support from every section of the state.

Governor Rector Used 'Interposition' / Seized Arsenal at Little Rock in 1861

Federal and state authority came into conflict once before in Arkansas in 1861. The then governor "interposed" his authority between the

federals in the Arsenal in what is now MacArthur Park and the residents of Little Rock and he seized the Arsenal.

MARGARET SMITH ROSS Of the Gazette Staff

During a tense period on the eve of the Civil War, the United States Arsenal at Little Rock was seized by order of Henry Massie Rector, governor of Arkansas.

Little Rock Enrollment Shows Climb

Second and third-day enrollment figures for Little Rock public schools showed a steady increase over the initial enrollment Tuesday.

Jim Johnson Urges Faubus To Solicit Funds If Need Be

Jim Johnson, outspoken segregationist whom Governor Faubus defeated in last year's gubernatorial election, suggested yesterday that the governor appeal for money through public subscription "should the state funds now at your disposal fall to a level which would place your position in jeopardy."

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Faubus Cites Support, Hits Mann's Stand

Governor Faubus last night issued through an aide a statement in which he declared he was receiving almost unanimous support from every section of the state.

The statement ignored the petition of the School Board and the remarks of President Eisenhower but slapped at Mayor Mann.

Referring to the mayor's statement that the governor's reports of threats were "a hoax," Mr. Faubus said.

"As to Mayor Woodrow Mann's statement in reference to my action to preserve the peace. I am just disappointed with him as were the people of Little Rock when they repudiated him in a recent election by a vote of more than 3 to 1.

'True to Form'

"He is running true to form by popping off without knowing the facts."

At the general election in November 1956, Little Rock voters approved a change from the mayor-council to the city manager form of government despite opposition from Mann, who will be out of a city job when the switch is made.

Response Cited

The governor's statement said:

"I know that it will be heartening to you, as it has been to me, to know that we have the support of millions of citizens in others. The -- as yet -- uncouned thousands of letters, telephone calls and telegrams have come from three-fourths of the states of the union.

"It is impossible for my staff to reply to any of these messages now. I am sure that you know my gratitude needs no individual expression at this moment."

Carpenter Gives Statement

Claude B. Carpenter Jr., once an administrative assistant to the governor and now attorney for the Arkansas Public Service Commission, handed the statement to reporters.

He declined to say whether Governor Faubus was still at the Governor's Mansion, which has been guarded by National Guardsmen since Wednesday afternoon.

Carpenter said that the governor would not be at his office today and that reporters would be notified if Mr. Faubus decided to see them.

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MARGARET SMITH ROSS OF THE GAZETTE STAFF

During a tense period on the eve of the Civil War, the United States Arsenal at Little Rock was seized by order of Henry Massie Rector, governor of Arkansas.

Although the demand for the surrender of the Arsenal was made in the name of the State of Arkansas, Rector actually took possession in the name of the United States government -- a fine but important point which evidently was overlooked at the time by most of the excited people of Little Rock.

One of the Arsenal buildings is still standing. It houses the Museum of Natural History and Antiquities, in MacArthur Park, and is familiarly known as the birthplace of General Douglas MacArthur.

At the time of the seizure of the Arsenal February 8, 1861, Arkansas was still part of the Federal Union. South Carolina, Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Louisiana and Texas had already seceded and the Confederate States of America was organizing its provisional government. The convention to decide the course Arkansas would take in the crisis had been called on January 15, but did not assemble for the first of its two sessions until March 4.

Little Rock at that time was a city of about 3,000. The United States Arsenal for many years had been used only as a depot for arms and munitions, staffed by a skeleton force. But in November, 1860, the Second United States Artillery had been transferred to Little Rock from Fort Leavenworth, Kan., with Capt. James Totten in command. This unit consisted of some 60 to 75 soldiers.

Rumors of Reinforcements

Late in January, a rumor was widely circulated that Totten's command would be reinforced by troops from Fort Gibson.

On January 28, Governor Rector notified Totten that the Arsenal would be "permitted to remain in the possession of the Federal officers until the State, by authority of the people, shall have determined to sever their connection with the General Government," unless reinforcements came or munitions were destroyed or removed.

Totten replied that he knew of no orders from the Federal government on reinforcements or munitions at the Arsenal, and reminded the governor that his own orders could come from no other source than the United States government.

During the next few days Totten dispatched by mail and by telegraph several desperate requests for instructions to the adjutant general in Washington, but no orders ever came and he was ultimately

forced to exercise his own judgment.

Cannons at Wharf

Rumors that the steamboat S. H. Tucker was on the way to Little Rock with United States soldiers prompted some of the citizens to place three cannons with guards at the wharf to turn the steamer back. Late that same evening (February 3) the Tucker had not arrived so the cannons were fired and removed. Rector later said that they had been placed there on his order.

The telegraph line between Little Rock and Memphis had been recently completed, and the first message that went over it included mention of the rumored reinforcements. Although it was intended as a news item, some of the people of Arkansas construed it as an order from Governor Rector for volunteers to come to Little Rock to help repel the invasion and to help seize the Arsenal.

State Soldiers Arrive

On February 5 and 6 military companies from various parts of the state arrived at Little Rock. Their strength was estimated at 800 to 1,000, and it was said that an increase to 5,000 was expected if conditions warranted it. Governor Rector steadfastly denied having issued any order of any kind in connection with these troops.

At a called meeting of the City Council on the afternoon of February 6, two resolutions were adopted. The first stated that if the Arsenal was to be seized it was the governor's duty to demand its surrender, and called on Rector to stop unauthorized attempts. The second expressed the hope that there would be no "hostile collision" between State and Federal forces.

A mass meeting of the citizens of Little Rock took place on the same day with Richard H. Johnson as chairman and John D. Kimball as secretary. A resolution was passed which recognized that the volunteer troops had come to Little Rock firmly believing that they were carrying out the governor's orders and which called on Rector to assume responsibility for the situation. It urged the governor to call for the surrender of the Arsenal in the name of the State of Arkansas.

Thus prodded, Governor Rector sent a formal demand for surrender to Captain Totten. The communication was delivered by T. D. Merrick, commanding general of the First Division of Arkansas Militia, accompanied by his staff.

Dated February 6, 1861, the communication read in part, "This movement is prompted by the feeling that pervades the citizens of this State that in the present emergency the arms and munitions of war in the Arsenal should be under the control of the State authorities, in order to their security. This movement, although not authorized by me, has assumed such an aspect that it becomes my duty, as the executive of this State, to interpose my official authority to prevent a collision between the people of the State and the Federal troops under your command. I therefore demand in the name of the State the delivery of the possession of the Arsenal and munitions of war under your charge to the State authorities, to be held subject to the action of the convention to be held on the 4th of March next."

Before Totten would agree to surrender the Arsenal, he obtained from the governor three promises in writing: That Rector would take possession in the name of the United States government and would hold possession in that light until legally absolved from the responsibility; that his command would be guaranteed safe passage in any direction, taking with them all personal and public property except munitions of war; and that they be guaranteed the right to march away honorably as

soldiers who left a post for want of instructions from their superiors, rather than as surrendering soldiers.

When news of the impending Arsenal seizure reached Washington, the congressional delegation and other prominent Arkansans at Washington sent telegrams to Governor Rector and several influential citizens of Little Rock, imploring them to prevent an attack on the Arsenal if Totten should resist, and pointing out that the other Southern states which had captured forts were in the act of seceding, a situation which at that time did not exist in Arkansas.

These telegrams were dated February 7 and 8. Six of them were published later in the Official Records of the War of the Rebellion, and four of them contain the words, "for God's sake."

That they arrived after the seizure of the Arsenal was an accomplished fact is evidenced by Edmund Burgevin's telegraphic reply to C. B. Johnson, dated February 8, saying, "Spoke too late, like Irishman who swallowed egg. Arsenal in hands of governor." Burgevin was attorney general of Arkansas.

On the morning of February 8, Rector and Totten signed a formal agreement delivering the Arsenal to the State authorities with the governor's three promises of the preceding day as a part of the agreement. That afternoon all the militia assembled with Rector at its head and marched to the Arsenal. The troops had been removed but Totten was there to listen to Rector's speech and to give him possession of the Arsenal.

Opposition to Governor

In explaining his actions to the adjutant general at Washington Totten said that among the majority of the most respectable people of Little Rock, there was but one sentiment, "and that was in opposition to the course of the governor and those who counseled and aided him in the deed done."

On leaving the Arsenal, the Second Artillery went into camp at Fletcher's Landing on the banks of the Arkansas River near Little Rock, where they waited for transportation out of the state.

Sword for Captain

While they were waiting, 106 ladies, members of Little Rock's leading families, presented a handsome sword to Capt. Totten in appreciation of his conduct, which they believed had saved their city from destruction and their country from Civil War. It was inscribed on one side, "To Capt. James Totten, from the ladies of Little Rock," and on the other side, "When woman suffers, chivalry forbears; the soldier fears all danger but his own."

In the presentation speech Totten was told, "Accept this tribute of our respect and gratitude, wear it in defense of your country, but sooner let it rust in its scabbard than draw it in the cause of injustice or oppression."

He answered by promising: "It shall be borne in the defense of my country always, when right, and never in any land or against any people on the side of wrong injustice, oppression or their constitutional rights."

Deeded to Confederacy

Totten's command left Little Rock February 12, 1861, and proceeded to St. Louis. Arkansas seceded from the United States May 6, and on May 21, 1861, the Arkansas delegates to the Confederate Provisional Congress deeded the Arsenals at Little Rock and at Fort Smith (which had been seized late in April) to the Confederate States of

America.

A few months later Mary Weaver wrote to her son, Omer Weaver, bitterly commenting that, "Totten is in Missouri wielding the sword we gave him against us!"

Totten commanded a Federal artillery unit at the Battle of Oak Hills, or Wilson's Creek, in Missouri, in August 1861, the first battle in which Arkansas men participated. Ironically, Omer Weaver became the first Little Rock man to be killed in the Civil War, at that battle. On the other hand, the Confederate soldiers from Little Rock were using some of the guns left behind by Totten, and many of them had received their military training from him.

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Little Rock Enrollment Shows Climb

Second and third-day enrollment figures for Little Rock public schools showed a steady increase over the initial enrollment Tuesday.

Wednesday enrollment increased 465 to 19,269 and 386 students more were added to the rolls yesterday, making the total 19,655. Schools Superintendent Virgil T. Blossom had predicted that the enrollment would be 19,172.

As of yesterday, 6,305 white and 1,718 Negro students were entered in secondary schools, 8,192 white and 3,235 Negroes in elementary schools, and 205 white and Negro students in special education classes.

This compared with an opening day enrollment of 5,986 white and 1,551 Negro students in secondary schools, 7,278 white and 3,035 Negro students in elementary schools and 165 in special education.

At Little Rock Central High School, first day enrollment was 1,878, second day, 1,953 and third day 1,977. Nine Negroes had registered to become the first of their race to attend Central High under the School Board plan of gradual integration, but National Guardsmen stationed at the School Monday by Governor Faubus prevented them from enrolling Wednesday.

The new Hall High School at H and McKinley Streets had a first day enrollment of 592, but the size of the School's first student body increased to 616 the second day and to 684 yesterday.

At the Horace Mann High School, the first day enrollment was 565, the second day 622 and the third day 645. All the Mann students are Negroes.

Parochial school enrollment figures for Pulaski County still were not available yesterday, nor were second and third-day figures for the schools of the Pulaski County Special School District. North Little Rock public schools will open Monday.

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Return to Central High, Friday, September 6, 1957

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Jim Johnson Urges Faubus To Solicit Funds If Need Be

Jim Johnson, outspoken segregationist whom Governor Faubus defeated in last year's gubernatorial election, suggested yesterday that the governor appeal for money through public subscription "should the state funds now at your disposal fall to a level which would place your position in jeopardy."

Johnson, a resident of Crossett, reminded Mr. Faubus that the state Sovereignty Commission had authority to solicit and collect funds and to use them to maintain the sovereignty of the state.

He said the people of the state and the nation would respond to a plea for funds.

Here is the text of Johnson's telegram to the governor.

"Should the state funds now at your disposal fall to a level which would place your position in jeopardy, I suggest you make an appeal for funds through public subscription. The people of Arkansas and the nation will respond.

"The governor of a sovereign state is the only man who can with success, place the power of the state in juxtaposition to the power of the federal government when the exercise or the attempt to exercise that federal power is an overt act which is dangerous, deliberate and palpable.

"The act which set up the Sovereignty Commission gave the Commission permission to solicit and collect funds and to use those funds to preserve the sovereignty of the state. The Commission should be the recipient and custodian of such funds. In all good faith, I offer my time, my energies and experience to bolster your correct position in this question. Arkansas has been singled out as the soft underbelly of the South. You have only to ask and the people will respond to any call to duty in this time of crisis.

"I have condemned your reluctance in the past: I now applaud your present course of action with equal vigor."

(Signed) "Jim Johnson"

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Saturday, September 7, 1957

Selected stories from the inside pages of the Arkansas Democrat and Arkansas Gazette from this day 40 years ago are listed below the newspaper images.



(Image size: 281 K)



(Image size: 267 K)

Stories from this day, 40 years ago:

Negro Leaders Agree Guard Use Is Mistake

Negro leaders of Little Rock are unanimous in their belief that the use of National Guardsmen to maintain segregation at Little Rock Central High School is a grievous mistake.

Methodist Pastors Rap Guard Call

Governor Faubus' action in posting armed troops around Central High was today "strongly protested" by a group of 27 Methodist ministers from over the state.

Integration Dispute Draws Mixed Editorial Comment

Governor Faubus' action in calling out the National Guard to prevent racial integration at Little Rock Central High School has brought mixed editorial reactions from Arkansas newspapers. Many of the editorials are appearing on front pages.

All Quiet At CHS, Mansion

Only a token force of National Guardsmen was on duty at Central High School today. There were no spectators. All streets were open to traffic.

Faubus Action is 'Deplored' By 10 Pastors - *Gazette State News Service*

Ten Presbyterian ministers meeting yesterday went on record as "deploring" Governor Faubus' action in calling the National Guard to prevent racial integration at Little Rock Central High School.

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Negro Leaders Agree Guard Use Is Mistake

Negro leaders of Little Rock are unanimous in their belief that the use of National Guardsmen to maintain segregation at Little Rock Central High School is a grievous mistake.

A sampling of Negro leaders yesterday disclosed these sentiments:

Attorney Christopher C. Mercer Jr., associate director of the Arkansas Council on Human Relations -- "I think the governor has done the greatest disservice that the state has ever been unfortunate enough to have since its beginning. He has been trying to set an atmosphere for violence by permitting crowds to mill around [Central High School] * * * and the thing that he has given as the reason for his actions may be possible now, to the extent that violence can be provoked by continuous and persuasive suggestion."

I. S. McClinton, president of the Arkansas Democratic (Negro) Voters Association -- "It is one of the most unfortunate things ever to happen to our city or our state. It is obvious that the fault lies with the governor. There was no threat of violence before the trumped-up violence scheme came forth from the governor. Had he really wanted to keep the peace, he could under state laws have arrested the crowd that gathered at the school * * * Integration would have proceeded without any trouble."

Rev. W. Harry Bass, pastor of McCabe Methodist Church -- "I didn't see the necessity of it in the beginning unless the Guard had been called in to preserve the peace after violence had occurred, I'd like to commend Mayor Mann for his forthright position, as well as other individuals. The conduct of the Negro community has been exemplary."

Rev. Paul Crenshaw, Pulaski NAACP president and assistant pastor of Mount Pleasant Baptist Church -- "It is one of the most disgraceful things that has ever happened. I don't think the governor is using any discretion whatever and none of our people could think otherwise. We're paying taxes like everybody else to support the National Guard and they are used against us * * *."

Rev. J. F. Henderson, pastor of Allison Presbyterian Church -- "He [the governor] has brought great shame on the state of Arkansas. The majority of our citizens have really not threatened any violence during this crisis, which I think should be settled right away, although not at the expense of continued segregation. I want to congratulate the Gentiles, Negroes and Jews for their poise during this crisis."

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Methodist Pastors Rap Guard Call

Governor Faubus' action in posting armed troops around Central High was today "strongly protested" by a group of 27 Methodist ministers from over the state.

The ministers signed a statement circulated at their Pastor's School in Conway. They made it clear that they were expressing their individual feelings, and not a stand taken by the school.

The petition, which "deplored" the governor's action on seven grounds, was circulated by Henry A. Rickey, Conway. The grounds:

1. The over-riding of the authority of the local school administration.
2. The disregard of national law.
3. The abuse of the autonomy of the local school districts.
4. The policing of the great majority of the law-abiding youth of the city.
5. The exciting of racial tensions.
6. The reflection cast upon the local law enforcement officers.
7. The destruction of the respect of the citizens of the state, young and old, for proper constitutional authority.

"We ... strongly protest the action of Gov. Orval E. Faubus in calling out the armed forces of the state to surround Central High School ... thereby, in effect, preventing integration in compliance with the Supreme Court's decision" the petition said.

"We appeal to every citizen in the state to unite with us, in earnest prayer to God that justice will be brought about, and a right example set for every child in Arkansas," it added.

This is the third group of ministers which has taken a stand on the matter since the troops were called out Monday night. A group of 16 ministers condemned the governor's action earlier in the week. A short time later a similar number expressed approval of Faubus' stand.

Other signers of the petition were E. B. Williams, North Little Rock; E. J. Holifield, Jonesboro; Charles McDonald, Ozark; John B. Hefley, Crossett; Earl B. Carter, Nettleton; C. W. Good, Bauxite; Jim Beal, Imboden; George G. Meyer, Russellville; Worth W. Gibson, North Little Rock; John A. Bayliss, Newport; Bob Edwards, North Little Rock.

H. W. Jinske, Salem; Ben F. Jordan, Jonesboro; H. G. Robinson, Paragould; A. N. Storey, Conway; Tom Nation, Atkins; Mrs. Monroe Scott, Magazine; Ethan W. Dodgen, Ft. Smith; Harold O. Eggensperger, Blytheville; Paul M. Bumpers, Batesville; J. Albert Gatlin, Paragould; J. D. Lawrence, Jonesboro; Earl Hughes, Ft. Smith; Robert Paul Sessions, Booneville, and Joseph E. Taylor, North Little Rock, and Ira A. Brumley, Conway.

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Integration Dispute Draws Mixed Editorial Comment

Governor Faubus' action in calling out the National Guard to prevent racial integration at Little Rock Central High School has brought mixed editorial reactions from Arkansas newspapers. Many of the editorials are appearing on front pages.

Here are excerpts from some of them:

Boone County Headlight:

In ordering National Guardsmen to preserve "peace and order" in the integration row * * * Governor Faubus is apparently seeking to resolve a question as yet untested in court since the Civil War * * * "Is a sitting governor, as the sovereign head of his state, beyond the reach of the federal courts?" The question may soon be resolved. * * * It will be interesting to see the outcome.

During the row, the Arkansas Gazette, openly editorializing in its news columns for integration, called Governor Faubus' course "extreme action." On the other hand, the governor's office reported receiving more than 500 telegrams--98 per cent in favor of his action. The Gazette also sought to classify Arkansas as being in the "Upper South" as opposed to the "Deep South." Along the Mason-Dixon line here in North Arkansas I guess we're "Southern Northerners."

The governor's action before violence occurred is to be commended.

Van Buren Press-Argus

We are sure that the 24 colored youngsters * * * realized Tuesday that they are component parts of history--the first Negroes ever to enroll in a white school in Van Buren. * * * Everything was OK due to parents and others keeping their common sense and keeping it quietly. Everett Kelley [superintendent of Van Buren Public Schools] permitted us to quote him only on one item: "This has been the best opening day at High School since I have been here." It was the only opening day that no teacher had to send a child to the principal for infraction of the rules. * * *

The truth is: People in Van Buren look on the segregation issue quite a lot different than do the people of Little Rock, because the situation is different--and being different makes a different attitude. But who is so wise as to deny that, should war break out at Little Rock, it also would break out in Van Buren. * * *

You never please everybody: but we might say that, right now, we are on Governor Faubus's side in this dispute, and we beg leave to challenge our esteemed contemporary, the Arkansas Gazette, and its editor, who lambasted the governor for what it termed "The Crisis Mr. Faubus Made." The Gazette seems to infer that Mr. Faubus either cooked up a rebellion or used one as an argument to defy the federal court ruling for integration. As the battle progresses over which side shall prevail, may we recall that it was the self-same Gazette that reported on a citizens meeting in which a man asked if every man didn't have a shotgun to stop integration and also that a preacher at Benton had organized a cavalcade to go to the relief of Little Rock. Are those two items indicative of the need for preventive military intervention?

Berryville Star-Progress:

In defiance of the national government, the governor stood ready to make another Clinton, Tenn., out of the Arkansas capital in a move

resisting the admittance of Americans to the schools of their home land and failing to give citizens their rights for which America so basically stands. The feeling of the South are strong on this issue, but they should not be so strong, and the bitterness of the past so secretly nurtured as to deny citizens the rights of freedom as we know it today, won by the principles which developed a great nation from the sparks of freedom set by our ancestors.

Arkansas's governor used poor judgment when he moved in his troops in what he said via television, radio and the press [was] to put down disorder. No violence had occurred, but the presence of force by arms in itself promotes and encourages violence. * * *

Human emotions are hard to control by law. But little good can come using armed guards to force people from trying to accept what is offered them by their own government. Our section has no colored population, but if it had, we, as law abiding citizens and descendants of a religious people, would fail miserably as such if we tried to prevent young people from attending our educational institutions because of the color of their skin. * * * Their forefathers didn't ask to come here as our slaves. * * * They vote for our politicians and they are members of our Army and Navy and fight for our freedoms, then, even though Southern ideals wince at the thought of having them attending our schools, we shouldn't deny them the same education opportunities offered to our own white students.

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All Quiet At CHS, Mansion

Only a token force of National Guardsmen was on duty at Central High School today. There were no spectators. All streets were open to traffic.

About a dozen National Guard vehicles were lined up in the school parking lot. Two State Troopers kept a lonely vigil in a car in front of the school.

Guardsmen still patrolled the governor's mansion today where Faubus has apparently been closeted since Wednesday.

Asked how long he expected to patrol the mansion, a Guardsman said "for the duration and six hours."

About 15 Guardsmen were at the high school today, some standing in doorways to keep out of the rain. But fresh reinforcements have been notified to be at the school Monday when classes resume.

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Faubus Action is 'Deplored' By 10 Pastors

GAZETTE STATE NEWS SERVICE

Ten Presbyterian ministers meeting yesterday went on record as "deploring" Governor Faubus' action in calling the National Guard to prevent racial integration at Little Rock Central High School.

The ministers sent a telegram to Mr. Faubus telling him they "deplore your recent shameful conduct, which undermines the integrity of the constitutional process and creates confusion and strife."

Rev. Robert J. Moser, moderator of the North Arkansas Presbyterian Church and a signer of the telegram, wrote Mr. Faubus that the Guard call was viewed by the Presbyterians "with alarm and dismay."

Mr. Moser, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church at Rogers, told the governor that the Presbytery favored orderly compliance with the Supreme Court desegregation order and felt that the courts could not be disregarded "without irreparable harm to our concept of government."

"In calling out the National Guard," Mr. Moser wrote, "to interfere with a ruling of a federal court, you have shown evidences of aligning yourself with forces, which would if they could, make a mockery out of judicial procedure. As Christians and citizens, we view these developments with alarm and dismay."

"It is my prayer --- that you will reconsider your actions and allow the ruling of the Court and the plan of the School Board to be carried through."

Signing the telegram, which they emphasized represented their personal feelings, were Mr. Moser, Rev. Wendell E. Hines of Huntsville, Rev. Jim Thames of Vaughan, Rev. G. William Barnum of Eureka Springs, Rev. Bartley R. Schwegler of Berryville, Rev. Robert M. Marsh of Pea Ridge, Rev. Dean H. Lewis of Springdale and Rev. Benjamin F. Smith, Rev. William R. Knox and Rev. Edward Thwaites of the First Presbyterian Church of Fayetteville.

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Sunday, September 8, 1957

Selected stories from the inside pages of the *Arkansas Democrat* and *Arkansas Gazette* from this day 40 years ago are listed below the newspaper images.



(Image size: 300 K)



(Image size: 245 K)

Stories from this day, 40 years ago:

Constituents Urged to Re-examine View on Integration Row - Margaret Frick

Congressman Brooks Hays, upon his return here from Congress, yesterday called for constituents to re-examine their positions, statements and attitudes in Little Rock integration furor.

'Hatchet Man' Accusation Gets Indignant Denial by Judge Davies - Bob Considine (INS Writer.)

Federal Judge Ronald Norwood Davies with cold indignation denied yesterday the scattered local accusation that he was "brought in" to enforce the U.S. Supreme Court's school integration verdict in respect to Little Rock Central High.

Heard of 'The Plan?' Here's What It Is -- - By BOBBIE FORSTER
(Democrat Staff Writer.)

Literally millions of words have been written since this past Tuesday about "the plan." Reference of those two quoted words is always to the "Plan of School Integration -- Little Rock School District" adopted by the Board of Education May 24, 1955, and later approved by Federal District Judge John E. Miller and the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals.

Federal, State Line Undecided / Integration Crisis Recalls Ike's Stand in
Texas Ranger Call

Yet to be resolved in the Little Rock school situation is the question many feel to be the fundamental issue: the exact dividing line between state and federal authority.

Backstage at the Capitol / Faubus Keeping Promise On Issue of
Integration - GEORGE DOUTHIT. (Democrat Staff Writer.)

This Little Rock Central High School integration situation came to a climax last week, but it really had its inception in last summer's primary elections.

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Constituents Urged to Re-examine View on Integration Row

MARGARET FRICK

Congressman Brooks Hays, upon his return here from Congress, yesterday called for constituents to re-examine their positions, statements and attitudes in Little Rock integration furor.

The 5th District representative said the first problem seemed not to be the legal issues, but one of tension. He suggested that Little Rock people have the first problem of "re-establishing the spirit of calmness in which solutions can be sought."

"What we all see with the lessening of the tension," he continues, "is the orderly preservation of law, the responsibility of the city."

Basis Cited.

Asked what possible basis he thought Governor Faubus and President Eisenhower could find accord, the congressman replied:

"If the governor were convinced that the people of Little Rock, who are entitled under our constitution to determine school problems, are sufficiently united in support of the school board, and if this support, fortified by federal authorities, assured the governor that his fear of violence no longer need be entertained, then there is a basis for an accord. And the governor's determination to preserve law and order is not abandoned, even though the governor might not like the particular law which was ordered."

He assumed that "everyone would agree that the present situation is only temporary" and pointed out that it now "poses a question for all thoughtful people in the state, and particularly in Little Rock -- which is most affected -- so that an effort can be made that will have support of responsible leaders at all levels to restore the functions of our educational system for both white and colored students."

Distortion Seen.

As a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, Hays is made aware of the influences of the Little Rock news in this country upon the international situation.

"News of this kind is published abroad as to give people in other countries a distorted view of our situation and that, in the struggle to make freedom and other ideals of Western life more secure around the globe, presents unnecessary hazards," he declared.

"I'm not suggesting that we adjust differences between state and federal situations on the basis of matching the Communists strategically," he hastened to add, stating that he mentioned this phase in hopes that it might "inspire as quickly as possible a peaceful and just solution."

Opining that the solution will not be one in which either side has dominant and all-power advantage, Hays said "it seems to me that there still is basis for strong hope that an accord may be found and in which no essential principles are surrendered on either side."

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'Hatchet Man' Accusation Gets Indignant Denial by Judge Davies

BOB CONSIDINE
(INS WRITER.)

Federal Judge Ronald Norwood Davies with cold indignation denied yesterday the scattered local accusation that he was "brought in" to enforce the U.S. Supreme Court's school integration verdict in respect to Little Rock Central High.

The diminutive jurist, whose home court is in Fargo, N.D., bounced out of his chamber chair, stalked across the room to a bookcase that towered many feet over him, and pulled out a volume to prove his point.

"The United States is divided into 11 circuits, 10 of which are numbered and the District of Columbia is the 11th," he told this reporter. "I am simply one of the judges of the circuit which includes, as you see here, (he jabbed a finger at a chart) North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri and Arkansas.

"Recently I have sat in Iowa. The chief judge, Archibald K. Gardner, resides in Huron, S.D., and is now sitting in St. Louis."

Court attendants revealed to reporters that because of a vacancy on the federal bench in Little Rock a huge backlog had piled up and Judge Davies' assignment to clean up the calendar was "completely routine."

Judge Davies returned to his desk, picked up a thick file and thumped through it. He said the Central High School case was simply one of many involving "the labor standards act; equal salaries for teachers, personal injuries, land condemnation, corporate litigation, suits against the Bureau of Internal Revenue for income tax refunds, and the like."

Judge Davies, while awaiting the hour in which he was to appear on his bench and reaffirm his integration order, recalled a period in his life when it was his ambition to become a newspaper reporter. He spoke softly of his father's weekly newspaper.

"Two of my uncles had newspapers, also," he said. "I don't quite know how I escaped the smell of printer's ink, but I told my father and my uncles almost from the start that I wanted to be a lawyer."

Judge Davies worked his way through the University of North Dakota selling subscriptions to the family newspaper and recalled premiums he offered to entice such readership.

He yearned for a sports career, but coaches at the university looked with only amusement on the five-foot, one-inch applicant. But he was determined to make them swallow their indifference. Young Davies slugged his way through the thick snows of North Dakota winters to build up his legs and stamina and eventually had the satisfaction of winning his varsity letter as a 10-second man in track.

Opens Practice

Davies went to Grand Forks and hung out his shingle. "I was in general practice," he said today. "Criminal, civil, probate -- anything any misguided client would retain a young lawyer for. It was tough going. So in 1932, I ran for municipal judge and was elected. You see, I didn't like to get out of the habit of eating."

Judge Davies was married Oct. 10, 1933. He and his wife have three sons and two daughters. He laughed when he remembered that he had borrowed \$100 for his honeymoon bankroll -- "Mrs. Davies didn't know until five years later that I had borrowed the money and then all she said was 'why I thought you were a rich man.'"

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Heard of 'The Plan?' Here's What It Is --

BY BOBBIE FORSTER
(DEMOCRAT STAFF WRITER.)

Literally millions of words have been written since this past Tuesday about "the plan." Reference of those two quoted words is always to the "Plan of School Integration -- Little Rock School District" adopted by the Board of Education May 24, 1955, and later approved by Federal District Judge John E. Miller and the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals.

As incorporated in Judge Miller's approval decree on file in the U.S. Federal Building, Little Rock, the plan reads as follows:

Little Rock Board of Education, Plan of School Integration, Little Rock School District.

The Supreme Court decision of May 17, 1954, which declared segregated schools unconstitutional has placed before us the most difficult educational problem of our time. A careful analysis of the following has been made.

1. Financial ability of Little Rock School District to integrate its schools.
2. Adequacy of present school facilities plus those to be added from \$4 million bond issue of March 1953, plus the amount of money to be realized from the sale of the "Old Peabody School Site" on W. Capitol Ave.
3. Proper time and method for the integration of the schools of Little Rock School District in a manner consistent with the law as finally interpreted by the Supreme Court and acceptable to both races.

Our review of the three questions raised reveal the following facts and opinions.

1. Integration of its schools by Little Rock School District will probably place no serious additional financial burden on the school district.
2. The facilities of Little Rock School District will be inadequate at the junior and senior high school levels until such time as the three senior high schools and six junior high schools are ready for occupancy.
3. It is our opinion that the proper time for and method of integration is as follows:

A. TIME OF INTEGRATION.

Integration of schools in Little Rock School District cannot be accomplished until completion of the needed school facilities (three senior high schools and six junior high schools) and specific decrees have been formulated by the U.S. Supreme Court in the pending cases.

B. METHOD OF INTEGRATION. The method of changing from segregated to integrated schools should not be attempted simultaneously in grades one to 12. Due to the complexity of this problem, an orderly systematically planned process should be followed. In the Little Rock School District our research and study causes us to believe that the following plan charts the best course for all concerned.

1. In our opinion, integration should begin at the senior high school level (Grades 10-12). (First phase of program.)
2. Following successful integration at the senior high school level,

it should then be started in the junior high schools (Grades 7 to 9).
(Second phase of program.)

3. After successful integration in junior and senior high schools, it should be started in elementary schools (Grades 1-6).

(Present indications are that the school year 1957-58 may be the first phase of this program).

The Board of Education's reasons for the adoption of this plan on integration are as follows:

1. Since our school system has been segregated from its beginning until the present time, the time required in the progress as outlined should not be construed as necessary delay, but that which is justly needed with respect to the size and complexity of the job at hand.

2. It is ill advised to begin this process with inadequate facilities.

3. It is unwise to begin integration until the Supreme Court gives direction through its interpretation of the specific cases before it.

4. By starting integration at the senior high school level the process will begin where fewer teachers and students are involved.

5. In the adoption of a plan of integration (1) senior high school (2) junior high school (3) elementary schools of sequential order, we provide the opportunity to benefit from our own experience as we move through each phase of this plan, thus avoiding as many mistakes as possible.

6. The establishment of attendance areas at the elementary level (Grade 1-6) is most difficult due to the large number of both students and buildings involved. Because of this fact it should be the last step in the process.

We sincerely solicit your understanding and co-operation in the implementation of this plan, in order that the interests of all children may be better served."

"The plan" carries no timetable except for the starting date of 1957-58. Judge Miller's own interpretation of the timetable in his opinion calls for "two or three" years for the high school grades of 10-12, another two or three years for the junior high grades of 7-9 and the conclusion that "In other words, complete integration would be effected not later than 1963."

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Federal, State Line Undecided

Integration Crisis Recalls Ike's Stand in Texas Ranger Call

Yet to be resolved in the Little Rock school situation is the question many feel to be the fundamental issue: the exact dividing line between state and federal authority.

Governor Faubus called the Arkansas National Guard to duty at Central High School as the state militia with the expressed purpose of "public peace and preventing violence." He has interpreted his order to the guardsmen to turn Negro students away to be in the best public interest.

The Guard, according to the latest available information, will still be there Monday morning and there is no known order from Governor Faubus counter to his previous order to keep formerly all white schools "off limits" to Negroes and all Negro schools "off limits" to whites.

Constitutional authorities have declared that the governor's "sincerity" and "motive" are the key as to whether he is within his constitutional rights. They have said that if he acted in good faith to prevent violence he is on sound constitutional ground.

Almost a year ago to the day -- Sept. 5, 1956 -- President Eisenhower was quoted at one of his press conferences, attended by 191 reporters, on "several instances of violence and near-violence as the segregation issue as the fall school term begins."

From page five of the press conference transcript came these words:

"The President: Well, in each case I think the local governments have moved promptly to stop the violence. And let us remember this: under the law the federal government cannot, on the ordinary normal case of keeping order and preventing rioting cannot move into a state until the state is not able to handle the matter."

"Now, in the Texas case there the attorney for the students did report this violence and asked help, which apparently was the result of unreadiness to obey a federal court order. But before anyone could move the Texas authorities had moved in and order was restored, so the question became unimportant.

"Sarah McLendon, El Paso Times, reminded the president that:

"In doing so, Governor Allen Shivers sent Rangers to defy the court order, reassign out the Negro pupils and said in a public statement which was carried in the newspapers: 'I'd defy the federal government.' He said, 'Tell the federal courts if they want to come after anyone, to come after me and cite me in this matter.' I wonder if you have discussed this with anyone in the Department of Justice?"

"The President: I have not discussed it because you are quoting both an order that I have not read and a statement that I have not seen. Now, I have -- we have actually sent for the district court order to know what it says. I don't know what it says. And, remember, that the Supreme Court placed in the hands of the district judge the primary responsibility for insuring that progress in every sector was made. Now, just exactly what Governor Shivers said. I don't know. This is the first I have heard of it."

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Backstage at the Capitol

Faubus Keeping Promise On Issue of Integration

GEORGE DOUTHIT.
(DEMOCRAT STAFF WRITER.)

This Little Rock Central High School integration situation came to a climax last week, but it really had its inception in last summer's primary elections when Governor Faubus said:

"No school district will be forced to integrate against its will as long as I am governor."

Now, when a politician makes a flat promise like that, he had better do everything he can to keep it -- unless he is planning retirement. And no one has seen any evidence that Mr. Faubus plans to retire from politics.

Also, no one expected that the governor, in trying to keep that promise, would go as far as he went last week in calling out the Arkansas National Guard, forcibly stopping integration in face of the federal court and causing President Eisenhower to be late to a game of golf.

But let's go back to the governor and his race for a second term. He had expressed the hope that segregation in Arkansas would not become an issue in the elections because it was a South-wide problem and not just an issue in this state.

Then along came former state Sen. Jim Johnson, Crossett, running for governor on a segregationist platform. Mr. Faubus sized up the situation, saw the following Mr. Johnson was getting and learned he had to make a statement on segregation.

The governor did not want to come out all the way and say he would block integration in Arkansas because this state already was being integrated and Negroes already were in a number of schools, including the University of Arkansas.

Not Against Will.

So, he made the promise: No integrating against your will. This satisfied eastern Arkansas segregationists, of whom there are thousands, and they gave the governor voting support. Consequently, he won over Mr. Johnson by a big majority.

Eastern Arkansas segregationists didn't let it go at that. They evolved a set of constitutional amendments, including interposition, and put them on the November general election ballot.

The people, given their first chance to express themselves on the integration issue, voted for every one of them, including one placed on the ballot by Mr. Johnson.

Governor Faubus thought that was enough, but he was wrong. When the legislature convened, along came the eastern Arkansas group again, this time with four segregation laws aimed at maintaining separate schools for Negroes and whites in Arkansas.

There was quite a battle in the legislature and a stormy hearing one night in the House chamber in which ministers of all denominations, taking the side of integration, were heckled unmercifully. But the laws went through with the governor's backing.

Long Wait.

The most powerful of the four pieces of legislation was that creating the Sovereignty Commission. The legislature ended March 14. Yet the governor completed naming the commission only three weeks ago, and the commission held its first meeting only Friday, August 30. That shows how anxious the governor was to get into using this sovereignty stick.

Now let's connect the governor with the Little Rock situation. Supt. Virgil Blossom presented a "slow segregation" problem that was approved by the federal courts. However, no matter how "slow" the program, sooner or later the day must be faced when Negro children, walked into Central High School.

That day was to have been the opening of school last week. All during the "delay" period, Mr. Blossom received lots of applause for his program, simply because he had managed a year's delay. Therefore, we thought the people of Little Rock were ready to "accept the inevitable."

Why Fight?

Even before the summer we got a hint that some of the people were not so acceptable. A friend asked us what we thought of Central High integrating this fall. We gave the usual "inevitable so why fight it?" reply.

This friend told us there was trouble brewing, but that was all he would say. This was before school was out last May. Parents already were discussing what the situation would be this fall.

We didn't know that. In fact we were surprised when the school mothers held their big meeting in such strength just a week before the opening of school last week. That meeting revealed what the friend had been talking about. The mothers definitely had not "accepted the inevitable."

A delegation reminded the governor of his promise: No school district will be forced to integrate against its will as long as he was governor.

Move needed.

Mr. Faubus felt he had to make a move. We don't know how much evidence, if any, he had that there would be violence. But we do know that a crowd was going to gather at the high school. We also know how quickly a heckling mob can become a violent mob, when one member makes one wrong move.

We talked by phone to Mr. Faubus on Saturday morning before school opened. He asked: "What would you do?" We advised the presence of state troopers to prevent any violence, assuming, of course, that the federal court order of integration was going to be carried out.

It never entered our mind that the governor would go so far as to block integration. It was our idea to take every precaution against somebody getting hurt when the integration took place.

Then we learned a new angle to the situation. The governor had asked the U.S. Justice Department in Washington to send an agent to explain what could be expected in the way of enforcement assistance from the federal government.

Mr. Faubus said they told him they couldn't put any agents here to prevent violence, but would handle it when and if it happened. It is our opinion that it was at that moment that Arkansas' governor got really teed off.

He told us: "They're going to cram it down our throats and make us enforce their own laws." He was speaking of federal authorities. It was possibly during the next few hours that he made the big decision to stop integration by force. He gave us no hint of his plans.

Now, Mr. Faubus did not tell us this, but we have an idea this

question entered his mind: If the federal government has to depend on me to enforce integration, what can they do to me if I enforce segregation instead?

In any case, he called out his National Guard and the state troopers and using threatened violence as a reason, or an excuse, he stopped nine Negroes from entering Central High School.

To say he caused consternation among federal officials is putting it mildly. His action reverberated through the nation and in countries of the world. He also revealed that the federal officials had not actually prepared themselves to enforce the integration orders. They were depending on the Southern governors to see that this was done. Most of them have done this.

Last Tuesday, after a rather large press conference was ended, we went back to ask the governor a question we had overlooked. He had not yet blocked the Negroes by force. That was to come on Wednesday. But his Guardsmen were around the school.

We found the governor with his feet on his desk gazing at the ceiling. He asked: "What do you think of it now?"

We told him we thought he was biting off a pretty big chunk because in our minds integration was handed to us by the Supreme Court which certainly had no intentions of backing down.

Mr. Faubus said: "I am not so sure of that." Then he added: "This whole thing is a political maneuver by the Republicans in the first place."

Then he fumed: "And they are not even prepared to enforce their own orders. Look at Hoxie (Hoxie, Ark., where violence accompanied integration). Did they do anything to help up there? No. People up there who had been friends for years became enemies over this thing. And what did the federal government do about it? Nothing."

The next day the federal officials put it up to the governor. The Negro students tried to enter Central High School. The governor's troops turned them back, and Mr. Faubus said it was done on his orders.

Federal officials went into conference.

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Little Rock 1957

Pages from History

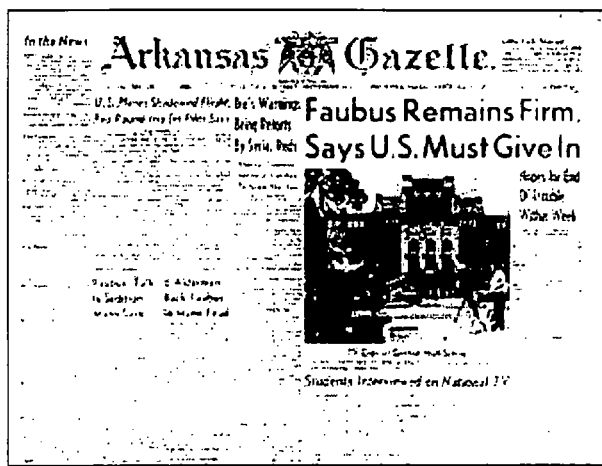
The Central High Crisis

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Monday, September 9, 1957

Selected stories from the inside pages of the *Arkansas Democrat* and *Arkansas Gazette* from this day 40 years ago are listed below the newspaper images.



(Image size: 264 K)



(Image size: 249 K)

Stories from this day, 40 years ago:

Arkansas Newspapers Comment on Crisis

More editorial comment by Arkansas newspapers on the Little Rock school situation and the calling of the National Guardsmen by Governor Faubus.

3 Negroes May Enroll At Ozarks

Clarksville, Ark. -- A reliable source said that three Negroes would register at The College of the Ozarks here today, but President Dr. Winslow Drummond said he could not confirm the report.

Opposing Viewpoints Expressed on Issue

A variety of opinions on Little Rock's integration difficulties and the resultant activation of the National Guard are being expressed by national figures and foreign newspapers.

Governor's Son Enters Integrated Institution

Russellville -- Farrell Faubus, 18-year-old son of Governor Orval Faubus, was expected today to join the integrated student body of Arkansas Polytechnic College here.

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Arkansas Newspapers Comment on Crisis

More editorial comment by Arkansas newspapers on the Little Rock school situation and the calling of the National Guardsmen by Governor Faubus.

Walnut Ridge Times Dispatch

Arkansas was classified in many national publications as a border state where the segregation issue would not be a great problem. Of course here within the borders of the state, we knew otherwise, and the happenings in Little Rock early this week drew the attention of the entire nation to Arkansas.

Camden News

Now he has defied the U.S. Supreme Court and a federal judge's edict. We'll get to see whether there is any power left to the state governor or not. The nation and especially the deep South will watch this struggle with much interest. It looks like the last ditch stand for segregation.

Wynne Progress

I have never been what you'd call an outspoken admirer of Governor Faubus, but no one can deny his political courage. *** I can't help liking a governor who governs.

The governor is acting without support from the Little Rock press. One of the "big" newspapers openly opposes him in editorials and news coverage. The other one simply ignores the whole thing editorially. Comparison of their versions of the activity at Central High School makes one wonder if it's the same story. *** Win, lose or draw, Governor Faubus has shown that he has plenty of courage. He is not likely to suffer politically, even in defeat. The column, "Casual Chat."

Batesville Guard

Question: Is Governor Faubus a Southern hero, a martyr, a renegade, or just a victim of soul-trying circumstances? *** In Batesville, Governor Faubus has been cussed and discussed, upheld and ridiculed, praised and scorned.

England Democrat

We know for a fact that this single action has made for him (Mr. Faubus) many friends from what were previously his enemies, and are aware also that this opinion is also true of leading Negro citizens who are already acquainted with the penalizing consequences of forced integration. It took a brave man to make such a far-reaching, unprecedented decision in order to prevent violence before it began. And a braver politician.

Russellville Courier-Democrat (Thursday)

There is an uneasiness in the air which can be felt even at this distance from Little Rock. It is the uneasiness that comes when citizens see the gun and the club begin to replace the courts and the laws in settling public questions. ***

Is he (Mr. Faubus) just playing to grandstand? We don't know. But

if he deliberately set out to create an atmosphere in which violence would be a more effective course than to display armed might before an emotionally-charged audience.

**Arkansas Methodist (official publication of the
Arkansas-Louisiana Area)**

Arkansas citizens have been treated, however, during these days to the spectacle of seeing their state leaders fail to give the kind of courageous leadership they have a right to expect. On a few issues Arkansas citizens have had the right to be proud of their state leaders, but hardly so on the Little Rock school issue. If there ever was any question about where the governor and his advisers stood, the answer is now known. They cast their lot on the side including those whose purpose seems to be to set group against group, race against race, and to disturb the tranquility of the people.

Southern Mediator Journal (Little Rock Negro newspaper)

The calling up of Arkansas National Guardsmen to prevent integration in the face of a Federal Court order, because nine Negro children attempted to comply, is not in keeping with the principles of good government nor human decency -- and it definitely will reflect upon the good name of this state.

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3 Negroes May Enroll At Ozarks

Clarksville, Ark. -- A reliable source said that three Negroes would register at The College of the Ozarks here today, but President Dr. Winslow Drummond said he could not confirm the report.

The students would be the first regular Negro students at the college which is operated privately by the Presbyterian Church of the United States.

Drummond commented on the report by saying that no qualified student would be turned away because of race. He said the policy of the church prevented such a rejection.

The source also said that at least two Negroes had studied at the college previously as special students, but Drummond declined confirmation or denial before a record check could be made.

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Opposing Viewpoints Expressed on Issue

A variety of opinions on Little Rock's integration difficulties and the resultant activation of the National Guard are being expressed by national figures and foreign newspapers.

Some of the statements compiled by the Associated Press are as follows:

Former President Harry S. Truman, in New York for a week's visit, says he approves of Federal Judge Ronald N. Davies' action in refusing to delay school integration in Little Rock, Ark. "He followed the law and the Constitution," Truman says. "It's a matter of the bill of rights."

Adlai Stevenson, in a nationally televised interview from Chicago yesterday, said, "I was deeply distressed and surprised by my friend's, Governor Faubus, action. It was not necessary to preserve peace and order (and) will be grist for the Communist propaganda mill."

MacDonald Gallion, Alabama's chief assistant attorney general, "No thinking American could oppose the action of Governor Faubus of Arkansas in calling national guardsmen. It occurs to me that the federal judge from North Dakota was thinking solely in terms of law books, mandates and theories, while Governor Faubus was thinking in terms of human beings and reality."

The Conservative Daily Telegraph, London, England, said today attempts to impose school integration on the Southern United States by law is likely to result only in worse race relations.

"If segregation is now the 'peculiar institution' of the South supported more by inherited prejudice than by intelligible principle," the Telegraph said editorially, "it is still true that the lot of the Southern Negro was improving steadily, and even rapidly, before the supreme court made its dramatic intervention."

"If the federal government now feels compelled to back the court with the threat, open or implied, of the ultimate sanctions, race relations will certainly worsen to a deplorable degree and these may be even uglier consequences."

"Attempts to change a traditional social climate by coercive legislation are seldom productive of lasting good."

Governor Harriman, in Albany, N.Y., says New Yorkers support President Eisenhower "in taking effective action in this constitutional crisis" involving integration of Arkansas schools.

In reply, Harriman said developments in Arkansas "not only violate the constitutional rights of American citizens, but are damaging to our prestige around the world. This seriously weakens our leadership in the fight against Communism."

"I earnestly hope that (Arkansas Gov. Orval) Faubus now realizes," Harriman continued, "that he has been badly advised, that he will reverse his stand and support the federal court order."

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Governor's Son Enters Integrated Institution

Russellville -- Farrell Faubus, 18-year-old son of Governor Orval Faubus, was expected today to join the integrated student body of Arkansas Polytechnic College here.

Dean Alfred Crabaugh said young Faubus had completed an application for admission to Arkansas Tech, which last fall admitted Negroes for the first time.

Crabaugh said Tech, which has a normal student body of about 1,000 admitted two Negroes last fall, but one of them dropped out at mid-term. Three Negroes were enrolled during the recently complete summer session.

Faubus, who ordered the Arkansas National Guard not to permit Negroes to enter Little Rock Central High School, said in a national television interview last night, "I am not opposing integration as such." He contended again that his use of the guard was designed only to preserve the peace and protect property in the face of threatened violence.

The governor said, "I think each of you and millions of Americans will realize the dearest thing to any individual is his sons and daughters.

"My son leaves this day (Sunday) to begin tomorrow classes in an integrated state college in Arkansas," he announced. "The records will reflect his enrollment ... sometime before the developments in Little Rock."

Crabaugh said that although he had not personally seen young Faubus, the boy would be expected to attend an orientation program and then register with other freshmen Wednesday. Upperclassmen will register tomorrow.

Farrell, a 1957 graduate of Huntsville High School, Huntsville, Ark., where he was a member of the football team, has been assigned a dormitory room, the dean said.

Crabaugh said the boy had discussed with school officials the possibility of pursuing a prelaw curriculum.

The dean said he did not know how many Negroes would register for this term at Tech.

"I have not seen any in the lines of students outside," he said.

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wolfcommunications.fax

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tel 202 546-4118 fax 202 543-4055

To: Jury Edmonds

Fax No: _____

Jury -
Here's a double spaced version. Thanks
so much for your help. We know
you're swamped!

Bonny

**DRAFT OP-ED
BY SECRETARY RODNEY SLATER
40TH ANNIVERSARY OF INTEGRATION OF CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL**

Forty years ago today, nine African-American students took a long walk down a short block and integrated Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Because of the significance of that magic moment, President Clinton will be at Central High today to open the door for the nine men and women whose courageous walk opened doors for so many others. He will be introduced by student body president Fatima McKendra, an honor student, an aspiring surgeon, an African-American. This exceptional young woman wouldn't have been student body president in 1957.

Four decades later we must ask ourselves two questions: How far have we really come in 40 years? How far have we left to go?

I was 2 when those nine brave students walked through jeering crowds, past armed soldiers to the front door of Central High. It wasn't until 13 years later that, as an African-American, I had the legal right to go to school with white children in Marianna, Arkansas.

And still it wasn't easy. After my school canceled a program celebrating Martin Luther King's birthday, students staged a sit-in and were chased from the building by firemen spraying them with high-powered blasts of water. The student officers – including myself – who had been meeting in the principal's office were taken to the police station. We didn't go back to school that year. And when I did go back, I wasn't allowed to play sports – a severe penalty for someone who later went to college on a football scholarship.

It was a watershed experience for me. I learned that you have to take a stand for what you believe in. Sure, there's always a cost. But there's often a higher cost for not taking a stand.

The costs didn't have to be so high. Tolerance actually got an early start in Little Rock. The University of Arkansas law school had been integrated since 1949. The city had already desegregated its public buses, its zoo, its library and its parks system.

Little Rock was poised to deal with the issue in a positive way. They were touched by what Abraham Lincoln called the "better angels of our nature." But the actions of a few encouraged the lesser angels to manifest themselves.

Since then I say yes, we have come a long way. Our economy is healthy, unemployment is low, and the African-American middle class has grown substantially.

But despite our progress, we are slowed by unfinished business. We still are wary of those different from us. We are talking less *to* each other and more *at* each other. As terrible as things were 40 years ago, we were more honest.

Granted, problems were more blatant. The problems we face today are more subtle, but still insidious. We get a glimpse when we hear about demeaning conversations in corporate boardrooms like Texaco, or when affirmative action rules are lifted at the University of Texas and only four African-Americans are in the entering law school class versus 29 a year ago.

And tensions now go beyond the conflict between black and white. In addition to the vile burning of churches, there's a resurgence of anti-Semitism and hostility toward new

immigrants.

But we have to learn to live together, because the face of America is changing. Today in Hawaii, everyone is a minority. Soon this will be true of California. And 40 years from now, there will be no majority race in America.

We can look at statistics and know what America will look like in the 21st century. But we have to look inside ourselves to determine what America will be like in the 21st century.

The President has asked all Americans to join him in a national conversation about race – to face one another honestly across lines that still divide us. Clearly, now is the time for honest dialogue, the time to build a society that recognizes the worth of all people, and the value of every person.

President Clinton wants us to start the attack on racism on two fronts: education and economics. Until every American has real economic opportunity and first-rate educational opportunity, there will be disparities that will look like racial discrimination, whether they are or not.

Melba P. Bealls, one of the Little Rock nine, put it best: “The task that remains is to cope with our interdependence – to see ourselves reflected in every other human being and to respect and honor our differences.”

Laws can change institutions, but they can't change what's in people's hearts. And racism is a disease of the heart.

Can we become one America and still appreciate our diversity? It's a big challenge, but also a big opportunity. We don't have all the solutions yet. In fact, we don't even know all the questions. But we will only find them if we drop our guards, extend our hands and open our hearts.

Rodney Slater is the U.S. Secretary of Transportation.

Operation SchoolNet

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Why is Southwestern Bell undertaking this effort?

A: Southwestern Bell has a long tradition of leadership and community service, especially in the area of education at all levels. This effort is an extension of our commitment to helping improve educational opportunities through state-of-the-art telecommunications technology for Arkansas children and their families.

Q: How many classrooms will be wired for Internet access throughout Arkansas?

A: Southwestern Bell plans to wire about 600 classrooms at 100 schools throughout Arkansas -- about six classrooms per school.

Q: Will Operation SchoolNet help President Bill Clinton achieve his goal of having Internet access available in every school and classroom by the year 2000?

A: Absolutely. Southwestern Bell has long realized that providing the latest in technology, such as Internet access, to students in every school is a crucial step in providing long-lasting educational benefits to children and their families.

Q: How are schools selected for Operation SchoolNet?

A: We want as many students as possible to benefit from this campaign as quickly as possible. Therefore, schools that have computer equipment and detailed plans for incorporating the Internet into the curriculum are given priority. Additionally, 30 percent of the schools selected are in rural communities and low-income areas.

Q: What options are available for schools that are not selected?

A: We wish all schools could be a part of this campaign. Unfortunately, there are financial and logistical limitations. Applications from schools not selected will be forwarded to other Internet-related organizations for their assistance and consideration.

Q: How long will the project last?

A: We anticipate it could take more than a year for us to reach our desired goal of wiring 600 classrooms at 100 Arkansas schools.

-more-

Frequently Asked Questions/Add One

Q: How many volunteers does each project require and how long does it take?

A: Most volunteer teams consist of at least five Pioneer technicians and others in their crew. The work generally is done on weekends and, depending on the size of the school, takes a day or two to complete.

Q: How much does this program cost?

A: This is a multi-million dollar effort, but the cost is irrelevant. The most important aspect is the benefit that Internet access can provide to children now and in the future.

Q: What is the total value of this project?

A: Again, the value of this project can only be measured in terms of the educational benefits it will ultimately provide to students and teachers.

###

WHY PUT THE INTERNET IN CLASSROOMS?

The Internet is useful whenever teachers or students need to know something:

- Data collected by governments or public interest groups
- Fast-breaking news (voting results, natural disasters, economic data)
- Information not found in textbooks or the school library

The Internet also is a good place for:

- Collaborating on projects with students worldwide
- Finding and contacting experts
- Getting experience in researching and evaluating information
- Publishing students' projects and publications

Who says students should have access to the Internet?

- "To give our children the best education, we must help them to harness the powerful forces of technology. That's why we've challenged America to connect every classroom and library to the Internet by the year 2000. For the first time in history, children in the most isolated rural towns, the most comfortable suburbs, and the poorest inner-city schools will have the same access to the same universe of knowledge."

-President Bill Clinton

Radio Address of the President and the Vice President to the Nation
February 8, 1997

- "In the 21st century, technology literacy will be a necessity, not a frill."

-FCC Chairman Reed Hundt

Associated Press
November 8, 1996

- "An ever-increasing number of schools have the capability to access the Internet and other services that can boost student academic performance."

-Anne Bryant, executive director, National School Boards Association

U.S. Newswire
November 7, 1996

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Operation SchoolNet/Add Two

Arkansas schools are selected for wiring on the basis of the availability of computer equipment and detailed plans on how to incorporate the Internet into the curriculum.

Once a school is selected, a Southwestern Bell Pioneer On-Site Coordinator begins planning the wire-up activities with the neighborhood school and Southwestern Bell volunteers.

Southwestern Bell Telephone Co. is a subsidiary of SBC Communications Inc., an international leader in the telecommunications industry, with more than 31 million access lines and 4.7 million wireless customers across the United States, as well as investments in telecommunications businesses in nine countries. Under the Southwestern Bell, Pacific Bell, Nevada Bell and Cellular One brands, the company, through its subsidiaries, offers a wide range of innovative services, including local and long-distance telephone service, wireless communications, paging, Internet access, cable TV and messaging, as well as telecommunications equipment, and directory advertising and publishing. SBC (www.sbc.com) has approximately 110,000 employees. SBC and Pacific Telesis Group reported combined 1996 revenues of \$23.5 billion.

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Operation SchoolNet/Add One

Members of the Southwestern Bell Pioneers and the Communication Workers of America -- including CWA Local 6508 President John Graham -- wired three buildings today at the Arkansas School for the Blind, 2600 W. Markham, in Little Rock. In addition, students and administrators demonstrated how the latest in Internet technology, such as speech software, makes it possible for the visually impaired to surf the Web.

The Arkansas School for the Blind serves about 115 students from preschool through the 12th grade. Students come from throughout Arkansas. Jim Hill, superintendent at the School for the Blind, said it is crucial for visually impaired students to have access to the Internet -- especially for research purposes.

"It is extremely difficult for visually impaired students to obtain Braille versions of research materials," Hill said. "Most of these materials, however, are available on the Internet and can be accessed by our students with the help of speech software. By wiring our school for Internet access, Southwestern Bell volunteers are speeding up this process by several years."

Volunteers from Southwestern Bell are donating their time and "sweat equity" to wire the school. The company's volunteer group, the Southwestern Bell Pioneers, is made up of current employees and retirees. In Arkansas, there are 4,800 Pioneers -- making the group one of the largest volunteer organizations in the state. Operation SchoolNet also is endorsed by the Communication Workers of America.

Lucent Technologies is donating the wiring kits necessary for schools to connect to the Internet. The kits include wiring, computer connectors and a central connecting block.

"This is the largest education-related project ever undertaken by Southwestern Bell volunteers," Graham of the CWA said. "From Fort Smith to Little Rock to El Dorado, we plan to wire 100 schools with up to six Internet hook-ups each. This campaign could take more than a year, but the resulting educational benefits for our children will last them a lifetime."

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News Release

For Immediate Release

Contacts: Jackie Himmelberg, 314/982-8626
Michael Slatin, 314/982-8661

SOUTHWESTERN BELL CONNECTS ARKANSAS SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND TO THE INTERNET

Internet Access Enhances the Education of the Visually Impaired

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Saturday, May 31, 1997 -- Thanks to Internet-access wiring installed today by Southwestern Bell volunteers, students at the Arkansas School for the Blind can now conduct research at the Library of Congress, look up the Sahara Desert's average annual rainfall and e-mail friends and family worldwide.

Today's wiring launches Operation SchoolNet -- Southwestern Bell's educational initiative to bring the Internet into more than 600 classrooms at 100 Arkansas schools, allowing K-12 students to fully capitalize on the educational benefits available through the Internet.

"Southwestern Bell has a long tradition of leadership and investing in the communities we serve, especially in the area of education," said Mike Gilliam, regional president of Southwestern Bell-Arkansas. "We believe our children should have access to this great educational resource so that they can learn more about the world around them. The Internet will expand their knowledge and encourage their thirst for learning."

-more-

WHY PUT THE INTERNET IN CLASSROOMS?

The Internet is useful whenever teachers or students need to know something:

- Data collected by governments or public interest groups
- Fast-breaking news (voting results, natural disasters, economic data)
- Information not found in textbooks or the school library

The Internet also is a good place for:

- Collaborating on projects with students worldwide
- Finding and contacting experts
- Getting experience in researching and evaluating information
- Publishing students' projects and publications

Who says students should have access to the Internet?

- "To give our children the best education, we must help them to harness the powerful forces of technology. That's why we've challenged America to connect every classroom and library to the Internet by the year 2000. For the first time in history, children in the most isolated rural towns, the most comfortable suburbs, and the poorest inner-city schools will have the same access to the same universe of knowledge."

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Frequently Asked Questions/Add One

Q: How many volunteers does each project require and how long does it take?

A: Most volunteer teams consist of at least five Pioneer technicians and others in their crew. The work generally is done on weekends and, depending on the size of the school, takes a day or two to complete. Central High School, because of its age (constructed in 1927) and size, has taken more time and more volunteers to wire.

Q: How much does this program cost?

A: This is a multi-million dollar effort, but the cost is irrelevant. The most important aspect is the benefit that Internet access can provide to children now and in the future.

Q: What is the total value of this project?

A: Again, the value of this project can only be measured in terms of the educational benefits it will ultimately provide to students and teachers.

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Operation SchoolNet

Frequently Asked Questions

- Q: Why is Southwestern Bell undertaking this effort?**
A: Southwestern Bell has a long tradition of leadership and community service, especially in the area of education at all levels. This effort is an extension of our commitment to helping improve educational opportunities through state-of-the-art telecommunications technology for Arkansas children and their families.
- Q: How many schools will be wired for Internet access throughout Arkansas?**
A: Southwestern Bell plans to wire 100 schools throughout Arkansas.
- Q: Will Operation SchoolNet help President Bill Clinton achieve his goal of having Internet access available in every school and classroom by the year 2000?**
A: Absolutely. Southwestern Bell has long realized that providing the latest in technology, such as Internet access, to students in every school is a crucial step in providing long-lasting educational benefits to children and their families.
- Q: How are schools selected for Operation SchoolNet?**
A: We want as many students as possible to benefit from this campaign as quickly as possible. Therefore, schools that have computer equipment and detailed plans for incorporating the Internet into the curriculum are given priority. Additionally, 30 percent of the schools selected are in rural communities and low-income areas.
- Q: What options are available for schools that are not selected?**
A: We wish all schools could be a part of this campaign. Unfortunately, there are financial and logistical limitations. Applications from schools not selected will be forwarded to other Internet-related organizations for their assistance and consideration.
- Q: How long will the project last?**
A: We anticipate it could take more than a year for us to reach our desired goal of wiring 100 Arkansas schools.

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Operation SchoolNet/Add Two

Southwestern Bell Telephone Co. provides basic and leading-edge telephone services and products to more than 13.5 million business and residential customers – a total of more than 15 million access lines – in Texas, Missouri, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Kansas. It is a company of SBC Communications Inc., an international leader in the telecommunications industry, with more than 32 million access lines and nearly 5 million wireless customers across the United States, as well as investments in telecommunications businesses in nine countries. Under the Southwestern Bell, Pacific Bell, Nevada Bell and Cellular One brands, the company, through its subsidiaries, offers a wide range of innovative services, including local and long-distance telephone service, wireless communications, paging, Internet access, cable TV and messaging, as well as telecommunications equipment, and directory advertising and publishing. SBC (www.sbc.com) has more than 114,000 employees. SBC reported 1996 revenues of \$23.5 billion.

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Operation SchoolNet/Add One

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Volunteers from Southwestern Bell are donating their time and "sweat equity" to wire all 100 schools statewide in Operation SchoolNet. The company's volunteer group, the Southwestern Bell Pioneers, is made up of current employees and retirees. In Arkansas, there are 4,800 Pioneers – making the group one of the largest volunteer organizations in the state. Operation SchoolNet also is endorsed by the CWA.

"This is the largest education-related project ever undertaken by Southwestern Bell volunteers," said John Graham, president of CWA Local 6508. "From Fayetteville to Little Rock to El Dorado, we plan to wire 100 schools with Internet hook-ups. This campaign could take more than a year, but the resulting educational benefits for our children will last them a lifetime."

Lucent Technologies is donating the wiring kits necessary for schools to connect to the Internet. The kits include wiring, computer connectors and a central connecting block.

Schools are selected for wiring on the basis of the availability of computer equipment and detailed plans on how to incorporate the Internet into the curriculum.

Once a school is selected, a Southwestern Bell Pioneer On-Site Coordinator begins planning the wire-up activities with the neighborhood school and Southwestern Bell volunteers.

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News Release

For Immediate Release

Contacts: Michael Slatin, 314/982-8661
Jackie Himmelberg, 314/982-8626

SOUTHWESTERN BELL CONNECTS CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL TO THE INTERNET

Internet Access Enhances the Education of Arkansas' Youth

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Sept. 11, 1997 – Thanks to Internet-access wiring that is being installed by Southwestern Bell volunteers this week, students at Central High School in Little Rock will be able to conduct research at the Library of Congress, look up the Sahara Desert's average annual rainfall and e-mail friends and family worldwide.

The wiring of Central High for Internet access is part of Operation SchoolNet – Southwestern Bell's educational initiative to bring the Internet into 100 schools throughout Arkansas, allowing K-12 students to fully capitalize on the educational benefits available through the Internet.

Members of the Southwestern Bell Pioneers and the Communication Workers of America (CWA) have spent several evenings at Central High School wiring it for Internet access. In fact, the entire wiring project will take a total of seven days – about eight hours a day – to complete.

-more-

Little Rock, September 17, 1997

**Fax to: Laura Capps
From: Ed Drilling
Re: Wiring of Central High School**

Dear Laura:

Beth Coulson advised us that you needed more information regarding Southwestern Bell's efforts to wire all the class rooms at Central High School as well as other schools around the state for internet service.

We really appreciate President Clinton's interest in this effort. I'm forwarding the press release and some other information on this subject I hope you will find helpful.

If you need anything else please call me at 501-373-6333. Again, thanks for your help.

Ed Drilling

wolfcommunications.fax

From: Bonny Wolf
tel 202 546-4118 fax 202 543-4055

To: Jerry Edmonds

Fax No: 456-5709

Jerry -

Thanks for your help.

Bonny

Scott Dykema

366-5563

Eileen -

FAX-703-526-9367

**DRAFT OP-ED
BY SECRETARY RODNEY SLATER
40TH ANNIVERSARY OF INTEGRATION OF CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL**

Forty years ago today, nine African-American students took a long walk down a short block and integrated Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Because of the significance of that magic moment, President Clinton will be at Central High today to open the door for the nine men and women whose courageous walk opened doors for so many others. He will be introduced by student body president Fatima McKendra, an honor student, an aspiring surgeon, an African-American. This exceptional young woman wouldn't have been student body president in 1957.

Four decades later we must ask ourselves two questions: How far have we really come in 40 years? How far have we left to go?

I was 2 when those nine brave students walked through jeering crowds, past armed soldiers to the front door of Central High. It wasn't until 13 years later that, as an African-American, I had the legal right to go to school with white children in Marianna, Arkansas.

And still it wasn't easy. After my school canceled a program celebrating Martin Luther King's birthday, students staged a sit-in and were chased from the building by firemen spraying them with high-powered blasts of water. The student officers - including myself - who had been meeting in the principal's office were taken to the police station. We didn't go back to school that year. And when I did go back, I wasn't allowed to play sports - a severe penalty for someone who later went to college on a football scholarship.

It was a watershed experience for me. I learned that you have to take a stand for what you believe in. Sure, there's always a cost. But there's often a higher cost for not taking a stand.

The costs didn't have to be so high. Tolerance actually got an early start in Little Rock. The University of Arkansas law school had been integrated since 1949. The city had already desegregated its public buses, its zoo, its library and its parks system.

Little Rock ^{citizens were} ^{of integration} was poised to deal with the issue in a positive way. They were touched by what Abraham Lincoln called the "better angels of our nature." But the actions of a few encouraged the lesser angels to manifest themselves.

Since then I say yes, we have come a long way. Our economy is healthy, unemployment is low, and the African-American middle class has grown substantially.

But despite our progress, ^{too often} we are slowed by unfinished business. We still are wary of those different from us. We are talking less ^{to} each other and more ^{at} each other. As terrible as things were 40 years ago, we were more honest. ^{at least we knew exactly where we stood.} ^{Ironically racism cloaked in a hooded sheet was much more identifiable than the racism of today, which often wears a smile and a tie-dye shirt.} Granted, problems were more blatant. The problems we face today are more subtle, but still insidious. We get a glimpse when we hear about demeaning conversations in corporate boardrooms like ^{Texas} ^{state university}, or when affirmative action rules are lifted at the University of Texas and only four African-Americans are in the entering law school class versus 29 a year ago. ^{and California} ^{Or when we reach in the past to use old arguments to justify persistent stereotypes.} ^{40 years ago} ^{see - College academic}

And tensions now go beyond the conflict between black and white. In addition to the vile burning of churches, there's a resurgence of anti-Semitism and hostility toward new immigrants.

But we have to learn to live together, because the face of America is changing. Today in Hawaii, everyone is a minority. Soon this will be true of California. And 40 years from now, there will be no majority race in America.

We can look at statistics and know what America will look like in the 21st century. But we have to look inside ourselves to determine what America will be like in the 21st century.

The President has asked all Americans to join him in a national conversation about race – to face one another honestly across lines that still divide us. Clearly, now is the time for honest dialogue, the time to build a society that recognizes the worth of all people, and ^{honors the} ~~the~~ *value of every person.*

re- or rekindle
President Clinton wants us to start the attack on racism on two fronts: education and economics. Until every American has real economic opportunity and first-rate educational opportunity, there will be disparities that will look like racial discrimination, whether they are or not.

Melba P. Bealls, one of the Little Rock nine, put it best: "The task that remains is to cope with our interdependence – to see ourselves reflected in every other human being and to respect and honor our differences."

Laws can change institutions, but they can't change what's in people's hearts. And racism is a disease of the heart.

Can we become one America and still appreciate our diversity? It's a big challenge, but also a big opportunity. We don't have all the solutions yet. In fact, we don't even know all the questions. But we will only find them if we drop our guards, extend our hands and open our hearts.

Rodney Slater is the U.S. Secretary of Transportation.