

# COURT ORDERS "COMPLETE SCHOOL INTEGRATION BY FALL SESSION '67"

NEW ORLEANS - (NPI)--Twelve federal judges, sitting on a panel of the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals, handed down an 8-4 decision upholding a decree that public schools in Louisiana, Mississippi, Texas, Alabama, Georgia, and Florida must completely integrate at the start of the fall session of 1967.

The ruling called for integration from kindergarten up in all facilities, services, activities, faculties and programs. The case was heard due to appeals from a similar decision by four Louisiana and three Alabama school boards.

THE DECISION stated that "boards and officials administering public schools in this circuit have the affirmative duty under the 14th Amendment to bring about an integrated unitary school system in which there are no Negro schools and no white schools--just schools."

The four judges not in line with the decision were from Alabama, Georgia and Mississippi.

Louisiana Atty. Gen. Jack F. P. Gremillion, who has vigorously opposed all civil rights movements, expressed horror at the decision and stated that he was sure of an appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court where he said "we might get a favorable decision once in a lifetime."

It was Gremillion who stalked out of a federal court in New Orleans calling the court a "den of iniquity," during the trial of a Mississippi governor. He came back to apologize to the court and thus avert a contempt charge.

Jack Greenberg, director counsel, NAACP Legal Defense Fund is credited with saying that "the extremely detailed and clear-cut majority mean that Legal Defense Fund attorneys are in a position to bring about substantial school desegregation in the Deep South for the first time."

It is thought that the decree may reach further than the six states mentioned.

## "GUV" Wallace Reacts

WASHINGTON - (NPI)--Gov. Lurleen Wallace of Alabama has threatened to use state troops to maintain school segregation. Her threat paved the way toward another federal-state showdown on school desegregation. Mrs. Wallace asked the state legislature for authority to take over the state's public schools. If

she closed the state's 40 integrated school districts, she could face a contempt court citation and provoke the federal government to call out troops--as it did previously in Arkansas, Mississippi, and Alabama.

## Expect Ruling To Effect De Facto Segregation

NEW ORLEANS - (NPI)--A ruling by the full 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals requiring school desegregation in Dixie was expected to affect Northern schools as well. More than school desegregation is required by the U.S. Constitution, the court held. Public schools must "bring about an integrated unitary school system in which there are no Negro schools and no white schools--just schools...If Negroes are ever to enter the mainstream of American life as schoolchildren, they must have equal educational opportunities with white children." The court's statements foreshadowed attacks to come on Northern-style de facto school segregation.

## Catholic Schools In Integration Aid Move

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. - (NPI)--The nation's Catholic school superintendents have been told to submit reports on their efforts to prevent racial segregation.

Msgr. James C. Donohue, chief education spokesman for the American Catholic Bishops, announced that he had asked each diocesan school superintendent to draw up plans spelling out steps that parochial schools could take to reduce racial isolation.

Parochial schools, he said, must not become "refuges for whites" from school desegregation. He was referring to the fact that only a small percentage of Negroes are Roman Catholics, and thus, enrollment of one's children in a Catholic school would likely put them in predominantly white surroundings.

In Washington, D.C., for example, about 80 per cent of public school students are Negroes. But only 39 per cent of the enrollment in the district's Catholic schools is nonwhite, even

though D.C. is 62 per cent Negro.

Msgr. Donohue said parochial schools must work to end the isolation between white suburban schools and inner-city Negro parishes through experimental busing programs.

He urged Catholic educators to seek ways to work with public schools in planning educational parks and other integration efforts to draw pupils from white areas.

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