

# Department of Justice

The Department of Justice filed suit today to require the public school system of Valdosta, Georgia, to carry out its agreement to desegregate for the 1970-71 school year.

Attorney General John N. Mitchell said the suit, charging violation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, was filed in the United States District Court in Macon, Georgia.

The suit said the Valdosta Board of Education has refused to implement the second phase of a two-step desegregation agreement submitted on August 5, 1969, to the Department of Health Education and Welfare.

The agreement called for desegregation of the faculty of each of the district's seven elementary schools and zoning of the schools to desegregate them for 1970-71.

The district's three secondary schools were desegregated in the 1969-70 school year in the first step of the desegregation agreement.

The district has an enrollment of approximately 3,993 white and 3,409 black students.

The suit also noted that the Board of Education submitted an Assurance of Compliance with the provisions of Title VI to H. E. W. on August 18, 1966, in order to qualify for federal financial assistance.

The suit asked for a court order enjoining the Board of Education from discriminating against black students by continuing to operate a dual school system based on race.

It also asked that the Board be ordered forthwith to seek necessary technical assistance from H.E.W.'s Office of Education for the preparation and submission of plans for the immediate conversion to a unitary, non-discriminatory school system to effectuate the Board's assurance to abolish its dual system by the 1970-71 school year.

Recent law enlarges VA's definition of "children" for purposes of veterans ben-

efits, and increases benefits to nearly 51,000 children by 10 per cent.

## VA Question And Answer

Q--I did not complete high school, but was accepted as a college student under the G.I. Bill on the basis of a General Equivalency Diploma test. I now find that I am having trouble with some subjects and cannot keep up with my class. I have been advised to seek special help. Can VA help me?

A--Yes if your school certifies that you need tutorial help to avoid failing a course, you may receive up to \$50 a month for nine months to pay a qualified tutor. Application should be made to the VA on Form 21E-199OT.

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