

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON DC SEPT 27 1957

MRS WHITMAN, NEWPORT

FOLLOWING TELEGRAM FROM SENATOR RUSSELL.

WA580 GOVT PD

SN WASHINGTON DC SEP 26 717PME



THE PRESIDENT

THE WHITE HOUSE

AS A CITIZEN, AS A SENATOR OF THE UNITED STATES,
AND AS CHAIRMAN OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES,
I MUST VIGOROUSLY PROTEST THE HIGHHANDED AND ILLEGAL METHODS
BEING EMPLOYED BY THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES UNDER
YOUR COMMAND WHO ARE CARRYING OUT YOUR ORDERS TO MIX THE RACES
IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS.
IF REPORTS OF REPUTABLE PRESS ASSOCIATIONS AND NEWS WRITERS ARE TO
BE BELIEVED, THESE SOLDIERS ARE DISREGARDING AND
OVERRIDING THE ELEMENTARY RIGHTS OF AMERICAN CITIZENS BY
APPLYING TACTICS WHICH MUST HAVE BEEN COPIED FROM THE MANUAL
ISSUED THE OFFICERS OF HITLER'S STORM TROOPERS. THE OVERPOWER-
ING MILITARY MIGHT YOU HAVE ASSEMBLED THERE MAKES SUCH ACTIONS
AS THESE NEWSPAPER ACCOUNTS DESCRIBE COMPLETELY INEXCUSABLE
UNLESS THE PURPOSE BE TO INTIMIDATE AND OVERAWE ALL THE PEOPLE
OF THE COUNTRY WHO ARE OPPOSED TO MIXING THE RACES BY FORCE.

THESE DISPATCHES AGREE THAT AN UNARMED CITIZEN HAD
HIS HEAD CRACKED BY A RIFLE BUTT WHILE STANDING PEACEFULLY ON
PRIVATE PROPERTY MORE THAN ONE BLOCK REMOVED FROM THE SCHOOL
AFTER HE HAD TOLD YOUR TROOPERS THAT HE WAS THERE WITH THE
CONSENT OF THE OWNER OF THE PROPERTY.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT RELATES THAT THREE OR MORE CITIZENS
WERE PUSHED DOWN A STREET, WITH BAYONETS AT THEIR THROATS,
WHILE A BELLICOSE SERGEANT SHOUTED AGAIN AND AGAIN QUOTE KEEP
THE BAYONETS AT THEIR THROATS UNQUOTE.

AN ASSOCIATED PRESS DISPATCH FROM LITTLE ROCK DATED
TODAY STATES THAT EIGHT PERSONS ARRESTED BY YOUR TROOPERS AT
VENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL YESTERDAY HAD BEEN HELD IN JAIL
INCOMMUNICADO OVERNIGHT WITHOUT ANY CHARGES HAVING BEEN FILED
AGAINST THEM AND HAD BEEN DENIED THE RIGHT TO CALL A LAWYER.
THE DISPATCH FURTHER STATES THAT EFFORTS TO FIND OUT WHAT
WOULD BE DONE WITH THE EIGHT PEOPLE WERE FRUITLESS, AND BOTH
THE FBI AND THE UNITED STATES MARSHAL DISCLAIMED ANY KNOWLEDGE
OF THE CASE.

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