

School Desegregation

GENERAL INFORMATION

The following guide is designed to help find resources about Senator McClellan's views and work on school desegregation. The collection also includes general information and legislative research on school desegregation. One of the major topics is the integration of Little Rock Central High School in 1957 and the use of federal troops.

The struggle for equal rights for African Americans became prominent in 1950s and continued on into the 1970s. One of the ways equal rights were demanded throughout the United States was through the desegregation of public schools. Even after the Supreme Court decision of *Brown v. Board*, it still took federal troops, legislation, and "all deliberate speed." The McClellan Collection contains approximately two cubic feet of information on school desegregation. Persons wanting to do further research might also look at the broader topic of civil rights for more information on the Senator's views.

PLACES TO START IN THE MC CLELLAN COLLECTION

Box 244

Segregation 1958-out of state, File 8

This file contains correspondence to Senator McClellan about various issues related to segregation including the use of federal troops at Central High.

Box 246

Files:

Segregation Material, 1954-56, File 3

The file includes a pamphlet called, "Integration Decision is Unconstitutional," with information particular to the desegregation of Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas. There is also an article, "The Southern Case against Desegregation," from *Harper's Magazine*, January 3, 1956, arguing against integration, and a copy of the Supreme Court decision in *Brown v. Board*.

Congressional Records, acts, memos, information, 1957-60, File 6

Included in this file is information relating to the proposed Civil Rights Act of 1957 and school desegregation.

Segregation, File 7

This file includes information on the desegregation of Central High including correspondence between Senator McClellan and President Dwight Eisenhower concerning the use of federal troops.

Civil Rights-Little Rock School Desegregation, 1957, File 9

The file includes information on desegregation in other states and information specific to the desegregation of Central High. Also included is a telegram from Senator McClellan to President Eisenhower asking him to "promptly withdraw" federal troops from Arkansas. The file contains a report, "The Little Rock Case," concerning the authority of presidents to use federal troops in states, citing that President Eisenhower's use of federal troops violated the constitution. The file also includes newspaper articles on Little Rock, including a report from Hearst Magazines "on the Communist infiltration of the colored groups on segregation," sent to Senator McClellan.

Proposed Senate Civil Rights Bills, 1959, File 16

This file includes proposed Senate Bill 958 on costs for public school desegregation. The bill approved *Brown* and the need to provide financial assistance to state and local governments to provide for desegregation.

Integration, Use of Troops, File 17

This file contains memos and newspaper clippings on the use of federal troops to desegregate schools.

Box 474

Dept. of Ed.- Desegregation, File 4

This file contains reports and letters on guidelines for desegregation of schools from 1964 to 1966.

Box 527

Boston School Desegregation, 1971, File 11

This file contains an article from *The Washington Post*, written on April 4, 1971, concerning desegregation of the Boston public school system. The article includes comments from Senator McClellan about the use of "freedom-of-choice" in public schools. The writer comments that McClellan and other Southerners hoped that if integration could be resisted in Boston, it could be resisted any place.

Box 533

President's Statement on Elementary and Secondary School Desegregation, File 11

Included in this file is a report from the United States Commission on Civil Rights concerning President Richard Nixon's statement on school desegregation from March 1970. The report comments on Nixon's views supporting *Brown* and also the need for more work to be completed for better education.

Box 557

Flagler County, FL and School Desegregation Appeal-James O. Craig, File 16

The Flagler County school district submitted an appeal to the Fifth Circuit after being ordered to desegregate based on the language of the law. The file

includes the appeal along with correspondence between school Superintendent James O. Craig and Senator McClellan.

Box 565

Files:

Desegregation: General, File 6

Included in this file are correspondence, reports, and newspaper articles on school desegregation and "freedom-of-choice."

Desegregation: Miscellaneous, File 7

This file contains reports on Arkansas schools' compliance with desegregation orders.

Box 566

Files:

Desegregation-AR Problems, File 1

This file contains correspondence, reports, and newspaper articles on Arkansas schools' compliance with Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act.

Six East AR School Meeting-Ext. of time, File 2

This file contains reports, correspondence, and newspaper articles on eastern Arkansas schools' work to comply with HEW guidelines concerning school desegregation and asking for more time to reach compliance. The file also includes information on HEW and Justice Department lawyers revising rulings to comply with President Nixon's views on civil rights without violating Supreme Court Rulings.

Justice-Desegregation Suits, File 34

The file includes reports and correspondence on Arkansas schools ordered to desegregate.

This box also contains information on desegregation of individual school districts in Arkansas. Please consult inventory for information on a particular schools.

Box 587

Little Rock Desegregation Assistance Grant, File 35

The file includes correspondence and memorandum concerning the Little Rock School District's request for reinstatement of help from HEW through the Emergency School Assistance Program.

Box 60 508

Civil Rights Schools, File 2

This file contains reports on desegregation in various states and their compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Box 598

Files:

HEW-Freedom Inc., Desegregation, File 2

This file contains information on Freedom Inc., in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, which supported “freedom-of-choice” in public schools.

Pine Bluff-Desegregation, File 3

The file contains information on the desegregation of Pine Bluff schools including letters on the “freedom-of-choice” plan.

OTHER COLLECTIONS:

Dwight D. Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum, Abilene, KS

The library maintains a website that has several documents relating to the desegregation of Central High School in Little Rock. The website can be found at: <http://www.eisenhower.archives.gov/dl/LittleRock/littlerockdocuments.html>.

Other Resources:

Print

The Politics of Fear: Joseph R. McCarthy and the Senate

Robert Griffin (University Press of Kentucky, 1970)

Anti-communism in the United States

Audiovisual

http://www.hrc.utexas.edu/multimedia/video/2008/wallace/faubus_orval_t.html.

Orval Faubus interview with Mike Wallace on federal troops

eyes on the prize segments

Online

<http://www.centralhigh57.org/>

<http://encyclopediaofarkansas.net/encyclopedia/entry-detail.aspx?entryID=718>

<http://brownvboard.org/summary/>

<http://www.lib.umich.edu/exhibits/brownarchive/>

Additional resources can be found at public and university libraries under call numbers in the **300s** of the Dewey Decimal Classification System and in the **UB** and **E** sections of the Library of Congress Classification System. Useful sources may also be found under the following Library of Congress Subject Headings:

Segregation in education

Segregation in education—Arkansas—Little Rock

Segregation in education—Arkansas—Little Rock—History—20th century