

I have, in fact, just concluded a thorough discussion of this problem with the group who visited me on behalf of the Conference of Southern Governors, and certainly there is no disinclination on my part to have additional discussions with responsible officials and other leaders either of the South or of other regions concerned by the present course of events.

I must repeat, however, that my relationship to the problem at the moment is not one of attempting by force of arms to advance, impede, or otherwise affect the course of desegregation in the Nation's schools; that responsibility has been vested in United States District Courts by the Supreme Court of the United States. The Executive responsibility is presently confined to carrying out such duties as are placed upon it to support the orders of the District Courts.

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With best wishes,

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

The Honorable John Stennis
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.