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July 22, 1976

SUBJECT:

HEW DESEGREGATION CASE

Yesterday John Sirica ordered HEW to meet strict deadlines for enforcing desegregation activities in school systems which receive Federal funds, giving HEW 60 days to wind up investigations of 14 school systems and another 60 days to launch enforcement proceedings against any which are found in violation.

What is the White House reaction to the Sirica decision?

GUIDANCE: I refer you to the statement made by Martin Gerry, Director of the Office of Civil Rights at HEW, which is responsible for enforcement activities. I believe he said that HEW has taken actions "in virtually all instances to complete the compliance review activities listed."

You should talk to HEW about the details.

ME