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## Barnett maintains UM segregated

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6/7/63

# Barnett maintains UM segregated

JACKSON (UPI)--Text of Gov. Ross Barnett's television address on the Cleve McDowell case:

"The people of Mississippi, America, and the world will recall the tragic events that followed the entry of a Negro into the University of Mississippi as a student on Sept. 30, 1962, and on many occasions thereafter.

"Under an executive order of the President of the United States, as issued on Sept. 30, 1962, the University of Mississippi has been under military control.

Cleve McDowell, a Negro, is now attempting to register as a student at the University School of Law. The State of Mississippi cannot cope with the United States Army of the Federal Armed Forces. It would be unwise and futile for the State of Mississippi to enter into a physical or shooting combat with the United States Army. Such would undoubtedly result in death or injury to many of our people.

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"Cleve McDowell's attempt to enter the campus and register in the School of Law at the University meets with our positive and determined protest and our sovereign state proclaims to all of our sister states that these acts are in violation and utter contempt of the rights of our people, as guaranteed by the Federal Constitution. His entry is being procured by the armed might of the Federal government--in fact, several hundred Federal troops, armed with guns and bayonets, now surround the campus of the University of Mississippi. The Federal authorities must, therefore, accept the responsibility for his entry and his presence upon the grounds at the University. I do not recognize any validity in this unconstitutional act and I shall not lend any assistance to its accomplishment.

"I know that our state and local law enforcement officers will do all within their power to maintain law and order, prevent violence and bloodshed, and do everything possible for the protection and safety of the students and other citizens within the University area.

"We have done everything within our power to prevent the enrollment of Cleve McDowell in the University School of Law. His entry is in violation of the laws of the State of Mississippi and

is contrary to the wishes and order of the Board of Trustees of the Institutions of Higher Learning and the Governor and the people of the State of Mississippi. His entry is being procured by the armed might of the United States. The United States must, therefore, accept the responsibility for his safety.

"When a student's entrance and continued presence upon the grounds of a state university is maintained by the armed forces of the Federal government, then that institution is not integrated.

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"We have not and we shall not relax in any way our convictions to preserve the separate but equal school system in Mississippi. We will oppose, on all occasions and at every opportunity and in every proper manner, any and all dictatorial powers and policies which seek to change our school system, our customs, our heritage, our way of life, and which is changing the form of government of this great country and will ultimately convert our states into provinces, subjected to a centralized, all-powerful and ruthless government in Washington.

"I have always believed in segregation of the races because I believe in the purity and integrity of both the white and Negro races. I know this--that everywhere integration has been practiced long enough and extensively enough, it has ruined every civilization.

"My position now is stronger than ever before, and my devotion to the find Mississippi University students continues to grow with each passing hour. Students at Ole Miss have shown great courage and restraint and yet a complete unwillingness to surrender to force, threat or intimidation. I want to now commend those students and their parents for their wonderful attitude and conduct.

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"Americans everywhere must realize that integration is the primary facet of the conspiracy to socialize and communize America.

"This racial situation will most certainly inflict dreadful retribution and retaliation upon those who are aiding and promoting this deplorable condition. These pressure groups, like a brute and inhuman monster, will, when given the first opportunity, turn upon and devour their benefactors.

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"I am asking the people of Mississippi to keep faith, have courage and stand firm. I am confident that as more good, sound-thinking people in other areas of the nation become confronted with similar problems that we are facing, their reaction, with ours, will cause the pendulum to swing back and we can all surge forward to a complete and honorable victory.

"It is my most fervent prayer that the God of States in His infinite wisdom, will lead the people of Mississippi through every dark period that we are called upon to pass."