

Ford blasted on busing

by David M. Rosen
United Press International

BOSTON — Mayor Kevin H. White lashed out Thursday at President Ford's statement on the Boston school busing controversy, saying the President's comment "threatens the safety of our school children."

"President Ford's statement yesterday acts to impede the enforcement of the federal court order to desegregate Boston's schools and thus threatens the safety of our school children," White said.

White said that in making the statement

the President has "jeopardized the civil and human rights of this city and his statements challenge the rule of law throughout this land."

White's remarks came as 450 riot trained state and metropolitan police surrounded schools in racially troubled South Boston and provided an armed motorcycle escort to buses, protecting children and enforcing a federal court desegregation order.

The forces were ordered in by Gov. Francis W. Sargent after consulting with White, who was ordered by a federal judge to request additional state or local police

personnel to implement the order and keep peace in the city. The judge turned down White's request for 125 federal marshals.

During a news conference Wednesday Ford said court-ordered busing "in my judgment was not the best solution to quality education in Boston," but he urged "respect for the law."

Attendance was higher city wide, with increased number of black students in South Boston. Officials said initial reports indicated attendance Thursday would be up five to 10 per cent over Wednesday's 60.1 per cent.

Two days of street fighting, rock-throwing and looting in the black Roxbury section of the city was triggered by a false alarm at English High Tuesday.

Fights broke out between blacks and whites in front of the building and groups of blacks left for the Mission Hill Housing projects where they threw rocks at passing cars. At least 14 arrests and 11 injuries were reported Wednesday.

On Monday 600 whites clashed with 400 tactical Boston police at the Old Colony Housing Project after a black man was pulled from his car and beaten with sticks. Officials said the Roxbury disorders were in retaliation for the South Boston incident.

Following the two days of violence White asked U.S. District Judge W. Arthur Garrity, who issued the busing order, to assign federal marshals to keep order in Boston. Black leaders urged Garrity to assign additional state law enforcement personnel or federal troops.

Garrity turned down White's request saying only 23 marshals were available and their presence would be just a "symbolic gesture." He said Boston needed "security not symbolism."

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On The Outside

from the wires of United Press International

Jet crash toll climbs

SAN ANTONIO—The death toll in the Sept. 11 crash of an Eastern Airlines jet at Charlotte climbed to 72 Thursday with the death of Dr. William M. Shelley.

Shelley, chief pathologist at Charlotte Memorial Hospital, died at Brooke army general hospital at midday Thursday, a spokesman said. He had been taken there last month for treatment of second and third degree burns over 50 per cent of his body.

There were 82 persons aboard the Eastern jet that crashed in a corn field about 3.3 miles from Charlotte's Douglas Municipal Airport early Sept. 11. Thirteen persons had survived the crash initially.

Shelley, 46, had been chief pathologist at Charlotte Memorial since 1970. He is survived by his widow and three children.

Duke Power forced to lower some rates

by Eliot Brenner
United Press International

RALEIGH — The State Utilities Commission Thursday approved a \$61.08 million rate hike for Duke Power Co., but in an unprecedented move ordered a rate rollback which will affect half a million North Carolina homes.

UNC's Utilities Study Commission (Church Commission) has advised that the University's utilities be sold to Duke Power.

The panel substituted a rate structure of its own—in place of a Duke proposal—which makes industries pay more than they had bargained on under Duke's plan. The panel also rolled back Duke increases for customers who use less than 1,300 kilowatt hours monthly.

In addition, the commission rejected Duke's plea for an \$83 million rate hike but allowed the firm to raise prices to cover rising fuel costs.

And the panel, in its order approving the increase, sharply scored Duke on several management practices, suggested it should operate more efficiently and ordered it to halt "institutional advertising."

Duke had instituted all of the increase on an interim basis, and the order requires the firm to roll back prices for those who use less than 350 kilowatt hours, 122,000

households, to their original rates, allowing no increase.

The order also allowed Duke less than requested for users up to 1,300 kilowatt hours monthly. 422,000 homes and rollbacks from the current interim price will have to be made on subsequent bills.

Duke had requested an overall increase of 16.8 per cent, with slightly varying rates for industrial and household consumers. While granted the full increase under a restructured formula suggested in a state Supreme Court decision on a Duke appeal of an earlier order, the commission revised Duke's rate structure to place the "fair share" of the costs on industrial concerns.

The commission, in its order, said Duke would not have to make refunds to those eligible for price rollbacks. Refunds, it said, could prompt a "financial crisis" for the Charlotte-based utility firm.

Increases in demand for power, the commission said, have come largely from industrial users since homeowners have taken conservation measures. The rate reshuffling, it said, was "necessary and essential."

The largest industrial users, under the order, will be subject to a 27.8 per cent increase over rates in effect at the time the request was filed in September of 1973.

Mills 'embarrassed, humiliated' by incident

by Don Phillips
United Press International

WASHINGTON—Rep. Wilbur Mills, D-Ark., said Thursday he was "embarrassed and humiliated" by an incident in which Park Police stopped his car near the Jefferson Memorial Sunday night. Officers said they found him intoxicated and his face scratched and bloody.

Mills, who has been secluded in his apartment for four days, said he would be in his office Friday and would resume the chair of the Ways and Means Committee until Congress recesses Friday, "at which time Polly and I will return to my home district to devote our attention to the re-election campaign."

Earlier statements from his office that he was not in the car were the result of a misunderstanding between himself and his administrative assistant Eugene Goss, Mills said.

Mills said the incident followed a bon voyage party for a woman who was returning to her native Argentina. He said his wife Polly had intended to attend the party but was prevented from going by a broken foot.

The Arkansas congressman, facing a close battle for re-election, said the party involved neighbors in the Mills' Arlington, Va.,

apartment complex. Mr. and Mrs. Eduardo Battistella, and a house guest, Gloria Sanchez, who was visiting from Argentina. Mills said when his wife broke her foot, "she insisted I take our friends to a public place we had frequented before."

Mills said that during the party Ms. Battistella became ill and he and his friends were in the process of taking her home when Mills' Lincoln Continental, driving without headlights, was stopped near the Tidal Basin, a backwater of the Potomac River near the Jefferson Memorial.

Mills said the headlights were not on because the man he asked to drive the car was unfamiliar with it and "in the glare of the lighted streets neglected to turn on the headlights."

"As we proceeded home, she (Ms. Battistella) attempted to leave the car and I attempted to prevent it. In the ensuing struggle, her elbow hit my glasses and broke them, resulting in a number of small cuts around my nose."

"About this time, the car was stopped by the park service police and Ms. Battistella was able to open the door and leave the car. The next thing I knew she was in the water. After she was safely rescued and declared out of danger, one of the park rangers took me home."

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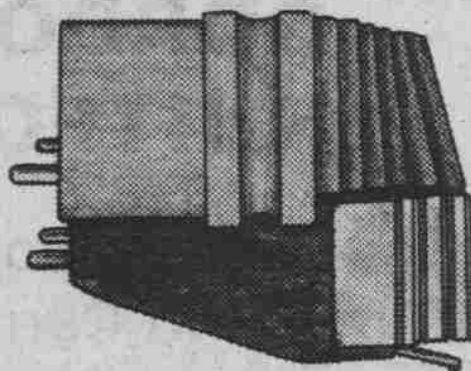
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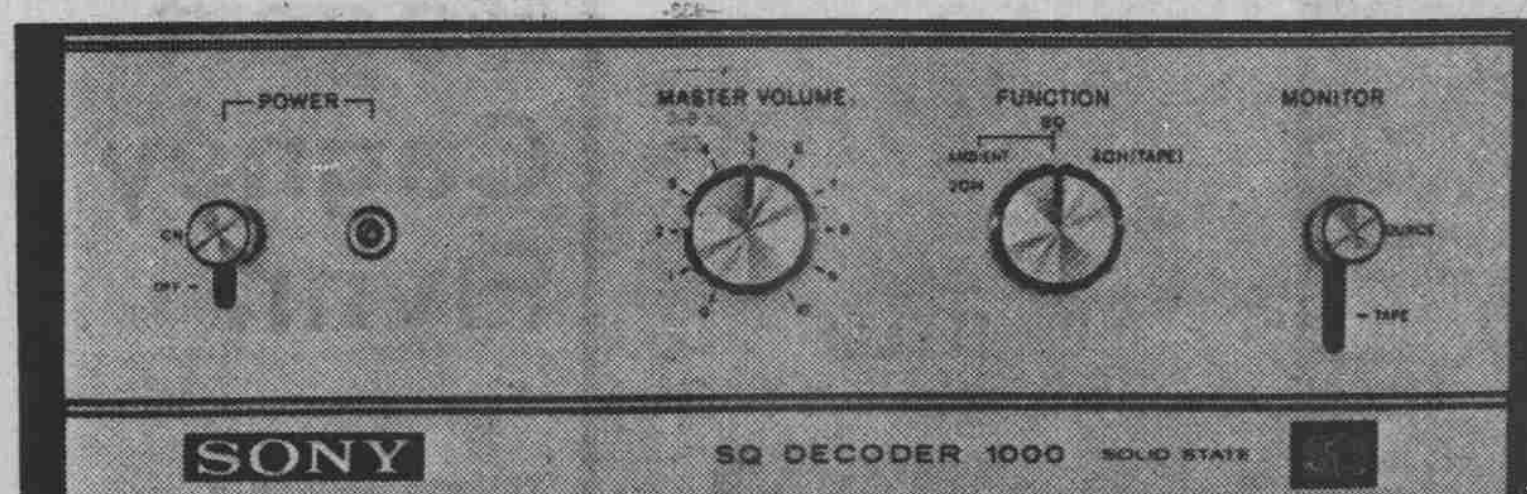
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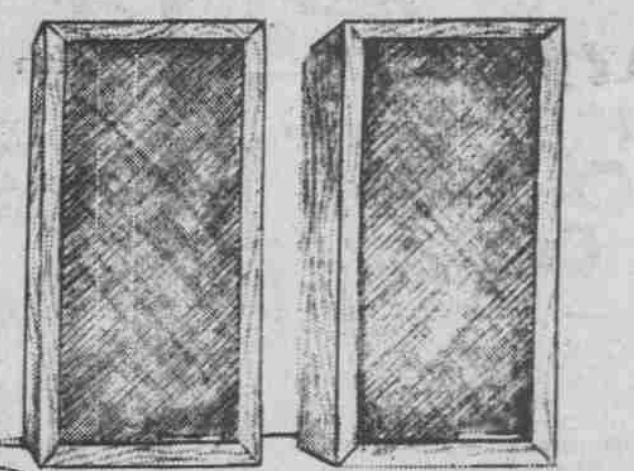
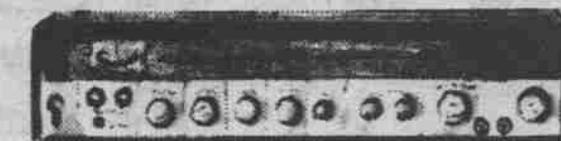
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