

August 26, 1975

[REDACTED]

Boston, Ma 02118

Dear [REDACTED]:

Thank you for your letter of August 18 concerning the need to ensure public safety when Boston's schools open in September.

I share your belief that the safety of all individuals who are being bussed must be ensured.

Mr. J Stanley Pottinger, the Director of the Civil Rights Division of the United States Department of Justice, will head the federal effort to guarantee that the busing plan is implemented non-violently, should federal participation be necessary.

Mr. Pottinger has already arrived in Boston to oversee federal involvement and you can be assured that I will remain in constant contact with him. He has already indicated to me that he will remain vigilant in protecting the rights of all those who ride the busses.

I appreciate your taking the time and the trouble to write to me on this most critical matter. If I can ever be of any service to you, please feel free to contact me again.

Sincerely,

JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY
Member of Congress

Congressman Moakley ①

[REDACTED]
Boston, Mass. 02118

Dear Sir: Aug. 18, 1975

Read the enclosed article & you will see the necessity to bring the State & National Guards to Boston, Mass. when school opens on Sept. 8, 1975!!

The residents of South Boston, East Boston, & Charlestown have said: - "We will blow up the bridges, before we will let niggers come in our communities!!"

Sincerely,
[REDACTED]

(A voter & a supporting member of the Democratic National Committee)!!

NAACP

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about 11:30, and Paul Kennedy assisted Maceo Dixon in organizing the cars for the caravan and selecting picnic marshals who were trained to lock arms against line breakers or encircle people creating trouble.

Asked to assess police protection and how this was handled, Atkins said, "at the bottom line I would have to say white police are unwilling to disperse crowds of whites no matter what they do to blacks.

"That appeared to be true whether it was Boston, MDC, or State.

"What it reflects is either the sentiment of the policemen, and the decision of their commanders or both.

"To some extent what I saw and what people I talked with saw was incomplete. What I don't know is if it was inaccurate. We were unable to see all the police handling of white crowds.

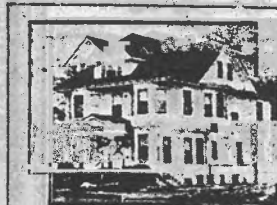
"But the pattern that emerges is that police contain whites and disperse blacks.

"That was the strategy employed during school desegregation disastrously.

"The problem last year was that police allowed large crowds of obviously antagonistic people to gather without dispersing them.

"We hope that the closing of the beach will help to underscore the absolute seriousness of the kind of social dynamite the city is sitting on."

Mr. John T. Diggs, Jr.
2 Latimore Court, 84 Apt.
Boston, Mass. 02118



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The smashed windshield of an MDC patrol wagon at Carson Beach attests to the violence of the crowd. Residents of the black community gathered there to protest the continued attacks on blacks by residents of the area.

NAACP President Tom Atkins calls for closed Carson Beach

by Kay Bourne

The way it is blacks can't go to Carson Beach and swim in safety, and it doesn't seem to be the fault of white sharks in the water.

There was rock-throwing, arrests, scuffles, verbal harrassments, a swerving motorcycle, and confrontations Sunday afternoon (August 10th) at Carson Beach in South Boston, when a contingent of largely black citizens planning to picnic without provocation tried to use the beach.

"I'm pretty much of the opinion Carson Beach has to be closed, totally sealed off," said Tom Atkins, president of the Boston Branch of the NAACP, after assessing the afternoon.

It was a very busy night for the NAACP office, but Atkins took the time to give the BANNER an exclusive interview so that black readers could get a first-hand account of the assessment.

Atkins himself was at the beach during the afternoon, and he left to check on arrests and hospitalizations at Beth Israel and Boston City Hospital.

All but the patrolman, who had the heart attack, and the young man, who was hit in the face with a brick (staying until he got stitches) had been released by eight in the evening. "We gave information and assistance to people who were arrested," said Atkins. "we paid the bonds so they got out and if need be we will provide legal defense."

Of the six blacks arrested and booked one was a woman, one a minor and four were adult men. All were bailed.

Getting an accurate analysis of what happened at Carson Beach as he could was another major effort of Atkins and the picnic coordinators Sunday night.

"I have talked to each of a dozen people," said Atkins. "Some of them had arrived at the beach quite awhile before the main body got there, some just before, and people who were at different spots on the beach. Now we have a pretty good picture of much of what happened there.

"The question now is what constitutes a response. What do we do? What must the government do? What must the mayor

Close the beach is Atkins' opinion.

"If we assume the police did the very best they could do, it was obviously inadequate, wasn't enough," he said.

Police there were Boston Police, MDC Police and State Police, an estimated three-fourths of the numbers that are scheduled to assist in the opening of school this fall. (The MDC watch officer said that there were 600 police officers on hand from the three branches, 150 State Police, 250 MDC, and 200 Boston City.)

Should Carson Beach remain open and blacks not be able to go there safely, it becomes explicit discrimination on the part of the state to let the beach be open, believes Atkins.

Extensive meetings prior to Sunday, August 10th were held between the picnic coordinators and the police, said Atkins.

"They knew everything we were doing, and we wanted to make

certain they did. And in a couple of instances, they made suggestions. For instance, go down this street, don't go down that street. And we did it in every instance.

"It was a joint plan. It wasn't their idea to have a picnic, but the planning for security aspects was jointly done.

"We relied on that and we were let down."

Coordinators for the picnic were Rev. William Weeks, chairman of the ministerial council, Percy Wilson of the Roxbury Multi-Service Center, Pat Jones of Lena Park, Elma Lewis of the Elma Lewis School of Fine Arts, The Black Caucus, Frieda Garcia of HOPE (Hispanic Organization for Planning and Evaluation), Rev. Harold Ross of the Association For Better Living, and Maceo Dixon of the National Student Coalition Against Racism.

People started arriving at Franklin Park for the picnic at

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