



Department of Justice

STATEMENT BY ATTORNEY GENERAL ROBERT F. KENNEDY - JANUARY 7, 1963

Of course, the situation at the University of Mississippi has been very difficult for Mr. Meredith.

Many members of the faculty have made an effort in the highest traditions of their profession to obey the Court's orders and assist Mr. Meredith in getting an education. But it is true that a number of officials charged with the administration of the University have not met their responsibilities. It is incumbent upon them and state law enforcement officials to make it possible for Mr. Meredith to continue his education without interruption. I would hope that they will take appropriate steps now to do so.

Mr. Meredith is as free to leave the school as he was to enter it. I would hope that in making a final decision on this, Mr. Meredith will consider that he chose to go to the University of Mississippi and the energies and hopes of many of his fellow citizens have been involved in his admission and continued attendance.

Should Mr. Meredith feel obliged to leave the University because of extreme racial intolerance which has focused hostility on him, it would be a reflection on the University of Mississippi and the State of Mississippi. That this could occur anywhere in the United States is a reflection on all of us.