

In any case, Mr. Kruger at this point took a hand, and while I don't know the details of what he did, at all, and I do not claim that what I have here is an accurate report of what he did, it is what we understand happened.

We understand that on May 3, Mr. Cherry received a telegram from Kruger, Mr. Kruger at the Office of Education, saying that letters should have been sent prior to April 30, assigning students to school, and then a transfer permitted, also that the system should have submitted a map by April 13, and asked for immediate publication of a geographical request zone plan, and a requested explanation.

The next day, Mr. Harper stated to the Constitution that he knew of no deadlines for mailing letters.

We understand that Mr. Cherry was incensed by this telegram from Mr. Kruger, and said he would have no further dealings with him, that he would only talk with Mr. Howe.

On May 6, the De Kalb Council met with Mr. Corrigan, of the U.S. Office of Education. He reiterated that the procedures for a geographic plan would be enforced. He also stated that all faculties would be integrated. And he stated that preparation of pupils, teachers, and staff for desegregation was an important consideration in the Office's considerations of compliance.

On May 9, we wrote a letter to Mr. Corrigan, pointing out the variety of courses currently offered in De Kalb schools, and asked when we would receive new notices.

We got no answer to this letter.

It was on May 11 that Mr. Cherry was quoted in the paper as saying he would not deal with Kruger, because of statements made.

We had community support, then, for insisting that there be compliance. I can point to articles in the Atlanta Constitution pointing out there should be no reason why there should have been any difficulty, under the guidelines.

On May 16, Mr. Cherry saw Mr. Howe, and came out of the meeting with a letter in hand in which Mr. Cherry was absolved completely. And Mr. Howe said Mr. Cherry was doing just great, that he did not have to have any notices of attendance zones, because "each child understands that he is initially assigned to an attendance area."

In the meantime, in fact following this for a number of weeks, our committee in the schools were being told that they must sign these freedom-of-choice forms.

My own job people, for example, told a third grade student that he would not be able to go to school next year unless his parents completed the freedom-of-choice forms.

However, some did not complete those forms, and we did want to see if we would ever get a notice of our attendance zone.

On June 8, assignments by attendance zone were made for those who had not completed the choice form. This was after school closed.

In the meantime, we wrote to Mr. Howe, on May 26, citing what we considered to be 10 violations of the guidelines, and asking him to answer this letter.

We never did get a reply to this, although we wrote him a month later asking if he could not reply, and since we could not get any information from that point, De Kalb County paid no further attention to us.