The roll-call of Southern communities which have begun at least token public-school integration in response to Federal court pressure has significantly lengthened this fall with the peaceful desegregation of schools in Dallas, Memphis, and Miami. In the last two cities, massive resistance on the part of local taxpayers in the Deep South was staved off for the first time. But in the former city, the number of citizens involved was not impressive, the psychological effect on the rest of the Black Belt South was nil.

But one state, which shares with Arkansas and South Carolina the distinction of maintaining total segregation at all levels in the public schools, shows no signs of yielding to a process of desegregation. When the number of Negro militants, the recent Interstate Commerce Commission ruling on the desegregation of interstate facilities, State laws were invoked in every city to preserve segregation. The Justice Department promptly asked Federal courts for a restraining order, and the Negroes were able to demonstrate before the Interstate Commerce Commission that the city systems of segregation in Mississippi is pervasive, sometimes subtle but immensely strong. To a high degree it is vested in the Citizens Council organization.

It is difficult to explain to an outsider just how powerful a force this white-supremacy group has become. Perhaps the hardest point to grasp is that the Citizens Council in Mississippi is a matter how dubious its aims, is formed into a strength and is a real threat to the Negro. Along with the city systems of segregation, control of the pool hall but from the country ends with a call for a united effort. "The South is the unending reversion of the attitude of the middle and upper classes rather than the poor white. And its aims are not made up of hooded fences meeting furtively at dark alleys.

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While other Southern states move toward at least token desegregation, Mississippi has avoided confrontation, and the white supremacists are firmly in control.

By HODDING CARTER III

GREENVILLE, Miss.

Far more important to the Council's leadership is the fact that the Citizens Council in Mississippi has managed to retain control of resistance to desegregation, the one Southern state which showed no signs of yielding to a process of desegregation. While the number of Negro militants, the recent Interstate Commerce Commission ruling on the desegregation of interstate facilities, State laws were invoked in every city to preserve segregation. The Justice Department promptly asked Federal courts for a restraining order, and the Negroes were able to demonstrate before the Interstate Commerce Commission that the city systems of segregation in Mississippi are pervasive, sometimes subtle but immensely strong. To a high degree it is vested in the Citizens Council organization.

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