To Managing Editor
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A task force of 200 U. S. marshals arrived here by air this afternoon, Oxford, Miss.

A task force of 200 U. S. marshals, armed with gas grenades and clubs and wearing steel helmets, arrived here by air and were taken in army trucks to the Ole Miss campus with the apparent consent of Mississippi authorities.

Accompanying the contingent of marshals, headed by Chief U. S. Marshal Jim McShane, were a group of top Justice Department aides who form the high command for Operation Oxford. Military jets circled the field several times as the marshals dearked and lined up in formation.


The marshals have taken up positions around the Lyceum, the imposing white-columned structure that houses the registrar's office. As dusk begins to fall over this town, state police—who have been absent from the community—are moving back onto the campus. In the unmarked automobiles, the state patrolman are carrying riot guns and extra uniforms, as though they were planning on a long siege. All signs point to continuing state resistance Monday morning when it is presumed another attempt will be made to register James Meredith, 29-year-old Negro.

The town is quiet, though crowded with automobiles and local citizens doing some sightseeing at the railroad bridge leading onto the campus. The university grounds have been closed to public and press since 2:30 p.m., when the first unmarked aircraft, carrying