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U.S. SEEKS DELAY OF A BUSING PLAN

Asks High Court for Stay in
Corpus Christi Directive

WASHINGTON, Aug. 18 (UPI) — The Nixon Administration asked the Supreme Court today to delay court-ordered integration of the Corpus Christi, Tex., school district under a massive busing plan originally proposed by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

The Justice Department filed a brief with Associate Justice Hugo L. Black supporting the Corpus Christi school board's request for a stay of a Federal District Court order requiring the busing of 15,000 of the city's 46,000 students in the 1971-1972 school year.

It was the Administration's first action against court-ordered busing since the White House announced last week that President Nixon had told Government officials to order busing only as a last resort to achieve a racial balance in public schools.

"A stay should be granted for a limited period," Solicitor General Irwin N. Griswold told the Supreme Court. The issue is before Justice Black while the Court is in recess.

Mr. Griswold said that, since the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit gave no reasons when it reversed a stay order in the case, Justice Black should grant a limited stay to enable an appeals court hearing on the case.

Specifically, Mr. Griswold urged a hearing on the questions of the school board's obligations to its Mexican-American students and "the school board's ability to provide the buses required by the District Court's order."

The school board, which operates the fifth largest school system in Texas, says it is unable to provide the 105 buses necessary to comply with the court order.

The busing plan adopted by the Federal Court was proposed by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare after the Supreme Court ruled April 20 that busing was a constitutional and sometimes indispensable method of ridding school systems of "the last vestiges" of racial segregation.