

COURT ASKED TO BAN KLAN SCHOOL ACTION

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—A hearing has been set for Aug. 1 here in Federal Court on a suit filed by Attorney General Ramsey Clark seeking an injunction to prevent a Ku Klux Klan chapter from interfering with school desegregation in a rural county in northern Alabama.

The hearing will be conducted before United States District Judge Frank M. Johnson Jr.

The suit charged that the Klan members "harassed, threatened, intimidated, coerced and punished" the Negro families whose children applied for admission into previously all-white schools in Crenshaw County.

The county has been operating under a "freedom of choice" desegregation plan for two years. In 1966, the suit charged, 202 Negro children applied for admission to traditionally white schools, but only 65 actually attended classes. In 1967 it said, 117 Negroes applied but only 84 attended classes.

The suit named C. D. McLeod, identified as the Exalted Cyclops or president of the Klan unit, and eight other members of the secret order.

The suit charged that the intimidation took the form of "threats of physical harm,

threats of economic harm, harassment and verbal abuse, burning of crosses, termination and threats of termination of employment . . . and threats of interference with business and other economic relations."

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