

# Racial busing costs not fed. burden

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court, denying an appeal from Kentucky, said in effect Monday the federal government does not have to help pay the costs of court-ordered busing to achieve racially desegregated public schools.

The justices rejected without comment an appeal by Kentucky Gov. Julian Carroll seeking permission to ask for federal help in paying for busing in the Louisville area, one of hundreds of school districts across the nation carrying out court-ordered busing.

The court's action bars, at least for now, any hope other state and local school districts may have had to get such federal help.

A racial desegregation plan in effect since 1975 for schools in Louisville and surrounding Jefferson County, Ky., has made

## Court denies Kentucky appeal

necessary the daily busing of some 23,000 students.

"The drain on state and local funds ... is quite real and devastating," Carroll's appeal said.

The governor had challenged the constitutionality of three federal laws prohibiting federal funding of busing for desegregation. A federal judge in Louisville and a federal appeals court already had upheld the laws.

In urging the court to turn down Kentucky's argument, the Carter administration argued that the federal government is under no obligation to help defray desegregation costs.

"Indeed, states may well be less likely to violate a citizen's rights today if it means paying the costs of making good those rights in the future," the Justice Department told the court.

In other matters, the court:  
• Reversed two lower courts and ruled that residents of Puerto Rico are not entitled to collect Supplemental Security Income payments which they received while living in the United States. Voting 7-2, the justices decided the constitutional right of travel doesn't mean that benefits enjoyed in one state will follow the traveler.

Government lawyers had sought the reversal, telling the high court that SSI payments to Puerto Rico residents would exceed \$300 million a year and "threaten to disrupt Puerto Rico's already ailing economy."

• Let stand a ruling that federal courts may force the government to speed up settlements of disputed Social Security benefit claims.

Health, Education and Welfare Secretary Joseph Califano had asked the court to overturn the ruling, contending that it "threatens significantly" to disrupt his ability to administer Social Security benefits nationwide "in an even-handed and orderly manner."

## World at a glance

From Associated Press Reports

### Cubans enter Ethiopian war

ROME — Cuban soldiers have entered combat for the first time against rebels in Ethiopia's northern Eritrea province, the insurgents said Monday. Cubans already had been reported fighting alongside Ethiopian troops in their Ogaden war against Somali secessionists at the other end of the country.

Amde Michael Kahsai, spokesman for the Eritrean People's Liberation Front, said in Rome that 1,000 Cubans joined Ethiopian defenders in the Eritrean capital of Asmara for an unsuccessful attempt to crack the five-month rebel siege of the city.

### Mime troupe arrested

BARCELONA, Spain — The Spanish army will put five pantomimists on trial Tuesday for allegedly insulting the military in one of their mime plays. The troupe's director was to have stood trial, too, but he eluded his guards with a ruse Monday and escaped.

Leftists threatened street protests and moderates condemned the prosecution as a throwback to the days of the old Franco dictatorship.

### Burglar bumbles in the buff

LAS VEGAS, Nev. — What do you say to a naked burglar?

That's what police were wondering Sunday when they arrested Karl Hunsaker, 30, of Las Vegas, as he was climbing down a ladder in the buff carrying household goods from an apartment.

Police said neighbors noticed the naked man at about 5 a.m. Sunday.

Hunsaker was booked for investigation of burglary.

Officers gave no reason as to why Hunsaker had no clothes on.

### \$400 million in taxes up in smoke

HARRISBURG, Pa. — With hearings set to open in Washington Tuesday on the \$400 million-a-year problem of cigarette smuggling, Pennsylvania is taking one solution into its own hands — offering Southerners rewards for tips about the smugglers.

The state has taken out an ad offering 50 cents per carton of confiscated cigarettes in editions of the Raleigh N.C. News-Observer. The ad will also appear in other Southern states.

The Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations says \$400 million a year is the amount in unpaid state taxes lost to smugglers who buy up cartons of cigarettes in tobacco-growing states, transport them north to states where taxes are high and sell the cigarettes cut-rate.

## Poll reveals public opposes proposed Mideast arms sale

WASHINGTON (AP) — The American people say they want less U.S. involvement in the Middle East, whether in selling warplanes or in pressuring Israel or Egypt to make concessions, an Associated Press-NBC News poll shows.

The survey also found indications the public is growing disenchanted with the Israeli negotiating stance in the current series of peace moves.

About 57 percent of those questioned opposed the proposed U.S. sale of warplanes to all three countries — Israel, Egypt and Saudi Arabia.

Only one part of a \$4.8 billion package proposed by Pres. Carter earlier this month — planes for Israel — is supported by as many as 24 percent of the 1,600 adults questioned by telephone last week.

Opinions about the sales to each country were asked as separate questions.

On the sale of 90 highly sophisticated F-15 and F-16 fighters to Israel, 63 percent of the American

people were opposed. Only 24 percent said they favored the deal. Thirteen percent were undecided.

Selling 50 less advanced F-5E fighters to Israel's neighbor and sometime opponent, Egypt, drew support from 21 percent of those questioned. Sixty-six percent opposed the sale, with 13 percent again undecided.

And 17 percent were in favor of the sale of 60 F-15 fighters to Saudi Arabia with 69 percent opposed. Fourteen percent were not sure.

Those who opposed sales to one nation were likely to oppose sales to all of the countries. Those who answered no to each of the three questions on plane sales totaled 57 percent of those interviewed.

Only 14 percent were in favor of all the sales.

The desire for less involvement in the Middle East was also shown by the answers to a question on whether the United States should pressure Israel or Egypt into concessions in the current round of peace talks.

## Saccharin benefits claimed

WASHINGTON (AP) — If using saccharin keeps a person from gaining weight, the long-term cancer risk from the artificial sweetener is far less than the increased health risks caused by excess weight, according to a statistical analysis.

Dr. Bernard Cohen, a University of Pittsburgh physicist specializing in risk assessment, said Monday preliminary data indicate that the benefits of drinking a saccharin-sweetened diet soft drink exceed the risk if the drink

prevents a person from taking in just one additional calorie.

Cohen cautioned his statistical conclusions are based upon the limited saccharin-bladder cancer risk data now available and that the results could change as ongoing studies provide more information.

"If you have a diet drink instead of a piece of pie, then there is a benefit," he continued. "If you use a diet drink as an excuse to eat the pie, then you lose the benefit."

In a report in the current issue of

Science magazine, Cohen concludes that drinking a diet soda daily during an entire life-time cuts life expectancy by nine seconds per 12-ounce serving. This compares with a decreased life expectancy of 12 minutes for every cigarette smoked, he adds.

Wayne Pines, a Food and Drug Administration spokesman, said he had not seen the Cohen study. But he said this was the kind of information the government wants to consider in the saccharin re-evaluation requested by Congress.

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