

# SCHOOLS BECOME BATTLEGROUND FOR EQUAL RIGHTS

BOSTON schools are in crisis. At South Boston High, there are metal detectors at the doors and state troopers inside, *writes our civil rights correspondent, April 14, 1976.*

The crisis began two years ago when a plan for busing students was introduced to enforce integration in Massachusetts public schools. Earlier, the state

legislature ordered them to end segregation, by which African-American and white students attended separate schools.

In a court ruling, U.S. Judge W. Arthur Garrity Jr., found a pattern of racial discrimination in Boston schools. Garrity's ruling means that many African-American and white students will have to attend the same schools for the first time.

Civil rights in America have continued to progress since World War II. Racial segregation has ended within the U.S. armed forces, and laws enacted in the 1960s have made equal rights the law of the land for all Americans.

Schools have become the latest battleground in the struggle for equality. Desegregation has provoked violent racial protests.

