

Kent's Townspeople Back Guardsmen

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By JERRY M. FLINT

Special to The New York Times

KENT, Ohio, May 7 — "It's a shame it had to take killing to do it, but all those kids were someplace they shouldn't have been," said Dick Richards, a florist lunching at the weekly meeting of the Lions Club at the Brown Derby just outside town.

His comment reflected the attitude voiced by many in this town, where four Kent State University students were killed by National Guardsmen on Monday. Around much of the country the Guardsmen's actions have raised controversy, but here the townspeople have shown little disagreement in supporting the troops.

It's too bad, they say but the National Guardsmen were right; the students shouldn't have been there; there's a minority that causes trouble, and outside agitators shouldn't be let in. And the troublemakers have long hair, use bad language, go barefoot and even destroy property, and they had to be stopped.

"I make my living in Kent," said Don Ruble, who owns laundry machines in the dormitories, "but I wouldn't send another son there."

The teachers fill the students full of the wrong ideas, he said, and they come home rejecting the adults and their values.

His oldest son went to Kent State and now teaches retarded children in Cleveland. "I respect him for that," but the two have grown so apart in thinking that "I don't even want to see him," Mr. Ruble said.

Sometimes the reaction is one of hate. A sweet-faced, gray-haired woman, probably more than 70 years old, spat out, "They insult the townspeople! I was just walking down the street, going to the bank, and one just come

Bullet Fragments Sent To F.B.I. for Testing

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KENT, Ohio, May 7—The bullet fragments taken from the bodies of four students killed here Monday have been turned over to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the sheriff's department said today.

The fragments—no whole bullets were recovered from the bodies—were sent to Washington for ballistics tests. Nine other students were wounded in the firing by National Guardsmen, and bullet parts recovered from the wounded also have been passed on to the F.B.I.

Thirteen M-1 rifles were collected yesterday from guardsmen, also presumably for ballistic tests. Such testing is used in an effort to tell which particular weapon fired which bullet, usually from identifying scratches left on the bullet by the barrel of the weapon.

There have been reports or contentions that there might have been a sniper shot fired before the guardsmen opened fire on the students. But as yet there appears to be no evidence of such a shot other than a large hole in a metal sculpture near the scene of the fighting.

beat you to death, and if you've got a gun and don't use it, you don't have a brain in your head," said Steve Gulosh, a part-time policeman.

There are 19,000 students and 29,000 townspeople, and the townsfolk complain that when the youngsters — students and nonstudents from surrounding areas — pour into downtown Kent on weekends, it becomes dangerous for women and even men.

"They got to keep order some way. One thing they ought to do is, they ought to chase them all out if they don't get their hair cut and cleaned up," said Harry Miller, a 58-year-old house painter.

Today the guardsmen were withdrawing and by tomorrow all are to be gone from the Kent State campus. The broken windows downtown are being replaced. The Lions club today listened to a local golf pro explaining the fine points of putting. But the streets, normally full of students, were still empty and no one knows when Kent State will reopen.

up to me and said, "You old-you!"

"My own gas station man said they should have shot 100 of them," said Tom Bohlander, who sells Fiat cars and Honda bikes near the campus. He was graduated from Kent State in 1968. He also thinks the faculty share the blame for the trouble for urging students to take to the streets.

"You get someone backed in a corner, someone trying to