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GOOD MORNING!
The same wind snuffs candles yet kindles fires; so, where absence kills a little love, it fans a great one.
La Rochefoucauld

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By Attorney General John Mitchell

Kent State Probe Ruled Out

WASHINGTON (AP) — Atty. Gen. John N. Mitchell shut the door Friday on pleas for a federal grand jury probe into the slaying of four Kent State University students in a shooting incident involving Ohio National Guardsmen.

The parents of the slain students said in a released statement in their behalf that, "The shock of learning of the decision ... is nearly as great as the shock that came to us when our children were killed at Kent State on May 4, 1970."

Four were killed and nine others were wounded during a campus confrontation. Mitchell, in a three-page statement, endorsed the finding of a presidential commission that the shootings were "unnecessary, unwarranted and inexcusable."

But he added: "Our review persuades me that there is no credible evidence of a conspiracy between National Guardsmen to shoot students on the campus and that there is no likelihood of successful prosecutions of individual guardsmen."

"It is my judgment that further action by the Department of Justice would not be warranted," Mitchell cited what he described as a massive and intensive Federal investigation into the slayings and said the facts presented him "support the conclusion reached by the President's Commission that the rifle fire was, in the words of the commission, "unnecessary, unwarranted and inexcusable."

Further investigation by a federal grand jury, he said, "could not reasonably be expected to produce any new evidence which would contribute further to making a prosecutive judgment."

In Kent, Ohio, Robert I. White, president of Kent State University, said the school "must and does" accept the department's decision.

The parents of the four students as well as congressional and civil rights spokesmen had See KENT, Page A-5

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urged a federal grand jury investigation into the shootings.

So had former Pennsylvania Gov. William W. Soranton, chairman of the President's commission on Campus Unrest.

"We had faith in the action that would ultimately be taken by the Department of Justice, and we had faith in the system of justice for which it is responsible," said the parents in a statement released in their behalf by the Rev. John P. Adams of the United Methodist Church's Department of Law, Justice and Community Relations.

"Now we know that the Department of Justice will not act. It is inconceivable to us that this is so, particularly because its own investigative reports indicate that such action would have been fully appropriate."