

La. Deputies Questioned By FBI

BATON ROUGE, La., Dec. 15 (AP)—A U.S. attorney said today that FBI agents have questioned sheriff's deputies who were in the area from which a shot was fired that killed two students during a disturbance at Southern University.

U.S. Attorney Douglas Gonzalez said the federal investigation, ordered by President Nixon, has "narrowed down to a certain number of deputies because only a deputy in that area could have possibly fired a shot." He declined to say how many deputies had been questioned.

Louisiana Attorney General William Guste said that his state commission's report on the killing of the two black students would be taken to a grand jury if he has to do it himself.

"However, I really believe the district attorney should do this," Guste added. "First, we will try to persuade him to accept the constitutional duty of a district attorney."

Guste's comment came after Ossie Brown, who takes over as district attorney in January, said he would let Guste handle any grand jury proceedings.

The report to be placed before the grand jury is to be compiled by a special 12-member biracial committee. Guste said its findings are not yet in final form. A preliminary report was issued by Guste's committee Thursday.

In talking about the report, Guste said the shotgun blast came from a section where six deputies stood, but would not identify them because he said that would go before the grand jury.

The six were among a force of some 200 deputies and state police sent to the campus after reports that militant students seeking control of the university had seized the administration building.

Sheriff Al Amiss, who was

criticized by Guste for his handling of the incident, said he didn't believe one of his deputies fired the shotgun.

Guste said, "We have interviewed 229 persons and our information has not developed that any other person was in the area except sheriff's deputies, and in the specific area which I mentioned, six deputies."

"The shot was fired by an individual from the area occupied only by sheriff's deputies, as far as our investigation to this moment has disclosed," he added.

In criticizing Amiss's direction of the police forces at the campus, Guste said the tragedy wouldn't have happened if command had been firm and the officers trained in crowd control.