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**Kennedy's Wife Faces  
Drunken Driving Count**

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Oct. 9—  
Joan Kennedy, the wife of  
Senator Edward M. Kennedy,  
was arrested today and  
charged with drunken driving  
after her automobile was in-  
volved in a three-car accident  
in Fairfax County, Va.

A Kennedy spokesman said  
that no one was injured in  
the accident, in which Mrs.  
Kennedy's car rammmed into  
a car ahead, which in turn  
was pushed into a third car.  
The accident took place near  
the Kennedy residence.

Mrs. Kennedy was arrested  
by the Fairfax County police,  
according to the spokesman,  
and was charged with driving  
while under the influence of  
alcohol. She was taken to the  
Fairfax County police head-  
quarters and was subse-  
quently released.

Senator Kennedy, who was  
in the Senate at the time of  
the accident, went home to  
be with his wife.

Mrs. Kennedy in recent  
months has undergone treat-  
ment in sanitariums in Con-  
necticut and California. The  
treatment was for what was  
described as "emotional  
stress."