

A Hint of Kent State Testimony

Cleveland, Ohio

Federal grand jurors investigating the 1970 Kent State University shootings heard something yesterday that "hasn't been brought out before," a grand jury witness said.

Donald F. Curtis, an ambulance driver who took two Ohio National Guardsmen to a Ravenna hospital after the bloody flareup, refused to describe what he told the jury other than to say it dealt with the guardsmen's statements while en route to the hospital.

Asked whether it might incriminate guardsmen, Curtis said, "That would be up to the jury." He already had told newsmen that his testimony wasn't damaging to students.

The jury is in the fifth week of its investigation of the May 1-4, 1970, demonstrations at Kent State which flared in protest of U.S. military involvement in Cambodia. The protests climaxed May 4 in a Guardsmen-students clash during which four students were shot to death and nine were wounded.

Curtis, 36, of Akron, said he drove Dennis L. Breckenridge of Troop G, 107th Armored Cavalry, to the hospital after Breckenridge complained of chest pains. Breckenridge is listed by the Guard as among those who fired their weapons during the shootings.

Then, in a second trip, Curtis drove William Herschler of Company A, 145th Infantry, to the hospital. Herschler, who isn't on the list of those who fired, was described as highly nervous at the time.

Neither Guardsman was found to have physical injury.

Associated Press