

President Orders

Report on Shooting MAY 7 1970

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WASHINGTON, May 6 —

President Nixon ordered a complete report on the fatal shooting by National Guard troops of four students at Kent State University after he had conferred for nearly an hour with six of their fellow students.

The six students, who later held a news conference on Capitol Hill, said they had driven to Washington on their own initiative, with no expectation of seeing the President. All six said they favored complete withdrawal from Vietnam.

However, they said they had told the President that the war, and the recent extension of the conflict into Cambodia, was only one of several causes of the demonstrations at Kent

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State and other campuses across the country. Among other causes, they listed a lack of communication between students and college administrations, as well as a lack of communication between students and the Federal Government.

Four Basic Goals

The students said Mr. Nixon listened carefully, addressed himself to the general subject of student dissent, and then suggested four basic goals that might "minimize" such dissent: ending the war in Vietnam, avoiding similar overseas entanglements in the future, slowing the arms race and creating a volunteer army.

They also said that the President promised a "full report" from the Justice Department and a White House staff analysis of that report "to find out where the errors were made."

Ronald L. Ziegler, the White House press secretary, said earlier that the staff analysis of the Justice Department information would be prepared by John D. Ehrlichman, assistant to the President, and would recommend ways "to avoid similar incidents with the same tragic outcome."

The six students were Thomas Brunbach, a Navy veteran and 24-year-old sophomore from Mantua, Ohio; Richard Cutler, 23, a senior from Kent; Donald S. Grant, 22, a senior from Ridgewood, N. J.; Robert D. Powell, an Army reservist and 24-year-old graduate student from Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio; Samuel H. Trego, 24; a senior from North Hampton, Ohio, and Daniel G. Tretinik, 21, a senior from Wickliffe, Ohio.

Clean Shaven Group

All six were well-dressed and clean shaven. Two are majoring in history, one in zoology, one in banking, one in business administration and one in industrial relations.

Five members of the group had jumped into a car at Kent State when the campus was closed Tuesday after the four students had been killed during a demonstration against expansion of the Vietnam war. Mr. Tretinik joined the group here. Their original purpose, they said, was to talk to their Congressman, Representative William J. Stanton, Republican of Ohio.

Mr. Stanton called Mr. Ehrlichman at the White House, however, and the Presidential adviser invited the group to his office yesterday for a chat that lasted about 30 minutes. This morning, the Congressman

received a call from the White House, informing him that the President wished to confer with the group.

Mr. Ziegler disclosed later today that a second university group—10 students and five faculty members from Stanford University—had conferred in mid-afternoon with Mr. Ehrlichman and Dr. Henry A. Kissinger, the President's adviser on national security affairs.

According to Patrick Shea, a 20-year-old Stanford student president from San Diego, the discussion centered almost entirely on the war in Vietnam, the action in Cambodia, and the contribution that both have to student unrest.

Mr. Shea and his colleagues said that Dr. Kissinger was "very responsive, although what he said was not necessarily acceptable." The student added that Dr. Kissinger had defended the action in Cambodia as a "limited engagement" that would be terminated in six to eight weeks, and had defended the President's policy of Vietnamization as the "most practical" course to peace.

High-Level Panel Urged

WASHINGTON, May 6 (UPI) —Senator Mike Mansfield of Montana, the Senate majority leader, urged President Nixon today to appoint a high-level commission to investigate the fatal shooting of four Kent State University students and other campus violence around the nation.

Senator Mansfield suggested that members of the commission could include former Chief Justice Earl Warren; a former Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, John Gardner, and Sam Brown, a former national coordinator of the disbanded Vietnam Moratorium Committee.

A Nixon News Parley Is Set for Tomorrow

WASHINGTON, May 6 (AP) —President Nixon will hold a television-radio news conference sometime Friday, the White House announced today.

Press Secretary Ronald L. Ziegler, announcing this, said that he hoped to have word tomorrow on the precise time of the question-and-answer session.

Asked whether Mr. Nixon would have an opening statement, he said that he believed the President would immediately begin taking questions.

Mr. Nixon's last broadcast news conference was on Jan. 31. He had an impromptu, nonbroadcast news conference in his office March 21.