

# Finch Responds to 'National Crisis'

## Washington

Robert Finch, the Health, Education and Welfare Secretary, said yesterday that campus unrest had reached the proportions of a "national crisis."

He attributed it to the assaults in Cambodia which he described as "the straw that broke the camel's back."

Finch made his observations to reporters after a private meeting with a delegation of 25 students and teachers from Stanford University.

## ' UNITY

The secretary said "apprehensions that the war has been expanded to all of Indochina" have united groups that were separated as recently as four weeks ago — students, faculty and school administrations.

"This is not a case of a few militants as it was a year ago," he said. "You have a much greater constituency now."

To delegations questioning him about the wisdom of the

Cambodian attacks, Finch said he replied with "facts." These are, he went on, that the assaults are consistent with Vietnamization and will hasten the end of the war.

"I wouldn't say that we made a sale to everyone," he acknowledged wryly. "We try."

## BUMS

Finch doubted that President Nixon's description of college demonstrators as "bums" or the killing of four students at Kent State University had provoked the crisis. "This whole business had been building up for a long time," he said, and Cambodia was the catalyst.

The secretary resolutely refused to discuss Vice President Spiro T. Agnew's role or the written suggestion from his colleague, Interior Secretary Walter Hickel, that Agnew tone down his attacks on the young.

"I make my communications to the president in person," Finch said. He implied that letters invited leaks.

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