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Kent State-Photo 310

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WASHINGTON AP - A photograph copyrighted by Life Magazine taken about the time Ohio National Guardsmen fired on Kent State University students May 4 shows one guardsman, apparently an officer, aiming a pistol toward the students.

An Ohio National Guard official in Columbus said Monday that there is no indication that any weapons but the M1 rifles carried by enlisted men were fired in the incident which killed four students and wounded nine others.

The man aiming the pistol is in front of the guard units which did the firing. It could not be determined from the photograph whether the pistol also was fired. The guardsman, of medium build, is holding the weapon in his left hand and is in a crouched position.

Only National Guard officers carried pistols at Kent. The pistols were .45 caliber.

"No 45s were fired there to our knowledge," Lt. Col. John Spain, public information officer in the guard's Columbus headquarters, said in a telephone interview. "But only the officers had those weapons."

Two Associated Press reporters examining the shooting area the day after the incident found a heavy caliber slug in a parking lot near where one of the Kent students died. The slug appeared to be larger than the .30 caliber bullets fired by M1 rifles, but its exact size could not be determined because it was mangled.

The slug was turned over to a guard officer who pocketed it without comment and without marking the spot at which it was found.

The reporters also saw a hole in the lawn at the shooting scene which guardsmen and ballistics experts said appeared to have been made by a bullet traveling toward the position of the guardsmen. It was understood that at least one other similar hole was found in the area later.

The shooting area was cordoned off and newsmen were not permitted to watch while the holes were probed. It could not be determined what, if anything, was found in them.

Guardsmen involved in the shooting have maintained that they heard at least one shot fired before they began shooting.

At first, guard officials said they believed there had been a sniper firing at the men. Later, however, they said there was no evidence of sniping.

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