

Preceding story, "F.B.I. Is Reported to Find
No Need for Kent Shooting," filed
FBI - II, 24 Jul 70

GUARD HEAD UPSET BY REPORT ON KENT

Ohio General Says Summary
by F.B.I. Is 'Unbelievable'

AKRON, Ohio, July 24 (AP) — The adjutant general of the Ohio National Guard has called "unbelievable" a newspaper report of assertions by the Federal Bureau of Investigation about guardsmen in the deaths of four Kent State University students during a campus confrontation last May 4.

In a copyright article, The Akron-Beacon Journal said the F.B.I. agents had concluded that the shootings were unnecessary and that the Department of Justice had advised that Ohio officials could be charged in connection with the confrontation.

Maj. Gen. Sylvester T. Del Corso, adjutant general of the Ohio National Guard, said today that "the conclusions as stated in the paper by the reporter are just unbelievable... that there were no troops injured, that no stones were thrown and there was a question of whether there was even a riot."

The Beacon-Journal said a 10-page summary of the F.B.I. report asserted that about 200 demonstrators could have been turned back by the guardsmen without shooting. It said the summary reported that there was no hail of rocks from the demonstrators and that no guardsmen were hurt by thrown objects.

100 Guardsmen Hit

"They are not factual," General Del Corso said of the statements. "They fail to include many facts which we provided."

General Del Corso supported earlier Guard statements that all of the estimated 100 guardsmen involved had been hit by thrown objects. He said two had teeth knocked out and others were sent to hospitals for examinations.

The F.B.I. issued a statement saying its report on Kent State had been released only to the Justice Department and that the bureau did not draw any conclusions.

Asked if the statement was a denial of assertions in the Beacon-Journal account, the F.B.I.'s Cleveland office said:

"Our statement is merely a position statement that says the F.B.I. does not draw conclusions."