

Blame for Kent State Violence Is Divided in a Minority Report

KENT, Ohio., April 8 (AP)—The blame for the violence at Kent State University last May must be shared by the university and students, law enforcement agencies and the Ohio National Guard, according to four of the 12 members of a commission that investigated the disorders.

Jeffrey Zinc, one of three students appointed to the university commission last May, made public the minority report yesterday.

The report said that many factors contributed to the violence, which included the killing of four students and wounding of nine others May 4 in a confrontation between National Guard troops and anti-war demonstrators on the campus.

'Indecision' and 'Ignorance'

The Kent State president, Robert I. White, who named the commission, declined to discuss its findings, including the minority report. He said he had not had a chance to study the material.

The commission's majority report has not been made public and Mr. White said that all of the report would not be disclosed publicly.

Factors in the May 1-4 violence, according to the minority report, included:

¶Indecision by Kent State administrators during weekend disorders that preceded the shootings on Monday afternoon.

¶Ignorance or disregard on the part of students as to the seriousness of the situation.

¶Unawareness by students that serious disrupters were in their midst and student unwillingness to believe that they were subject to manipulation.

The report also said the National Guard leadership did not completely understand the temper of the students, the philosophy of the campus and that attempts to prevent rallies and mass meetings presented more danger than the rallies themselves.

Mr. Zinc, now a law student at Ohio State University in Columbus, was graduated from Kent State last June.

In addition to his signature, the minority report carried those of Kathleen Stafford, a student who also has since been graduated, and two faculty members—Dr. Doris Franklin, an English professor, and Mrs. Kathleen Whitmer, an art instructor.