

New U.S. Look at Kent State Deaths

Kent, Ohio

The Justice Department "is taking a fresh look" at the May 1970 Kent State University shootings, Attorney General Elliot Richardson has told Kent's President Glenn Olds.

In a June 1 letter Richardson said J. Stanley Pottinger, assistant attorney general in charge of the department's civil rights division, is studying the incident to determine whether the decision against a federal grand jury investigation "was properly founded."

KILLED

Four students died and nine were wounded in a campus confrontation between Ohio National Guard troops and anti-war demonstrators.

Requests for a grand jury investigation have been turned down, the latest rejection coming from the White House two weeks ago.

John Wilson, the department's public information officer, said Pottinger was "seriously studying" records of the Kent State incident. He added that Pottinger, a 32-year-old former California lawyer who took office January 13, intends to review FBI files on the shootings.

COMPLETED

Justice Department offi-

cials said the review should be completed within 30 days.

Richardson's letter to Olds was in response to Olds' May 10 request for a federal investigation.

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