

# Kent Rifleman With Poor Vision

## Cleveland

A former Ohio National Guardsman, who said he had poor eyesight and wasn't wearing his glasses at the time, testified yesterday he fired one shot at a student demonstrator who "came out from behind a tree" during an anti-war demonstration at Kent State University.

Four students were shot to death and nine wounded by guardsmen during the demonstration May 4, 1970.

The guardsman, James McGee, testified in U.S. district court in a \$48 million civil suit filed by the parents of the dead and wounded students.

McGee testified he fired a total of three shots.

"I fired the first two shots almost straight up in the

air," said McGee. "and I fired the third shot at a student who was near a tree about 60 feet from me."

Joseph Kelner, an attorney for the plaintiffs, asked McGee if he could make out the features of the student.

"No," McGee replied. "He came out from behind a tree."

McGee said he was hampered by poor eyesight and was not wearing his glasses because he had a gasmask on.

"I did the best I could with the mask on and under the conditions," said McGee.

Kelner asked McGee if the student constituted a threat to his life.

"No, not that man," replied McGee. "I didn't single him out. He was just the first person I saw."

*United Press*