

AUG 14 1975  
**Judge Ousts Juror  
For Forming View  
In Kent State Case**

NYTimes — AUG 14 1975

CLEVELAND, Aug. 13 (AP)—

A juror in the Kent State shootings trial was dismissed today after allegedly calling the plaintiffs "commies."

He said later that he had already decided against the plaintiffs in the \$46-million civil suit.

Douglas Watts of Mogadore, an Akron snbnrb, was dismissed after he admitted violating the order of Judge Don Young of Federal District Court on whose instructions forbade the discussion of the case or the forming of opinions before the trial's end. Mr. Watts was replaced by an alternate juror, Mary L. Blazina, of Lorain.

Mr. Watts said after his dismissal that he had discussed the case repeatedly with "a couple of guys" at a Ford Motor Company plant where he is a foreman. But he said he did not recall using the word "Commies" to describe the plaintiffs.

Mr. Watts said in an interview that he felt the Ohio National Guard, Gov. James H. Rhodes and the former state officials named as defendants "were only doing their job" in the campus flareup on May 4, 1970, in which four students were killed and nine others wounded when guardsmen fired on antiwar demonstrators protesting United States invasion of Cambodia. The suit was brought by the wounded students and parents of those who were killed.

Mr. Watts said that after hearing the testimony, "I can't possibly feel the plaintiffs have any grounds" for the damages. He added that he thought it was wrong of them to have brought the suit. He said Judge Young questioned him privately before court today "and of course I admitted at this stage that I am prejudiced, and so the judge let me go."

In court today, two of the guardsmen testified that just before the firing demonstrators had been moving quickly toward the troops' position. Lonnie U. Hinton of Ashland, said he believed he "would have ended up with bodily injury if something had not been done." But he said he had only fired one warning shot in the air.

He also said he had not seen a civilian with a pistol who, according to a witness yesterday, had fired the first shot. The civilian was said to have been at the corner of a dormitory near Mr. Hinton's location.

The second witness, Russell E. Repp Jr. of Shreve, said he heard three shots from what he thought was a small arms weapon and, a split second later, the volley from guardsman rifles.

He said he had looked for a possible sniper and flipped M1 rifle, but was then struck by rocks on one leg and shoulder.