

THE NEW YORK TIMES, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 1970

POLICE CAUTIONED ON FIREARMS USE

Justice Unit Says Protests Should Be Kept Cool

WASHINGTON, June 9 (UPI) — The Nixon Administration has advised the nation's police authorities that in dealing with protest demonstrations the first objective should be to keep the situation cool enough so firearms will not have to be used.

The advice was contained in a 43-page report circulated by the Justice Department. But a stronger warning had been deleted from the original draft of the report.

The draft form of the report included an admonition that even in responding to sniper fire, great care should be taken to make certain that the sniper was the only target of gunfire.

The report was prepared for use as a guide to public officials in the nation's cities.

It was scheduled as the basis for testimony of Richard C. Kleindienst, Deputy Attorney General, tomorrow before the Senate Subcommittee on Administrative Practice.

Fears for the Innocent

The draft of the report released by the Justice Department but later deleted said:

"Appropriate police action will never permit a demonstration to deteriorate to the point that the use of firearms is necessary to control the crowd.

"Even when the lives of law enforcement officers or citizens are endangered by sniper fire, great care must be used to as-

sure that the individual causing the shooting is the only object of police action involving the use of firearms.

"It must be recognized that the use of firearms is inconsistent with the Government objective of protecting the lives of its innocent citizens."

In the final report, the first of those sentences had been rewritten to read:

"The objective of appropriate police action is to assure that a demonstration will not deteriorate to the point that the use of firearms is necessary to control the crowd." All the rest was omitted.

A Justice Department spokesman said he could not explain the omission of the stronger language but added that the draft form had not been meant for use by reporters.