

NYTimes

7 May 1970

(Clipping, titled "2 War Foes Face U.S. Jury Inquiry," by Robert M. Smith, filed Indochina/Reaction.)

Washington, May 6 - Last night Senator Edward M. Kennedy ... said the Administration "undermined the Constitution" by the procedures he said it had forced the capital police to use in making mass arrests* on Monday [3 May].

"It all added up to a game of pride," the Senator told guests at an Iona College dinner in New York.

"The object was to enable John Mitchell to say at 10 A.M. on Monday morning that he had made the city safe for automobiles.** Of course the city may have been safe for cars at the time," Mr. Kennedy said, "but it was a very unsafe place for citizens."

"If they happened to be going out for coffee or to class or getting off a bus at the wrong time in the wrong place and happened to be young or bearded or in casual clothing, they found themselves under arrest," the Senator said. "They were not told why; their names were not taken; no forms were filled out; no record kept of the arresting officer."

"They were merely herded into buses," he said, "and sent off to an outdoor detention area where there were no phones, no information, no processing and only the most rudimentary accommodations for over 2,000 people."

*Arrests eventually totaled approximately 9,000.
Story by Smith, 8 May, gives the figure as 12,000.

From story by Smith, filed 8 May: Mrs. Barbara Bowman, director of the Public Defender Service here, said that late in the afternoon many youths were still trying to decide whether to submit to processing. "They object," she said, "because their fingerprints will be sent to the F.B.I. for dissemination to 15,000 employers and employment agencies, and a dossier will be begun on them. These are people who don't deserve to have any record at all because they were probably illegally arrested."

**Mitchell's reply, in story by Fred P. Graham, NYTimes 11 May, filed Nix Ad.