

KENT

Mon, May 4 '70.

Have you heard about the latest campus tragedy?
~~Tragedy on campus~~ At Kent State University

Kent, Ohio - a mob of about three thousand anti-war students - clashing with an estimated three hundred National Guardsmen. At first, the troops matching rocks and missiles - with tear gas and bared bayonets. And then - a shot rang out; and then another-- and then bedlam.

When the smoke had cleared - four students lay dead; two of them young men - the other two young girls. The wounded or injured including another fifteen students - also, two Guardsmen.

Ohio's Assistant Adjutant General - Frederick Wenger - later asserting that the troops opened fire - only after snipers begin firing into their ranks. General Wenger adding: "They were under standing orders to take cover - and return any fire."

This marking the third straight day of violence - at Kent State. There were also anti-war demonstrations - at a number of other colleges today. The biggest of these -

at the University of Maryland; where an estimated three thousand students - crowded onto U.S. Highway One; blocking traffic to nearby Washington - for more than four hours.

WHITE HOUSE

President Nixon has just issued a statement: "It is my hope that this tragic and unfortunate incident - will strengthen the determination of all the country's campuses; will convince "administrators, faculty and students alike - to stand firmly for the right which exists in this country" - the right "of peaceful dissent;" and to stand "just as strongly" - said the President "against the resort to violence as a means of expression." The President adding: When "dissent turns to violence - it invites tragedy."

Conference - continuing: "Now is not the time for conferences - it is the time for action." and he added that "the Soviet government now calls on all the peoples of the world - to stop the aggression in Cambodia."

Next question: How? Kasyin thereupon asserting that the ultimate decision "should be taken by those states interested not in fanning the war, but in efforts in combat the war." To that extent, at least - a hopeful sign.

LENIN HILLS

An official Soviet guest ~~house~~ ^{house} in the Lenin Hills on the edge of Moscow - the scene today of Alexei Kosygin's first press conference since becoming Premier. The Soviet leader there charging that the main purpose of the present U.S. mission in Cambodia - is "to destroy a peaceful country, to burn villages and kill people." And this - supposedly in defense of U.S. honor - said he - is "actually a mockery of the word honor."

Kosygin also rejecting the idea of a new Geneva Conference - contending: "Now is not the time for conferences - it is the time for action." And he added that "the Soviet government now calls on all the peoples of the world - to stop the aggression/in Cambodia."

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PEKING

Reverse side - from Communist China; where Peking radio today voiced its first official comment - on the U.S. incursion into Cambodia. Peking calling the U.S. operation - "a mad provocation; not only to the peoples of Indochina - but also to the people in China, in Southeast Asia;" as well as "revolutionary people" - right around the globe. The Red Chinese also pledging to support Communist elements in Indochina - "with all our forces;" the meaning of which - well, we can only guess at this point.

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FISHHOOK-PARROT'S BEAK FOLLOW PEKING

Meanwhile, another five thousand U.S. and South Vietnamese troops - were being dispatched into Cambodia today. Hooking up with an estimated twenty-five thousand men - who were already there. The Allied forces pressing their search for Communist units - mainly in the so-called Fishhook and Parrot's Beak regions of that country; the two Communist sanctuaries, up to now - that lie closest to Saigon.

As for results - apparently no trace as yet of that suspected Communist command post. (However, a U.S. commander insisting: "It's here - we're in the heart of it." Adding, in effect - it's just a matter of time now till we find it.) In the meantime, Allied forces killing an estimated two thousand ^{of the} Communist troops ~~they~~ they've encountered along the way; in the process - also capturing hundreds of tons of food and equipment.

KOKI THOM

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The government of Cambodia was itself rushing reinforcements today - to the village of Koki Thom; which is located on the west bank of the Mekong River - barely thirty miles from Phnom Penh. The government troops attempting to blunt a major thrust - by Viet Cong and North Vietnamese insurgents. Indeed, the commander of the Cambodia force - Major Lea Kvar - vowing: "They shall not pass."

Just in case though - a massive airlift today to bolster defenses back in the capital. The U.S. returning hundreds of Cambodian mercenaries who had been fighting side-by-side with the Allies in South Vietnam. Additional units of Cambodian mercenaries - also returning via overland routes; these traveling, for the most part - in U.S. armored personnel carriers.

PENTAGON

Here at home ~~again~~ the Pentagon ~~today~~ confirmed a number of weekend air strikes - against three targets in North Vietnam. However, these were called - "reinforced protective reaction strikes." An official explaining they were aimed only at enemy batteries - that had been firing at unarmed U.S. reconnaissance aircraft. The Pentagon adding there are "no plans now" - for any additional such strikes; except - we are told - except "as necessary."

The White House, for its part, later insisting - there has been no change in long-standing U.S. policy.

White House Press Secretary Ron Ziegler declaring flatly - "there has not been a resumption of the bombing in the North"

SUPREME COURT

Elsewhere in Washington - another big decision day at the U.S. Supreme Court. Including a verdict ~~today~~ upholding the right of a citizen to bar from his mail box - any advertising that he considers too sexy. The High Court also ruled that a defendant who pleads guilty - "voluntarily and intelligently" - cannot later claim that he was convicted unconstitutionally. In a third case - the Court upholding a state tax exemption on church-owned property; providing only that said property - be used solely for religious purposes.

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CAPE KENNEDY-BETHPAGE

*For the men of Apollo-Thirteen - Jim Lovell,
Fred Haise and Jack Swigert - a courtesy call today at
Cape Kennedy. The three astronauts paying tribute to the
launch team ~~of~~ that successfully hurled them into space.
Later flying on to Grumman headquarters - at Bethpage,
Long Island; where they will also personally thank - the men
who made it possible for them to get back! These the builders
of the spacecraft's lunar lander - the Aquarius - but for
which they all would have perished in space.*

*Incidentally, astronauts Haise and Swigert
confirming once more - they're ready to fly again -
anytime - the sooner the better. As for Jim Lovell: "I
volunteered to fly again, too" - said he ^{Warren} - "but fifty other
guys and my wife said no."*

NEW YORK

Here in New York - a Pulitzer Prize today for
the man who served as President Truman's Secretary of
State - for nearly four years. Dean Acheson winning one
of seven ~~total~~ ^{literary} awards²² - for his recent best-selling book,
"Present at the Creation."

Winner of the drama prize - Charles Gordone;
for a play about life in Greenwich Village - called "No
Place to be Somebody." Although as ^{comedian-yarn spinner} Myron Coken says:
"Everybody's gotta be someplace."