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Affairs of State

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AFFAIRS OF STATE

By CHARLES M. HILLS



NOW, NOW. . .

A member of the Mississippi National Guard, called into federal service, reported to us yesterday that as he walked down the streets of his hometown, some distance from here, lifelong friends refused to speak.

Many of us feel strongly about the Ole Miss' invasion, and, why shouldn't we?

But, the Mississippi National Guard is not to be blamed nor censured for that.

Many people feel that the federalization of the guard was a low blow by the Kennedys.

You all know that it was no choice of any National Guardsman. We suggest that the leadership of the guard was as unhappy as were you at the turn of events.

We don't think that you would have had your National Guard do other than respond to the call as a duty it could not escape.

MORE AGITATION?

There appears to be consideration on the part of the Justice Department and the NAACP to pressure Ole Miss officials into expelling white students who were arrested for participating in the defense of their school against gas spewing U.S. marshals.

Some of our softy professors are speaking out of turn, too.

In the face of this, there is a growing belief that the legal profession should come to the defense of the students. After all, they were peaceably attending school when the men of Mars dropped in from the sky and started an invasion.

Hundreds of persons have been seized, searched and even beaten by marshals and soldiers of unbridled passion. This attack without a declaration of martial law upon a defenseless school and surrounding community needs to be reckoned with.

Let's get out the legal talent and see whose rights have been violated.

But, watch this effort of softies in school or out to punish students who bear no guilt other than a defense of their alma mater. Talk about trouble. . . it might be really big if expulsions commenced.

GOVERNOR SPEAKS

We have had numerous requests to reprint in full the remarks made nationwide over Walter Kronkite's TeeVee program Friday night.

Here 'tis:

"One of the primary issues which is confronting the American people today is the tendency of a highly centralized federal government, with socialistic advisors embarking on a program of depriving the states of the union of all of their sovereign rights. The extent to which this has gone is indicated by many of the thousands of letters and telegrams which I have received from all parts of this country, supporting our position but disclosing genuine fear of doing so publicly.

"When the American people become afraid to publicly express their honest opinions, are we any different from the people living in Poland or Hungary, under Russian domination?

"We need to marshal the great forces of public opinion on the rights of the state to exercise those responsibilities guaranteed so clearly in the tenth amendment. The constitution is all that stands between the American people and dictatorship. The president of the United States continues to threaten to enforce integration of housing in every city and state in the United States. This vitally affects your private property rights.

"This is not just Mississippi's fight. It is the fight of all decent, freedom-loving Americans in every state in the union.

"I pledge to the people of Mississippi and the nation that I shall continue this fight of federal dictatorship by every legal and constitutional means available."

(OVER)