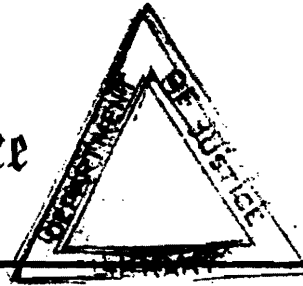




Department of Justice



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STATEMENT BY ATTORNEY GENERAL ROBERT F. KENNEDY

FOR 6:15 P.M. OCTOBER 1, 1962

The federal marshals who finally preserved order in Oxford, Mississippi, showed bravery and devotion to duty in keeping with the highest traditions of law enforcement officers of this nation. When the state police left, they were faced with an unruly mob of students and hoodlums numbering more than 2,500 over an extended period of time. Bricks, bottles, fire bombs and shots from secret snipers in the dark seriously menaced their personal safety.

Yet despite this extreme provocation, the marshals acted with restraint and judgment. They fully obeyed orders to use the minimum force necessary to protect lives and refrained from returning fire.

Deputy Marshal Graham E. Same was critically wounded and a number of other deputies were wounded and injured. Border Patrolman Charles B. Chamblee made repeated trips for tear gas supplies through the mob.

Men like Deputy Marshal Same, Patrolman Chamblee, Chief Marshal James McShane, and John W. Cameron, his assistant, acted in the finest tradition of the federal service.

I would also like to pay tribute to seven officials of the University of Mississippi who worked through the night with the marshals to preserve law and order. They set a fine example of citizenship. These men are:

Dean of Students Al L. Love
Tom S. Hines, Director of Student Activities
John W. White, Director of Physical Plant Department
Chief Burns Tatum, Chief of the Campus Police
Frank E. Moak, Director of Student Placement and
Financial Aid
Douglas Hodo and Kenneth Wroten, University Field
Representatives

I would also like to call attention to a brave and selfless physician, Dr. L. G. Hopkins of Oxford. When he heard about the difficulties on the campus of the University, he voluntarily presented himself for assistance in treating the wounded. He made an immeasurable contribution.

There were a number of University of Mississippi students as well who took the side of law and order and tried to help quell the disturbance.

The University of Mississippi, the town of Oxford, and the entire state should be grateful along with the country for the service performed by these men last night.