THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
General Administration
CHAPEL HILL 27514

WILLIAM FRIDAY
President

May 13, 1970

Senator William F. Stone
P. O. Box 1432
Martinsville, Virginia 24112

Dear Senator Stone:

Thank you for my copy of your letter to President Nixon of May 8. Your views are always welcome here and I do appreciate your letter.

Let me be clear that my appearance in President Nixon's office was at his invitation and at the conclusion of that discussion the President thanked us for being helpful.

I think you are wrong in one assumption that you have made in your letter to Mr. Nixon and I should like to comment on it. We are not "yielding to the small minority" because over eight thousand students have been involved in the assemblies I have experienced on our campus and this clearly indicates that this is not what has been accepted to be a small clique of disruptors found on all campuses. We are not now dealing with the disruptors alone but tens of thousands of the more responsible and thoughtful young people who represent this college generation.

I do appreciate hearing from you.

Cordially,

William Friday

cc: President Robert Huntley
Washington & Lee University

*The University of North Carolina comprises: The University of North Carolina at Asheville; The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; The University of North Carolina at Charlotte; The University of North Carolina at Greensboro; The University of North Carolina at Wilmington; North Carolina State University at Raleigh*
May 8, 1970

Hon. Richard M. Nixon
President of the United States
White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear President Nixon:

Don't give in to the news media or the academic community, for in my opinion, the "great silent majority" are more behind you now than they have ever been before. The only thing wrong about sending our troops into Cambodia was that it should have been done under the Kennedy or Johnson administrations. Certainly we cannot leave our remaining troops in Viet Nam to be shot at from Cambodian sanctuaries. The people on the street that I talk with here agree with you one hundred percent. I say this even though I have three sons from 18 to 23 years old. One of them will shortly be going into service and another will be in the Naval Academy this fall.

I am appalled that University presidents in leading institutions would come and ask that you and Vice President Agnew should refrain from calling this collegiate mob "bums". They are worse than bums. It is fundamental to me that if a boy 18 years old will burn down an ROTC building and then use a hatchet to cut the fire hose line when firemen try to put the fire out and then will not disperse when tear gas is thrown at him by police and troops but instead throws rocks at them, they are only common criminals and if they get killed, that is what they asked for. Of course, it was regrettable that some of these people killed were bystanders, but this always happens in such a confrontation. If there ever was a time when college administrators should stand firm and say to these students obey the rules or go home, it is now, because if the college community insists upon yielding to the small minority of students who create a disruptive atmosphere, then this country will become one of anarchy and the walls of our Republic will come falling down around the very heads of people like the college
presidents who are protesting to you. Everyone knows that it is these people who are causing all this trouble in the colleges. If they could have their way the first people to go would be the college presidents.

This time in my life is the most critical one that I have ever known, although I have gone through, as a child, World War I, and as a Naval officer, World War II, and I applaud your efforts to not seek the expedient way out at this time but take the courageous way out as you are doing; stand firm and save America for all those who come in the future.

Respectfully,

Wm. F. Stone

WFS:ehw

CC: Dr. William Friday, President
University of North Carolina
Chapel Hill, North Carolina

Dr. Robert R. Huntley, President
Washington & Lee University
Lexington, Virginia
Student Claims Guardsmen Not To Blame In Shooting

WHITE RIVER JUNCTION, Vt. (AP) — A student who said he saw four of his classmates killed when National Guard troops fired on demonstrators at Kent State University in Ohio on Monday says the Guardsmen were not to blame.

James Young, 20, of White River Junction, said in an interview Thursday with radio station WNHR that the Guardsmen "had to fire to defend their lives."

Young, who said he watched the incident from a dormitory window 150 yards away, said the students were an angry mob.

"I really believe the crowd would have if they had tried hand to hand to fight their way out—would have beaten them to death," Young said.

"The news reports sort of give the impression that the National Guard was entirely wrong," he said. "But that's not the ture. They were defending their lives. They had no alternative but to shoot."

He said that from his vantage point, he saw about 30 Guardsmen come up a hill from a football field where they confronted more than 2,000 students.

The Guardsmen formed a protective circle with tear gas launchers in the middle, Young said.

"I saw one tear gas grenade tossed back and forth several times between students and Guardsmen," he said.

Young said 50 to 100 students were throwing rocks, pieces of concrete and lengths of pipe at the troops.

"And they were only about 20 feet away from the soldiers," he added.

Young said the troops then tried to march back up the hill toward the common to rejoin other Guardsmen. When they reached the top of the hill, he related, they met another group of students and were surrounded.

Young asserted the Guardsmen had used up all their tear gas. He said they advanced on the students several times, but each time the students held their ground.

"I thought they all fired in the air—some did, anyway," Young said. He said he heard no other shots before the Guardsmen opened fire.

Young also said the demonstrators were warned repeatedly during the 45-minute period to disperse. He said the Guards-