

to...milita men today, but they put them in National Guard uniforms in those days, covered their faces with gas masks and they fired live ammunition and killed unarmed students. By way of justification, one of the leaders of the National Guard made the asinine comment, we're not touchy, feely groups, we're trained for combat. Combat does not exist when armed troops fire on unarmed civilians. That is not combat. That is massacre, that is murder. Were it done in the context of what is happening in Croatia, people would want to be convening a war crimes tribunal, as is being undertaken now, by the way. But because it happened in America where they talk about the rights of the individual, the need to make sure that the military is under civilian control, you have unarmed students shot dead on a campus for peaceably assembling. This right that I'm talking about has been breached in this country. Senator Jones, Senator Bromm, none of the others can show where armed troops came on somebody's property and took it away from them and shot the property owner pursuant to taking that person's property. These other rights have been breached and I intend to continue discussing these. Frankly, I hope we don't terminate the discussion in fewer than eight hours. That is not enough time, really, to do justice to what is being discussed, at least being discussed by me. If you look at the number of days spent by the Constitutional Convention hammering out the compromises, you will see how seriously these things were viewed, and if you read that history, you will see that what is looked at now as the constitution and considered to be a work of great ingenuity, intelligence and planning, you will see that it is the product of compromise. There was no plan laid out in advance that embraced all the provisions of the constitution. The only plan that developed, once they got there, was to create a federal government and to make sure that the federal government was stronger than all of the state governments combined. That's why provisions were put in that say any provision of any state law notwithstanding, meaning that there was supremacy given to any provision in the U.S. Constitution...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...over a state enactment, supremacy of federal statutes over any state enactment, whether that state enactment be a statute or the constitution. Those are things that ought to be taught in every civics class. Those are things that ought to be discussed regularly on this floor. The level of understanding, knowledge and awareness of the constitution