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OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

REPORT REGARDING TELEPHONE REQUEST FROM RITA SCOTT, CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION, DETROIT, MICHIGAN 313 222-1724 or 1729 JAN. 9, 1970

Mrs. Scott tried to contact me but when both Dean Kafer and I were not available she visited briefly with Dean Hefke. She was asking whether or not the University, or Niemi in particular, would be pressing charges against students in a court of law.

Dean Hefke and I tried to get in touch with Dick Jones but in his absence we were pleased to talk to Charles Burleigh. Mr. Burleigh felt that I should call Mrs. Scott and indicate this: "Initially, we felt that we should contact the prosecutor to give him some information which would supplement the newspaper report. The prosecuting attorney hasn't really asked for my opinion and we feel that he is and should be completely independent and beyond our control. We do not intend to move until such a time that Quinnell contacts us should he decide to do it."

I then called Mrs. Scott in Detroit and passed on this message and she accepted it very graciously and seemed to indicate she fully understood the situation. I think I should indicate that Mrs. Scott informed me that when she talked to Pat Williams she had reminded him that there were other ways his group could get recognition that would be much more acceptable. She told him that if they do break the law they should very well expect criminal prosecution and that furthermore, they can expect disciplinary action from the school authorities. I was also pleased to learn that she seemed to be familiar with our disciplinary procedures and indicated that she felt our procedure for due process was very clear and well established. All in all, I felt I had a good visit with Rita Scott.

Allan L. Niemi

ALN: mw