

Memorandum for the Files
May 18, 1970

Subject: Conversation with David Duncan of the Governor's Office

Over the weekend I had a call indicating that several of our black students had gone down to Lansing to visit in the Governor's Office and with some legislators pleading their case in terms of concern for their well being on the campus and the tensions on the campus and in the community, as well as consideration for their academic record.

Over the weekend I also talked with the Governor briefly at his home in Traverse City, and he had had the report from Charles Greenleaf who visited us on Friday to the effect that the situation here appeared normal to Greenleaf. I reassured the Governor that in terms of what I knew about our situation, based on the reports of faculty members and staff, the situation certainly did not warrant any very extreme, emergency-type action.

This morning David Duncan of the Governor's Office briefed me on his visit with five of our black students. They had come down and wanted to see someone in the Governor's Office on Sunday. The blacks expressed concern regarding the tension on the campus as well as in the Marquette community.

In particular they wanted dispensation regarding their academic work for the semester because many of them had evidently experienced a good deal of lost time as far as their other activities have been concerned.

Mr. Duncan indicated that they listened, but the Governor has made it clear that the administration of the colleges rests with the President and the Boards of Control.

I told Mr. Duncan that I would mail him the black students demands and my response to them and also the Human Rights Commission's recommendations for grading of "Incomplete" for any black student who felt endangered and my response to that.

JXJ:MLA