

28 June 1971

Dear Mr. Williams:

Thank you for your letter of June 23rd replying to my letter of June 1st, concerning Swarthmore College's relationship with the FBI. We in the administration have always endeavored to have an open and cooperative relationship with the FBI, as with other government agencies, and I hope that can be the pattern for the future. Certainly, we will do everything in our power to sustain that relationship. I have to add, however, that if the experience of Jacqueline Reuss, daughter of Congressman Reuss, is to be reckoned with, or if the reports from Tom Lewis were correct and are to be credited, it is hard to escape the conclusion that some members of the FBI were telling the administration one thing, and acting quite differently. I am sure you will agree that that is a poor basis for straightforward cooperation towards legitimate goals. We would not want Swarthmore College or its students or its staff to be immune in any way from the obligations of being good citizens, but the apparent lack of trust which the FBI placed in the College administration could not help but undermine relationships within the College, and make much more difficult one of our central tasks, which I take to be the training of our students to work openly and public-spiritedly in support of good government and the democratic process.

Let me repeat that I hope that before too long we will have a chance to meet and become acquainted.

With all best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Robert D. Cross,  
President

Congressman Lawrence G. Williams  
1503 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

LAWRENCE G. WILLIAMS  
7TH DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA

1503 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

ROBERT R. SIEGRIST  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT  
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EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, D.C. 20515**

June 23, 1971

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Dear Mr. Cross:

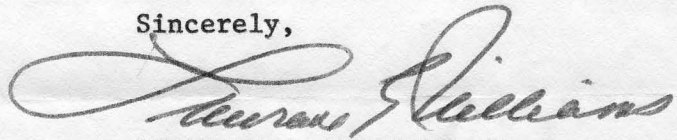
This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of June 1, 1971, received in my Washington office on June 5, 1971, relative to FBI intervention in our colleges.

In answer to the question in your letter of June 1, 1971, you can count on my assistance. However, I want you to know that I have never had any difficulty in communicating with the FBI. The FBI usually comes to a college campus only when there is sufficient evidence that an individual student, or a group of students, are engaging in activities that can lead to violence or could be subversive.

Your interest in writing to me is deeply appreciated.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,



LAWRENCE G. WILLIAMS, M. C.

LGW:wjab