

March 3, 1970

Nancy Boyd
College Mail

Dear Nancy:

I received today a copy of SASS's letter to President Cross which referred to my note of February 20 addressed to you. Since that letter reached SASS, I am taking the liberty of using you once again for purposes of communication. There are several points in the March 3 letter which I would like to comment on for the record.

First, I was not aware of SASS's rejection of the guidelines set forth in my September letter. I received no reply or comments concerning that letter and so assumed that SASS was willing to live with the arrangement for at least this year. I hope you will not find me guilty of ignoring what I had not been told.

Second, I certainly did not mean to "single out Black students for drinking." I realize that a great many Swarthmore students drink, both Black and White. My point was that drinking in the Lodges is still a violation of College rules. I certainly would respond in a similar way to reports of Lodge drinking involving White students.

Third, I was not so much concerned about the use of additional, unreserved Lodges for the SASS party as I was by the fact that I had not been warned of the need for additional space in time to notify the watchmen. In fact many of the evening's difficulties could have been avoided if someone from SASS had let my office know about the party in advance. I would have been glad to have the group use unreserved space and I know the watchmen would have cooperated as well.

Fourth, I regret that my comments about the periodic need for extra watchmen were interpreted as racist. I made identical remarks to the planners of the Jazz Festival, the Forum on Recruiting and will do so to the group that is working on the Rock Festival. Again, it seems to me that whenever it is known in advance that a considerable number of non-students will be coming to the campus, we should arrange for the necessary security coverage. In this instance, I was not informed of the need for additional watchmen and yet they were needed. My hope is to avoid such situations in the future, no matter what group is involved.

Finally, I agree that the Black students on this campus need adequate space. We are working hard to bring this about. When that situation is achieved, many problems will be eased but we may still find it necessary to cooperate on finding solutions to such question as security, hours,

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-2-

March 3, 1970

drinking and the use of additional space. I hope I am not naive in expecting to be able to continue to work with SASS on these matters.

Sincerely yours,



Robert A. Barr, Jr.
Dean of Men

RAB:G

cc. R. Cross
D. Closson