

A. On Monday, November 3, 1969, at 1:15 P. M. , several black students of Loras College began an unauthorized occupation of one of the office buildings on the campus-Henion Manor- and ordered the staff members to leave the building.

Three attempts were made by the administration to discuss the matter with the students. They were requested by the Dean of Men to leave the building, and the President interviewed their representatives in front of Henion Manor.

The black students agreed to a conference by the Special Committee which already had been appointed to study the feasibility of a Black Culture Center on the Loras campus. The Committee met with the President, Msgr. Driscoll, and negotiated with the black students. The President re-affirmed that he would allocate space on campus for a Black Culture Center on a temporary basis. At 2:30 on the morning of November 4, the black students evacuated Henion Manor.

Loras College looks upon this forceful occupation of a building and the eviction of those assigned to the offices in that building as constituting a serious violation of the rights of individuals in the college community. The Dean of Men has convened the Board of Discipline which has carefully studied the cases of all individuals. The decision of the Board is to recommend indefinite suspension of _____ students, and probation for _____ students. The President has approved that recommendation.

B. I wish to repeat here what I have stated previously, that Loras College has been deeply interested in the welfare of black

students, and has looked upon its contribution to the education of black students as an obligation of considerable importance. To that end, the College has made available scholarships, federal grants and loans, work grants, and other forms of financial assistance; it has hired a part time black counselor; it has instituted a program of black studies; it has adopted a new program this fall of academic counseling and special assistance for those black students whose academic preparation was marginal. In our opinion, we have used every available means consonant with our resources and educational goals to fulfill the academic and other requirements of black students on the Loras campus.

C. Whatever may be our desire to further the education of black students, we cannot tolerate from any student—despite his color or background—the flagrant violation of serious college regulations in serious matters. The decision to suspend these students has been made with deep regret, but with a realization that no other justifiable course of action was open.