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TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

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MEMORANDUM

TO: HONORABLE FARRIS BRYANT
FROM: MILLARD F. CALDWELL
DATE: MARCH 16, 1960

Farris:

I am not sure what you should do about the situation but certainly you should have the facts.

The racial troubles in Tallahassee stems from a combination of facts: (1) The Governor's weakness and disinclination to take a position, (2) the weakness on the Board of Control and (3) the ultra-left-wing liberalism of Presidents Strozier and Gore.

You should point out that the current unrest stems from such weaknesses - that you will not tolerate the pinks as faculty or students.

I think the ultimate answer is to get rid of both Presidents, reconstitute the Board of Control and see that a firm but fair position is taken. You will have to develop a policy along these lines but I do not, at the moment, recommend a drastic position.

One other phase of higher education will require some thoughtful attention: Any additional institutions should be devoted to education. It was a grave mistake to set up another country club type of school in Tampa. The funds and the effort should have been concentrated on libraries, laboratories, classrooms, administrative facilities with no dormitories, fraternities, sororities or athletics. The best available in the way of faculty, with high entrance requirements, higher staying requirements - an institution for education alone.

MFC/hc
cc: Mr. Billy Mayo