

M A R Q U E T T E U N I V E R S I T Y

Office of the President

December 15, 1978

CONFIDENTIAL

TO: The File
SUBJECT: Penny - Spence.

Ray Aiken returned Robert Penny's call early during the afternoon of December 15th. At that time, Aiken did not know of Penny's morning telephone call to the President's Office. Aiken said Penny was very friendly - not curt.

Penny told Aiken that on occasions when he (Penny) had talked to Melvin Spence, Spence emphasized that if his investigation didn't "produce justice" (i.e., result in proof that his son's death was not self-inflicted) he (Melvin Spence) would have to take other necessary steps (do whatever was necessary) to achieve justice. Melvin Spence did not specify a definition of "whatever is necessary," but did say that he was willing to pay the penalty if a penalty were to be attached to his actions.

In a recent report to Spence, Penny said that it was pointless to continue the Spence investigation and said that suicide was established beyond question and that Penny was closing the file. Spence seems unwilling to accept this conclusion. On December 14th Penny received a letter from Spence asking for the business and residence addresses of Fathers Raynor and Landwermeyer. Penny thought it was advisable that Father Raynor know of this request and that was the reason for his call to Father Raynor.

Aiken feels grief and shock may have deranged Spence's thinking. Aiken feels that all that is necessary now is to alert Father Landwermeyer to the above information as Father Raynor will have been alerted. Father Raynor should be advised that Spence may be asking to see him and he should, of course, not see Spence. (Penny expects Spence will be coming to Milwaukee when he receives a final report on the investigation, probably early in January.)

Mr. Aiken feels that if it is likely that Spence will be present on the Marquette campus, Public Safety should be alerted to the above information and should share it with the Milwaukee Police Department.

Dr. Quade will discuss details further with Father Raynor.

NJS
Norbert J. Tlachac
Administrative Assistant
to the President

cc: Rev. John P. Raynor, S.J.
Rev. Richard F. Ryan, S.J.
Dr. Quentin L. Quade
Mr. Ray C. Aiken