Board of Visitors College of William and Mary

December 5-6, 1980

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AUTHORIZATION TO INSTALL FIRE ALARM DEVICES
IN STUDENT RESIDENCES

The threat of fire, its prevention, early detection, and the diminution of its devastating consequences are all crucial issues facing the trustees of institutions of higher education. Not long ago, fire destroyed a dormitory at George Washington University; other colleges and universities across the nation have suffered from this terrible force.

The recent fire in the Fraternity Complex clearly exhibited to the College the importance of a modern and well-maintained fire alarm system. Had the Fraternity Complex not been equipped with such a system, the loss suffered by the College might well have extended far beyond that of personal and real property.

Studies of the fire alarm systems in student residences conducted by the College Facilities Planning Office in consultation with State and local fire officials show that, although complying with the appropriate fire safety code requirements, the College should undertake modernization of the fire alarm systems now serving several student residences. The Dean of Students, the Vice President for Business Affairs and their staffs strongly endorse this program.

The most recent report, initiated by the President, calls for installation of photo-electric smoke detectors in each bedroom in the wood frame student residences located on the south side of Jamestown Road. These Jamestown Road residences also would be equipped with heat detectors in the basements, kitchens and attics; manual-pull stations at each exit; alarm bells or horns on each floor; and a transmitter to trans it the alarm to the Campus Police Station. The nature of the construction of the Jamestown Road residences requires early warning devices which go beyond what is called for in the fire safety code.

The report also calls for the installation of manual-pull alarms and smoke detection systems in all student residences which, at present, do not have either or both of the systems. This would serve to provide uniform protection to all student residences, including those recently acquired from Eastern State Hospital.

The cost of recommended installations in the Jamestown Road residences is estimated at \$30,000 for the current fiscal year. The estimated cost of the installation of manual-pull alarms and smoke detection systems is \$75,000 per year for the next four years. The above costs, totaling \$330,000, would be funded from Auxiliary Enterprise Renewal and Replacement Funds.

Noting the importance of an adequate fire alarm system to the well-being of students of the College, and noting further that expenditures herein mentioned would not jeopardize any existent or proposed program, the President recommends authorizing installations and expenditures as described above.

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## AUTHORIZATION TO INSTALL FIRE ALARM DEVICES (Continued)

RESOLVED, That the Board of Visitors of the College of William and Mary in Virginia approves the recommendation of the President and hereby authorizes installation of the following fire alarm devices in each of the wood frame student residences located on the south side of Jamestown Road: photo-electric smoke detectors in each bedroom; heat detectors in basements, kitchens and attics; manual-pull stations at each exit; alarm bells or horns on each floor; and a transmitter to transmit the alarm to the Campus Police Station; and

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the President and Vice President for Business Affairs are authorized to appropriate funds from Auxiliary Enterprise Renewal and Replacement Funds in an amount sufficient to install the above-mentioned fire alarm devices in the wood frame student residences located on the south side of Jamestown Road, but in an amount not to exceed \$30,000.