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Resist Board Meeting, Aug. 15, 1968

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STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING -- August 15, 1968, Cambridge

Attending: Committee members: Bill Davidon, Louis Kampf, Paul Lauter, Dick Mumma, Dick Ohmann, Dan Stern, Bob Zevin. Others: Boruch Brody, Darrell Brown, Irwin Doress, Elaine Hedges, George and Hilde Hein, Jim Holland, Dave Houston, Florence Howe, Hugh Matthews, Doug McCay, Helen McCormick, Ann and Dean Pappas, Gale Spector, Dorothy Wertz.

I. Financial report:

Statement:

Balance, July 18	5232.12	
Deposits	6250.72	
Total to August 13	8782.84	8782.84

Disbursements		5752.79
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I. Grants (\$3965)

A. Regular	3815.00
B. Emergency (3)	150.00
(50) Phoenix Area Draft Resisters	
(50) Wilmington Ohio group	
(50) Buffalo Resistance	

Total grants	3965.00
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II. Operating expenses (\$1787.79)

Payroll	652.34
Office rent, utilities	245.65
Printing, mailing	705.80
Travel, conferences	178.00
Kit materials	6.00
Total operating	1787.79

Balance August 13, 1968	3030.05
encumbered	200.00
Unencumbered balance	2830.05

Comment: There are now 624 active monthly pledges totaling 4090.50. Of these, 52 totaling 199.50 were added during this report period. We also have 14 annual pledges totaling 1058. Very few pledges have lapsed in the last two report periods.

II. Office staff: Karen Schiff may return on a part time basis after being married. Gale Spector's plans are uncertain. Helen McCormick will be leaving at the end of this month. New staff beginning shortly are: Wendy Sheffield, full time, and Sudi Staub, part time. We are seeking one more full time person.

III. Funding:

- A. Wisconsin Draft Resistance Union -- for Milwaukee program, \$210 now and \$110 for Sept. and Oct. (\$430)
- B. Ann Arbor Resistance -- \$150, August and September, for travel expenses (\$300)
- C. Pittsburgh Resisters -- \$200, Aug., Sept., Oct. (\$600)
- D. Rhode Island Resistance -- \$100 (\$100)
- E. Phoenix Area Draft Resistance -- \$150 (\$150)
- F. Wilmington Anti-war Committee -- \$200 (\$200)
- G. UAWMF -- for commune, Louis Kampf is authorized to allocate up to \$200 (\$200)

August grants	\$1210
September	460
October	310
Total	\$1980

IV. Fall Agenda:

A. RESIST will not become involved in the Chicago Convention, but will begin right away to lay ground work for the work that must follow. Don Kalish, however, is on Mobilization Steering Committee and will be actively involved. Florence, Paul, and Louis had a long talk with Dave Dellinger about the matter. They felt that it's a mess.

B. Organizing around post-convention situation:

1. Magazing advertising. Bob Zevin read the draft of an advertisement for The New Republic and The New York Review of Books. Its general thrust was approved, but the text seemed too long to some and a suggestion was made that its appeal to McCarthy supporters be made more direct, paying tribute to the effectiveness of their work and avoiding any implications of "we told you so." Bob will work with several committee members on a revision. Schedule: (1) send new draft to Steering Committee members and to some notables who will be asked to endorse it publicly, (2) send final text to New Republic and New York Review, asking if they will accept it and how much it will cost, (3) notify them when it should be run.

The possibility of a New Yorker ad will be explored. Would they take one? Can Dwight Macdonald get a reduced rate? Might some of their own writers be willing to endorse it -- and maybe even pay for it?

2. Area people will send all contacts a letter urging them to seek out recently politicized campaign workers and organize for concerted action after the election -- perhaps within PAR or NUC. Florence will compile speakers' itinerary to be sent to contact people later.

3. A fund raising letter to RESIST's large list (support statement signers). It would summarize past work and sketch future objectives. Cost: about \$2000. Target date: Sept. 2. Purpose: to finance item 4.

4. A large mailing to McCarthy supporters (100,000 - 250,000). Purpose: to stimulate organized anti-draft and political activity at local level; fund raising would be secondary. Suggested signers: Robert

Lowell, Robert McAfee Brown, Mary McCarthy, and other prominent McCarthy supporters.

C. Speakers Bureau. An article will be written for the Newsletter and a revised list of speakers will be prepared. Louis will speak to Norman Fruchter about the possibility of making a film of excerpts from speeches by Spock and Coffin which could be used with another RESIST speaker to help fill requests for speaking engagements.

D. Baltimore trial. Dean and Ann Pappas reported on arrangements being made for publicizing the real issues which cannot emerge in the court room. The problems inherent in bringing of a mock trial were spoken of and Paul suggested using "briefings" instead. That is, notable witnesses would be called by the defense and when they were not allowed to testify, or when their testimony was curtailed by the court, arrangements would be made for press interviews outside the court room. Other suggestions: creative use of wall posters; try to get them registered by the Cantonville draft board to participate. RESIST will help in any way it can, including Newsletter appeals.

E. Plan to have American prisoners of war returned in exchange for release of draft resisters. William Worthy and Russell Johnson have been working on this. Russell Johnson will be going to Egypt to talk to North Koreans about Pueblo crew; he may possibly go to North Vietnam. Bill Davidon will talk to Worthy: if it is a matter of a few hundred dollars to help them get to Egypt, RESIST will help.

F. Resisters Bill of Rights: The plan will be circulated amongst Resistance groups, prisoners' services, etc., in this country and abroad. We'll probably fund someone to administer the program. Many faculty members have volunteered to help.

V. Area reports: Dorothy Wertz reported on the case of the vanishing resistance group at Penn. State and on the active program in Pittsburgh. Jim Holland also reported on Pittsburgh. Hilde Hein spoke on the coordination of activities among Boston area groups.

VI. Foreign Affairs:

A. There are fellowships available for Resisters at the University of Amsterdam. They also want to finance a Resistance speaker to travel in Europe.. There will be story put in the Newsletter about the former. Louis and Bob Zevin will try to get someone for the latter.

B. We'll try to reopen the business of a scholars' meeting with the North Vietnamese through Peggy Duff in England.

VII. Next meeting: September 15 in Cambridge.