2-15-1969

Resist Board Meeting, Feb. 15, 1969

Resist

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RESIST STEERING COMMITTEE MINUTES

New York City  
FEBRUARY 15, 1969

Members attending: Bob Zevin, Bill Davidon, Dan Stern, Florence Howe, Dick Omann, Paul Lauter, Noam Chomsky, Louis Kampf, Richard Mumma, Grace Paley. Others present: Tom Hayes (Clergy & Laymen), Helen McCormick (formerly in Resist office, now at Friends World College), Arlene Siegel & Chris Stevens (Newsletter), Leonard Boudin (eminent lawyer on our side), Greg Sandow & Bob Parsons from office staff, Greg Finger (CLLDF).

I. SWEDEN

Clergy and Laymen is sending Tom Hayes to Stockholm where he will establish a support service for deserters there. Tom outlined the pros & cons of establishing a house which would serve as a center for the deserters. Resist is being asked to provide some financial support (see funding section), but it is important that we avoid favoring either of the groups there.

II. OFFICE REPORTS

1. Art Show - Slow progress is being made for the show at Spectrum Gallery in New York. Wende is working on this in the office.
2. Mitch's Funding Letter - This is being typed in the office (individual copies) and signatures will be added with rubber stamps.
3. Civil Liberties Legal Defense Fund mailing for Resist - We are using their mailing list, and hope to have it in the mail by Feb. 21st.
4. High School Organizer's Kit - The first collection of organizing materials is nearly assembled; the next step is to have these reproduced in quantity to be sent out. We now have a list of about 100 people who have expressed an interest in this project. When the first packet is ready to mail, we will advertise it and the draft counseling kit in the Guardian and New Left Notes.

III. POLITICS & PROGRAM

The Committee spent several hours discussing political analysis and seeking ways to apply the analysis to a program. The Committee had before it a National Action Group proposal for a series of loosely defined actions over April 3-6, and this proposal provided a focus for the discussion at several points.

Mike Zigmond (Support, in Boston) sent a letter urging that support for Resistors be continued and structured more effectively. It was pointed out that Resistors have generally not been effective political organizers. Group sentiment favored our continuing to seek ways to aid resisters and politicize people in their home communities.

Dan Stern urged a much greater emphasis on working-class/under-class organizing. Much discussion focused on questions of our ability to move in this direction, but consensus strongly favored such a move. (NB Funding of Black Panthers).

Bill Davidon stressed the need for continuing the specifically anti-war actions in the face of public apathy about the war. Hans Koningsberger warned that the Government is becoming increasingly sophisticated in removing issues from public contention. Consensus also favored our continuing to seek ways of dramatizing the war.

The following questions seemed central: Should we and can we reactivate the anti-war constituency? What capacity have we to organize on working-class issues? Are we willing to risk the support of our constituency by sharpening our political actions and education, particularly as we emphasize issues that are not specifically anti-war?
The Committee eventually reached agreement on a package program for continuing anti-war work. The general idea is to use a series of public events to educate people to the ceaseless atrocities of the war, thereby at least maintaining a flame of protest, and hope that this momentum will eventually connect with objective events (like a major Administration blunder) to precipitate the sort of dramatic, disruptive protest which has in the past tended to push the Government toward a Vietnam settlement.

The package consists of the following: the March 4th Research Strike, the Week to Confront Militarism on Campus, a tour of poets highlighted by Allan Ginsberg & Robert Bly, a speaking tour by Peggy Duff & Claude Bourdet on behalf of ICDP (International Committee for Disarmament & Peace), and possibly a climactic event around May 1st (merely a gleam in the revolutionary's eye at this point).

A major tool in this campaign is to be a new manifesto issued by Resist. It will expose the greatly escalated violence in South Vietnam, the Government's suppression of information about this, and it will tie in issues of domestic repression. This manifesto is intended to educate our constituency along the lines of the analysis outlined above. Bill Davidon will write it with advice from the brothers and sisters.

There was no strong inclination in the Committee to devote much energy to the NAG project. We will cooperate where appropriate.

IV. MISC. BUSINESS & Vietcong
A. The North Vietnamese/in Paris would like discussions with North American specialists in various disciplines who can explain what political leverage might be exercised. It was suggested that these specialists might come from cities on the Poets' Tour. (?)

B. Coffeehouse operators are running into heavy opposition. Harrassment takes a heavy toll, and it now appears that heavy political program only provokes a reaction which threatens the life of the coffeehouse. A more subtle and patient program may be wisest now. Resist probably should fill two vacancies on the board of the U. S. Servicemen's Fund.

C. Hester Butterfield - wife of an imprisoned resister - has forwarded a prisoner's request for contact with "writers and thinkers." Hester has since explained to the office staff that this was not a request for a whole project, and she will find out more about just what prisoners desire before asking us to proceed. She has been asked to consider taking responsibility for the long-dormant Resisters Bill of Rights project.

V. Next Meeting will be held in Cambridge, date to be determined. Committee Members paying their own transportation will divide up costs evenly, if all are amenable to this arrangement.

VI. FUNDING - See page 3
VI. FUNDING


B. Bill Hart (ex-GI), Tuscaloosa, Ala.: seed money for draft counseling  

C. Ann Arbor printing co-op: to set up a movement print shop.  

D. Tom Hayes, CALCAV, going to Stockholm: aid to deserters  

E. Montreal ADC: to build political program among deserters.  

F. Salt Lake City Resistance: seed money  

G. "Narodniki", a film of the Palo Alto Resistance caravan: printing expenses  

H. "Where It's At", GI newspaper in W. Berlin: for distribution.  

I. CADRE (Rick Boardman): $1000 requested for expenses on national Resistance conf.  

J. Black Panther Party of Ill.: communications equipment, community patrol; movie equip. for education program; office expenses. NB. The political implications of this grant were discussed at length. The Committee is aware that such a grant probably risks some portion of Resist's constituency.  

K. "Vietnam GI" anti-war GI paper: for production and distribution.  

L. Bill Bloom, chpl., French Reformed Church, Paris: rent of an apartment for deserters/resisters  

M. Prisoners Information & Support Service (PISS), Boston. continuing education & newsletter on prison & prisoners.  

N. John Toler, Underground Railway, Stockholm: We are asking radical journals to donate subscriptions to both UR & ADC. We think it best that housing come through Tom Hayes (see minutes I), and we will provide $250 for his use (item D, above). Susan Sontag will be asked to help with their film expenses. We will try to find musical instruments (or $) in New York and Boston. In all of this, we try to avoid exacerbating conflict between UR & ADC.
FUNDING REQUESTS for the meeting of Feb. 16, 1969

I. Current Requests

1. Columbus Draft Project
   Hugh Matthews wrote telling them that he'd heard they'd already received money, but if not, that the steering committee would grant them $100. No answer received.

2. SSOC
   Jim Grant
   $100/month - subsistence salary

3. Bill Hart(ex-GI)
   Tuscaloosa, Ala.
   $385 to start a draft counseling center

4. Milwaukee Resistance
   Request canceled

5. Ann Arbor Printing Co-op
   Portioned for month
   Funds to set up a co-op printing shop - hope they will only need "seed" money, and then become self-sufficient.

6. Underground Railway
   Stockholm Sweden
   General funds to help deserters in Sweden
   a. Communal House 200/mo.
   b. Emergency fund (to help newly arrived deserters) 50-100/mo
   c. Spending money 75-100/mo
   d. Publications- either money to pay for several radical magazines, or the subscriptions themselves
   e. Musical instruments- to set up a band - or, help getting the instruments wholesale
   f. Film - $100 to complete a film that is already begun.

7. Tom Hayes (sponsored by Clergy and Laymen)
   Contribution to the total amount needed for program money for Tom who is being sent to Stockholm to work with American Deserters.

8. Montreal ADC
   Money for general expenses

9. The Shelter Half
   Tacoma, Washington
   $250 for rent, fuel and insurance bills

10. Salt Lake City Resistance
    Salt Lake City, Utah
    $370/mo. for six months - general expenses

11. Nordic
    $200

12. Where is AT?
    $150.00

13. Cadwe
    5/16/69

14. Chicago PanRes
    800 + 400/3

15. Vietnam C.I.
    10-00 - P.O.Box 9273/6069

16. Bill Bloom
    Paris
    $50/50

17. Piss
    $75/mo instead of $
# Financial Report - February 14, 1969

## Statement

**Balance - January 10th**  

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<td>Contributions</td>
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**Total Deposits**  

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## Disbursements

### I. Grants

**A. Regular grants**

- Brethern Crusaders: 50
- Atlanta Workshop: 100
- Charlottesville Draft Op.: 100
- Delaware Peace Action: 300
- Oakland Opposition Ct.: 360
- Fargo-Moorhead Draft Info.: 170
- Student Organizing Comm.: 150
- Detroit Resistance: 320
- Austin Draft Info. Ct.: 400
- Donna Michelson: 250
- American Deserters Comm.: 100
- Pa. Resistance: 500
- The Victory Press: 300
- John Phillips - PISS: 40
- Columbia College Citizenship: 300
- Peacemakers: 100

**B. Emergency grants**

- WDRU - Racine: 100
- SSO - Jim Grant: 75

**Total Grants**  

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**Total Operating Expenses**  

**Total Disbursements**

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<td>Peacemakers</td>
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