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Resist Board Meeting, Nov. 9, 1969

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Resist, "Resist Board Meeting, Nov. 9, 1969" (1969). *Resist Board Meeting Minutes*. 18.
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Minutes of the RESIST Steering Committee meeting, November 9, 1969

ATTENDING

Steering Committee: Tony Avirgan, Noam Chomsky, Bill Davidson, Mitch Goodman, Florence Howe, Frank Joyce, Louis Kampf, Paul Lauter, Dick Manna, Susan Sontag, Dan Stern, Bob Zevin

Area People: Ken Hale, Hilde Hein, Hugh Matthews, Doug McCay, Wayne O'Neil, Saul Slapikoff

Office Staff: Carrie Hatch, Bob Parsons, Arlene Siegel

Newsletter Staff: John Birmingham, John Dinsen, Doug McCay, Arlene Siegel, Jim Stump

Guests: Staughton Lynd, Susan Sontag's son

FINANCIAL REPORT

The financial report was accepted as presented by Carrie.

Typewriter: We received over \$700 in response to our request for funds to pay for the addressograph (\$310). The office staff decided to use the extra money for a used IBM Selectric typewriter, much needed for both the newsletter and the office.

Direct Mail Fund Raising: The Direct Mail returns are coming in at an average of \$100/day.

New Call Ads: The New Call appears in the Nov. 20, 1969 issue of The New York Review of Books and in the Nov. 22, 1969 issue of The New Republic.

REPORT ON THE CHICAGO EIGHT CONSPIRACY TRIAL

Frank Joyce reported on the events leading to the declaration of a mistrial for Bobby Seale, noting that the mistrial was declared because the political cost of continuing the trial with Seale gagged and chained had become greater than the cost of having him out of this trial. However, he still has to face trial on the conspiracy charge.

Frank's report that two thirds of the prosecution witnesses to date have been undercover agents led to a discussion of the problem of agents in Movement groups. Noting that one of the "witnesses" had been expelled from Northeastern Illinois State College for his part in a Weatherman action there, Dan Stern suggested that one issue might be whether people should be readmitted to or kept in school after their agent identity is revealed. Several things about agents are important to keep in mind: If your politics are so clear that you can carry a mass movement, then agents will have no influence. As agent provocateurs, they are most effective in confrontation situations, and one indication of an agent could be a willingness to create confrontations for no clear political reasons. People should be careful what they say, since much of the testimony against the Conspiracy has consisted of reports of statements that sound very damaging and are usually quoted out of context. However, people should not let fear of agents hamper their work; they should just be careful. Also, once an agent in a group has been identified, it is usually better to keep him around and watch what you tell him and what he does. If you expose him, you then have to figure out who his replacement is.

Frank also noted that Movement groups must find ways to "Stop the Trial". Technically, this could be done at any time by the judge, if he decided to declare mistrials for all

the defendants. (This, however, would not free them. The defendants and their lawyers all expect to receive jail sentences for contempt of court after the trial, regardless of its outcome.) The trial will be stopped when the political costs of continuing it, both inside and outside the courtroom, become greater than the cost of ending it. Movement people can help to raise the political cost of the trial through demonstrations, petitions, workshops, and other means of bringing people to an understanding of what is really happening in Chicago and why. (Mitch suggested compiling a kit on the Conspiracy Eight trial and, perhaps, another conspiracy trial for use by social science teachers. Louis will talk with Greg Finger about this.)

NOVEMBER 13-16 ACTIONS IN WASHINGTON

A brief outline of the various actions planned for November 13-16 was given, and it was noted that the New Mobilization Committee is ending its responsibility for the actions of demonstrators at 5:00 PM on Saturday.

ORGANIZING AFTER NOVEMBER -- The RESIST conference

Invitations had been sent to approximately 1000 people; to date, 70-100 had responded. Four speakers (Noam Chomsky, David Hawk, Frank Joyce, and Franz Schurmann) and approximately 24 workshop leaders had been recruited, and a place for the conference had been located (We will share St. Stephen's Church with the National Council to Repeal the Draft conference.).

Two matters were discussed at length: Noam's concern about Steering Committee agreement over any tactical suggestions he might make in his speech and the focus of the afternoon workshops. The former led to a discussion of the use of militancy, which revealed considerable differences of opinion among those present concerning the value of militant actions such as the one taken recently at MIT by the November Action Coalition. It was finally agreed that the afternoon workshops, rather than the speeches, were the proper place for discussions of strategy and tactics for the Movement.

The focus of the afternoon workshops was questioned by Paul. Recalling an agreement that the conference was to present a political perspective that would prevent co-optation of the liberal-left liberal Moratorium people who would be attending the conference, he objected to the plans that had been made for afternoon workshops led by people doing various types of constituency organizing. Instead of a wide selection of workshops on constituency organizing, the Steering Committee agreed to four major workshops on the topics outlined in Paul's worklist for the conference. The constituency workshops are to be put into a fifth category. It was agreed that some new workshop leaders would be recruited for the first four workshops and that some of the 24 already coming would go into those workshops instead of leading groups of their own. Florence Howe volunteered to be the person-in-charge-at-the-scene for the conference. Howard Zinn will be asked to chair the speakers' session.

AFTER NOVEMBER 15, WHAT? -- Staughton Lynd's proposal (copy enclosed)

This was discussed briefly, and it was agreed that it would be the focus of the "Taking the Profits out of War" workshop at the conference. Questions were raised about the usefulness of certain parts of the proposal, and the entire proposal will be discussed in detail at the next Steering Committee meeting. Several people see RESIST joining a coalition of groups that would spend the next several months implementing the proposal; NUC has already begun to do this. In the meantime, the proposal will be published in the RESIST Newsletter along with comments and criticisms (Paul and Dan will write two of these.). (Staughton's proposal will appear in the November 23 issue of the Newsletter; the critiques will be in the following issue.)

DRAFT CARD TURN-IN AT THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

Tony and Bill invited RESIST to sponsor the November 14 draft card turn-in at the Justice Department planned by resisters in Philadelphia. (The cards had already been turned in in Philadelphia but those who turned them in decided they wanted to present them to the Justice Department.) Discussion revealed that people generally felt that turning the cards over to the Justice Department was a tactic that had little, if any, effectiveness these days; several suggestions were made for other uses for the cards, including sending each card to the PTA in the former owner's home district. Many of the objections were similar to those raised about the Lemming Project, and it was agreed that RESIST would not sponsor the action.

ADULT MOVEMENT LEADERS' CONFERENCE

Paul suggested that RESIST sponsor an "adult Movement leaders" conference sometime early next year. This will be discussed at the next Steering Committee meeting; everyone was asked to explore the idea with the people with whom they work.

NOVEMBER FUNDING REQUESTS

1. New York Right: \$150 for a fund-raising mailing to our mailing list
2. Bumaus (Draft counselling center in a Puerto Rican neighborhood in New York City): Postponed until we have more information about them
3. Hawaii Resistance: \$350 for printing and mailing expenses
4. American Deserters' Committee, Montreal: Denied - not a political effort, and they suggested we send funds only if we had a surplus, which we don't
5. Vietnam GI: \$400 for printing and mailing expenses
6. Southern Conference Educational Fund (SCEF), Louisville, Kentucky: \$150 toward the cost of printing and mailing their pamphlet, "An Enemy of the People"
7. Evansville Draft Project, Evansville, Indiana: \$125/month for 3 months for general office expenses
8. Springfield Area Movement for a Democratic Society, Springfield, Mass.: \$400 now and \$200 next month (plus our mailing list for western Massachusetts) toward the expenses of getting their print shop equipped and staffed
9. Aboveground, Boulder, Colorado: \$50/month for 3 months toward the cost of the next several (probably three) issues of this GI paper
10. Support, London, England: \$50 now and, if Peggy Duff feels they are doing a good job, \$50/month for the next two months for general office expenses
11. Newsreel, New York City: \$250 to have more prints made of "People's War"
12. Massachusetts Welfare Rights Organization: \$350 for a fund-raising mailing
13. Appalachian Movement Press: \$350 for printing equipment
14. Waterbury Peace and Freedom, Waterbury, Conn.: \$250 for printing equipment
15. The Third Eye, Wichita Falls, Texas: \$75/month for 3 months for organizing expenses

RESIST Financial Statement---November 5, 1969

Balance on Oct. 2, 1969

712.75

DEPOSITS

Contributions	4197.05	
Resubscribes	11.00	
Pledges	2416.62	
New Call	477.00	
Woodcuts	200.00	
Repayment from D.M. Account	600.00	
Addressograph	757.28	(take note of this figure!)
Check cashed	5.00	
Total Deposits		<u>8663.95</u> <u>9376.70</u>

DISBURSEMENTS

Grants*see breakdown later*	2179.00	
Payroll	1146.70	
Postage	243.00	
Copy/Printing	301.02	
Office Supplies	383.47	
Office Maintenance	474.63	
Travel Expenses	110.00	
Petty Cash (Oct. & Nov.)	60.00	
Newsletter	73.50	
Joe Neal(at request of Pledge)	10.00	
shipping	6.55	
Subscription	5.00	
Buttons for Washington	348.75	
Mass. Taxes	130.37	
Policemen's Death Fund	4.00	
Total Disbursements		<u>5471.99</u>

BALANCE on November 5, 1969

3904.71

Encumbrments through Dec. 1st

Payroll	1200.00	
Federal Tax Deposit	200.00	
Phone	150.00	
Rent	130.00	
Typewriter	400.00	(Remember that addressograph figure?)
Printing	300.00	
Travel for Conference	200.00	
Travel for S.C. Meeting	240.00	

GRANTS

Jim Grant	100.00
The Rap	75.00
OMEGA	20.00
P.A.W.	200.00
DRUM	200.00
Draft Help LA	150.00
GHS United, Md.	30.00
	<u>875.00</u>

Peacemakers 100.00

Total Encumbrments

3415.00
389.71

Estimated Income

Pledges	2500.00
Contributions	1000.00

3989.7.

NOVEMBER FUNDING REQUESTS

1. New York Eight: \$150 for a fund-raising mailing to our mailing list
2. Emmaus (Draft counselling center in a Puerto Rican neighborhood in New York City): Seed money
3. Hawaii Resistance: Up to \$678.56 - \$378.56 for printing and mailing; \$300 for a film
4. ADC (Montreal): Toward general office and program expenses
5. Vietnam GI: \$650 - \$200 to finish the September issue, \$300 for the October issue, and \$150 for a lease payment on their IBM Composer
6. Southern Conference Educational Fund (SCEF, Louisville, Ky.): Up to \$200 to help with the printing of their pamphlet, "An Enemy of the People"
7. Evansville Draft Project (Evansville, Indiana): \$400 within the next 3 months for general office expenses
8. Springfield Area Movement for a Democratic Society (Springfield, Mass.): \$1190 within 3 months for salaries and equipment
9. Aboveground (GI paper published in Boulder, Colorado): Whatever we can afford toward the \$400 cost of each issue
10. Support (London, England): Up to \$600 for office expenses
11. Newsreel (New York City): \$1000 for prints of "People's War"
12. Massachusetts Welfare Rights Organization: \$504
13. Appalachian Movement Press: Printing equipment
14. Waterbury Peace and Freedom (Waterbury, Conn.): Printing equipment

October grants

GI's United Conference, Baltimore, Md.	100.00
Peace Info. Center, Columbia, Mo.	250.00
Draft Resistance Movement of Memphis	200.00
OM, Roger Priest	150.00
Shakedown, Ft. Dix Coffee House	300.00
Draft Help, Los Angeles, Calif.	150.00
Rising Up Angry	150.00
HYM II	150.00
Jim Grant	100.00
The Rap	75.00
Omega, Bethalto, Ill.	20.00
Peacemakers	100.00
Baltimore GI's United	30.00
P.A.W.	200.00
Springfield Area Movement for a Democratic Society	200.00(emergency)
	<u>2175.00</u>

Direct Mail Special Account- Statement to Nov. 5, 1969

Deposits

loan from "Doug McCay"	4000.00
loan from Resist regular account	600.00
loan from Don Kalish	1260.00
returns to Nov, 5, 1969	9145.38
(still about \$100 a day)	<u>15,005.38</u>

Disbursements

Envelopes	577.13	
Inside Materials	956.62	
rental of lists	1348.88	6605.89
folding and inserting	790.30	
postage	2994.70	
less money on account	-74.96	
bank charges	13.22	
repayment of loans	5800.00	5860.00
to Resist N.C. from Don	60.00	
deposit on N.Y. Review ad	600.00	600.00
Total Disbursements		<u>13,065.89</u>
Balance on Nov. 5, 1969		1939.49
Encumbered for New Call Ads		-1360.00
Unencumbered Balance		<u>579.49</u>

Profit to date

2599.49

Breakdown of returns

returned; undeliverable	6197
total probably delivered	43,803

	#returns	#empty	#conts.	\$amount
Donors	546	50	496	5277.51
SNCC	562	89	473	3745.87
Unknown	7	0	7	122.00
Totals	1115	139	976	9145.38