

Trinity College

## Trinity College Digital Repository

---

Resist Board Meeting Minutes

Resist Collection

---

2-22-1970

### Resist Board Meeting, Feb. 22, 1970

Resist

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalrepository.trincoll.edu/minutes>

---

#### Recommended Citation

Resist, "Resist Board Meeting, Feb. 22, 1970" (1970). *Resist Board Meeting Minutes*. 22.  
<https://digitalrepository.trincoll.edu/minutes/22>



## Minutes of the Resist Steering Committee Meeting

February 22, 1970 at Cambridge Institute, Cambridge

### ATTENDING

Steering Committee: Tony Avirgan, Noam Chomsky, Bill Davidson, Mitch Goodman, Frank Joyce, Louis Kampf, Dick Munna, Dan Stern, Robert Zevin

Area People: Carrie Hatch, George & Hilde Hein, Hugh Matthews, Doug McCay, Wayne O'Neil.

Staff: Todd Manley, Bob Parsons, Claudette Piper, Arlene Siegel.

Guests: Harry Bracken, Greg Finger, John Lee, Herman and Leah Heyn, Jim Wessner.

### OFFICE REPORT

Staff - Claudette is now working full-time for Resist as Associate National Director and staff member. Bob will not be leaving until near the end of April.

Mailings - The pledge list was loaned to Felix Greene for a mailing of his new newsletter. The Newsletter list has been used extensively in the past three months. Besides our own fund-raising mailing, the people on the list have received mailings from the New York Eight Defense Committee, the United States Servicemen's Fund (for the Shelter Half and the UFO), and the New York Panther 21. The list has also been promised to Hard Times; they will probably use it in two or three months. Since the mailing list has been used so much, we agreed that we will not give it out again until next fall. We also decided that no group will be allowed to use it more than once a year. (The Guardian had requested the list; instead we will put something in the newsletter for them.) Resist will be doing a mailing to 3000 names on the Hard Times list within the next month. It is unlikely that we will be able to arrange a mailing to Dick Munna's faculty list in the foreseeable future.

Office equipment - The office has finally acquired its long-sought-after IBM Selectric typewriter with carbon ribbon (Much needed for the Newsletter). We have also leased a postage meter, which will be very helpful in posting large mailings such as the special Newsletter mailing on repression. Following the fourth case of "breaking and entering" in other offices on the floor where the Resist office is located, we have begun installing heavy wooden panels over the glass in the office doors.

Anti-Repression Projects - Except for Frank Joyce's two background articles on repression, the materials in the kit have been reproduced and are ready for mailing. (Despair not -- it really does exist.) The February 13 edition of the Newsletter is a special issue on repression. It contains some of the materials in the kit, a copy of the Panther poster, and a leaflet with some ideas for using the poster and a statement explaining what we meant in calling for investigative commissions on the poster's petition.

### FUND-RAISING

Last month's discussion on fund-raising continued at this meeting. Since we will not be doing any mailings to lists other than the Hard Times list, we must think up some other means of raising funds and, hopefully, obtaining new pledges. The office is planning to do a small mailing to those who signed the "New Call" ads in the New Republic and the New York Review. Mitch will talk to Allan Ginsberg to find out if he might be able to do a benefit or two for Resist. Leah Heyn suggested that we allow those who



want to to specify the kind of project(s) for which they want their donation or pledge to be used. We will ask Greg Finger of CLIDF to come to the next meeting to lend an added air of reality to our next discussion of fund-raising. Between now and then the staff will try to come up with some ideas and will talk to Steering Committee members to get their ideas about possibilities. (Try to think of some ideas before we call you, please.)

## KITS

**Anti-Repression Kit** - As noted above, the anti-repression kit will be ready for mailing as soon as the staff receives and reproduces Frank's articles.

**Anti Imperialism Kit** - Claudette suggested that Resist try to assemble an anti-imperialism kit. It would be very useful to have such a kit available by April 15, the Mobe economic day. However, the consensus of the group was that such a kit was a project that could be done much more knowledgeably by a group such as the Committee of Returned Volunteers or Larry Hill's summer research group. URPE, Africa Research Group, and the Committee of Concerned Asian Scholars might help with this. If a kit is assembled, Resist would like to help to distribute it.

**High School Kit** - It was agreed that Resist should assemble a kit for distribution as soon as possible (within a month?). The kit need not be in final, galvanized form when first sent out; we should expect to add to it and to send out additional items as we find them. Several suggestions were made about the contents of the kit: one-half of it should be concerned with school problems and the other half with outside issues. High school struggles should be related to a class analysis. People could be made aware of the ways in which history is distorted in the schools. Mitch, Herman, Leah and Wayne will provide special suggestions and materials they talked about at the meeting. A review board will be formed by Dan, Arlene, Carrie, Mitch, George, Herman, and Bob P. Bob will also be the office coordinator for the project.

## MOBE ANTI-DRAFT WEEK

Claudette reported on plans for the Anti-Draft Week, noting especially that SMC has decided to endorse it in spite of the vote against it at their convention. After some discussion we decided that Resist will not ask people not to register for the draft but will continue to supply information about alternatives to the draft and will support those who do not register, turn in their draft cards, refuse induction, etc. Resist will do a special contact mailing about Anti-Draft Week which will include a cover letter, a call to "Organize for Anti-Draft Week", the "New Mobilizer", and the New Mobe's poster and button. The next issue of the Newsletter (to be mailed around March 6th) will include an article by Claudette on Anti-Draft Week & a copy of the cover letter from the contact mailing will be enclosed.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

The financial report was accepted as presented by Todd.

Florence send word that Galway Kinnell had donated his National Poetry Award (check for \$500 from the U.S. Treasury) to Resist. We will try to



come up with some useful ways of getting publicity from this; it is also very welcome because funds are low and we have not yet come up with any plans for a fund-raising campaign in the near future.

## FUNDING REQUESTS

Altering the format of previous Resist meetings, we took care of the funding requests in the middle of the meeting instead of at the end. We will probably continue this practice: people usually drift away toward the end of the meeting and often very few are left to make the monthly grants.

### GRANTS

	\$total	March	April	May
1. Chinatown-Manilatown Draft Help, San Francisco	350	350	-	-
2. "The Spark", Orono, Maine	300	100	100	100
3. Draft Counseling Center for Black Areas of Boston	denied			
4. "Women - A Journal of Liberation", Baltimore	withdrawn			
5. Home Front, Ft. Carson, Colorado	referred to USSF			
6. Mass. Council to Repeal the Draft, Worcester	denied			
7. Military Counseling Service, Japan	550	550	-	-
8. Movement to Support GB Strikers, New York City	pending further invest.			
9. DEVCOR/FARMCO Program, Voluntown, Conn.	denied			
10. Repression Information Service Committee, Pittsburgh	denied			
11. Peace & Freedom Center, Pittsburgh	300	300	-	-
12. Liberation News Service, NYC	500	500	-	-
13. GI's United, Baltimore	referred to USSF H. Heyn will check it			
14. Washington, D.C. Draft Information Center	200	200	-	-
15. Black Panther Party, Philadelphia	1000	500	500	-
16. Young Lords Organization, Chicago	600	200	200	200
17. Armadillo Press, Austin, Tex.	900	300	300	300
18. Philadelphia Resistance Prison Coordinating Project	150	150	-	-



## PRISON ORGANIZING

Jim Wessner, recently released from Ashland prison, talked about the organizing possibilities in prison. He was critical of the way most political prisoners spend their time and the way they go about organizing. He described the prison class structure and the methods by which the administration reinforces it. Most of the leadership jobs are given to the CO's, and they in effect become part of the prison power structure as teachers, etc.. It is very difficult for a CO to get assigned to the laundry or a bricklaying crew. This discrimination combined with most CO's paternalistic attitudes towards working class kids engenders considerable hostility towards the CO's. Very few CO's will attempt political organizing with working class kids, partly because they are physically afraid of them. But Jim found that the working class kids were very open to organizing if they respected the person trying to do it. Organizers must be prepared to meet physical challenges, and karate would be a very helpful skill. The kids there did not need confrontations with authority to radicalize them since they had been fucked over by the system often enough. Many of them are doing time either on drug charges or for desertion. At least 50 in Ashland went AWOL to avoid duty in Vietnam. Jim says organizers and other inmates need literature and people to talk with. He will be writing a manual on prisons and prison organizing.

## CHICAGO 8

Frank reported on some of the aspects of the trial and what was going on. His first comments were that he was upset by the way some people on the Left were treating the verdict. The defendants were convicted of their "evil intentions", and he felt that heavier repression was imminent.

Paul Potter is now handling things at the conspiracy office and co-ordinating the post-verdict strategy. The major immediate task is to get the defendants released on bail. There will be several Amicus briefs filed in the case, and Resist might want to join in one. And all liberal stops should be pulled in an effort to bring as much pressure to bear as possible in the appeals coming up.

## BAIL POLICY

Recognizing that in certain circumstances the use of Resist funds for bail might make a crucial difference, the Committee reviewed its policy of absolutely providing no bail. The decision was that bail funds could be granted only with the approval of any five members of the Steering Committee.

## MINI-CONFERENCES

It was felt that organizers' conferences sponsored by Resist should be scheduled as an extension of local conferences or actions, not as isolated events imposed by Resist. There was discussion about whether the conference should draw together radical types and left-liberal academics. Louis felt this would be disastrous. Wayne pointed out that in his area a conference of "radicals only" would be a gathering of very few people. There was inconclusive discussion about the practicality of bringing together organizers of varied constituencies.

Wayne is setting up a conference for Birmingham, Ala., for the end of March. We will review the mini-conference concept after that.



## WEATHERMAN

Starting from a rap by Frank Joyce about the challenges Weatherman presents to the movement, the discussion touched more or less briefly on various key issues. There was some debate about the political condition of Amerika, whether we are in a potentially revolutionary situation, and who the revolutionaries might be. There also was some discussion about the relationship the white middle class movement might have to anti-imperialist struggles at home and abroad. Much of this focussed on the white, middle-class fear of violence, and the comparative readiness of working-class youth to engage in violence. The discussion about political conditions in USA aroused various references to other eras, and there were conflicting evaluations of their significance in relation to the present situation. Implicit in much of this was a disagreement as to the importance of building a mass base for revolutionary activity. Also apparently at issue was the identity of the leading edge of the movement, ie. some say Panthers, others Weatherman, others don't see one. It was agreed that successive Steering Committee meetings should allow some time for discussion of more sharply defined components of this general topic. Some of those present were eager for a discussion on the ideology and tactics of Weatherman. (Those who are interested might prepare themselves for argument on issues raised by Weatherman ideology & tactics.)

## NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held in Cambridge on March 29th, Easter Sunday, place to be announced. In keeping with an earlier agreement, we will normally meet in New York for every third meeting.

Selah



# RESIST FINANCIAL STATEMENT FEB. 20, 1970

Balance on Jan. 16

2689.89

## Deposits to Feb 20, 1970

Pledges	2513.55	
Contributions	3003.00	
New Call	1179	179.00
Jan. Mailing	1541.16	
Buttons	8.50	
Anti-Repression Kit	18.50	
Voided Check	400.00	VN 61.
Miscellaneous	74.35	
<b>TOTAL</b>		

7738.06

## Disbursements to Feb. 20

payroll	1066.98	
Jan Grants	2710.00	
Feb. Installments	700.00	
Postage	1038.20	
copy/printing	97.60	
office supplies	144.19	
office maintenance	717.65	( telephones 236.75, IBM selectric 287.88 )
High School Kit	15.00	
miscellany	355.77	
travel	580.00	
<b>total.</b>	<b>6845.39</b>	

6845.39

Balance on Feb. 20

3002.56

## Breakdown of Grants

Philadelphia Resistance	400.00
El Grito del Norte	200.00
Jim Grant	100.00
Waterbury Peace and Freedom	150.00
Club Voltaire (Larry Cox)	200.00
Weekly Action Project	220.00
Phil. Res. Germantown H.S. Pro.	150.00
Ft. Dix Coffee House	200.00
Jan Morris	65.00
Evansville Draft Project	50.00
Toronto Anti-Draft Project	150.00
November Action Coalition	200.00
Carol McElowney(emergency)	100.00
Peoples Clinic Support Fund	200.00
Patriot Party ( emergency )	100.00
NABS	100.00
Peacemaker	100.00
A Four Year Buzzer	--25.00
	<b>2710.00</b>

## Breakdown of Feb Installments

El Grito del Norte	200.00
Jim Grant	100.00
Toronto Anti-Draft	150.00
Club Voltaire	200.00
Evansville Draft Project	50.00
	<b>700.00</b>

## Breakdown of Miscellany

Mark Morris	76.80	( Panther Poster )
Philadelphia Resistance	94.40	" "
HUC	10.85	( Literature sold at November Conference )
Fed Tax Deposit	173.72	



Encumberments to March 29 (5 weeks )  
 Payroll and Taxes 1650.00  
 Rent 130.00  
 Phone 200.00  
 Travel 200.00  
 Grants

Peacemaker 100.00  
 Four Year Bummer 25.00  
 Jim Grant 100.00  
 Club Voltaire 200.00  
 Evansville Draft 50.00  
2655.00

will get 2500 - 2800

Unencumbered Balance 347.56

Results of Mailing list Fund Raising Mailing Jan. 19- Feb. 20

Returns	Contributions	New Pledges	Amt Pldg	Pldg Incr.
83	1420.16	6	30 monthly	1

Amt Incr.	Names Suggested
5	50

Results of Follow-up on suggested names

returns	Contributions	New Pldg.	Amt Pldg
13	121	3	30

Results of mailing since Jan 1

Returns	Contributions	New Pldgs	Amt Pldgs	Pldg Incr
260	3231.06	27	136 monthly	25

Amt Incr  
 108.50