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Resist Board Meeting, June 28, 1971

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RESIST Steering Committee Minutes
Monday, June 28, 1971 @ MIT/Boston

Present in mind and spirit:

Donald Kalish, Paul Lauter, Wendy Batson, Noam Chomsky, Bell Chevigny, Ariene Siegel, Claudette Piper, Hu Matthews, Doug McKay, Robert Zevin, Sue Rozen, Dick Ohmann, Bill Davidon, Shawn Donovan, Barry Winzard, Wayne O'Neil, Hilde Hein, Jennifer Riley, Tony Avirgan, and Frank Joyce.

Staff Report:

Jennifer Riley was introduced to the general meeting with the information that she has done excellent volunteer work in the office since April (at the time of the mass mailing) and was a paid consultant while Shawn Donovan was hospitalized in June. The staff announced that Jennifer had been hired as a full time member of the office collective and asked the benediction of those assembled on this decision. It was received. Four people are now on the staff: Jennifer, Wendy, Barry, and Shawn.

Staff announced that recent information obtained from a Boston reporter indicates that the FBI has been monitoring the contents of our garbage for the past year and a half. Each night the building superintendant specially bags our garbage placing it in a pre-arranged location for regular pick-up by the Bureau. Bill Davidon suggested that this form of surveillance be publicized and handled in such a manner as to embarrass the FBI--he mentioned the success of the Powelton Carnival and the offensive nature of their campaign to stop harassment.

Financial Report:

We are in the best financial position of the past eight months, primarily due to the success of the mass mailing in the Spring and a surprising number of individual contributions. One contribution in the amount of \$3,000 was recently received--Bill Davidon suggested that this person be approached and asked certain questions about her motivation, what she knows about Resist, and why she likes us. Perhaps an understanding of her motivation may assist efforts at securing other large contributions from other sources.

As of this meeting, we have an unencumbered balance of \$5,600. Keeping in mind that July and August are traditionally slow months, we should only fund to a maximum of \$3,500 this month. The loan from Mrs. Zevin was repaid in toto.

The Demise of the Civil Liberties Legal Defense Fund (CLLDF):

Wendy reported on a conversation with Bliss Mattison of the CLLDF staff. It seems that financial support has fallen off in the past months, the continued operation of the office has been slowed down for the summer, and their Board does not plan to meet again until September. All agreed that this would not be an opportune time for CLLDF to close. NOAM CHOMSKY volunteered to talk with LENNARD BOUDIN and inquire about the exact situation and how RESIST can help. He will suggest that they have a Board meeting prior to September.

Fund Raising:

PAUL LAUTER is still trying to get lists of wealthy movement contributors in the D. C. area from MARCUS RASKIN and ARTHUR WASKOW. He will soon be in Washington again and make his pitch for these once more.

ROBERT ZEVIN will bring lists of names taken from the office's "contributor's file" to the next meeting and parcel out names to S. C. people in hopes that personal fund raising letters will result in a continual flow of money into the Resist coffers.

Movement Security Kit:

The Kit is practically finished; all but three articles are printed. These last three are 1) Arlene's article on political positions taken by grand jury witnesses, an overview of this favorite Justice Department tactic considering the situations in Tucson, Harrisburg, Detroit, New York etc., 2) Nick Egelson's piece on the capacity of the FBI and police to politically infiltrate and subvert the New Left. The third article--dealing with aspects of personal and collective security--is being printed at the New England Free Press now.

Advertising for the Kit will be done by taking out short ads in a variety of college, underground, and quasi-establishment journals sometime in the Fall. We will also send an announcement to LNS. A colorful flyer describing the contents of the Kit will be sent to all groups who have received funds from Resist in the past few years.

Next Issue of the Newsletter:

~~What~~ The staff expects to receive an article from (ahem!) FRANK JOYCE on jury selection and legal techniques in recent political trials. WAYNE O'NEIL is also writing an article for the July issue--his topic is the Malcolm X United Liberation Front and the case of the Quincey 5. ARLENE SIEGEL's piece on Ruchell Magee will appear in a later issue. BILL DAVIDON has already submitted a short article about dealing offensively with the FBI and the police.

FRANK JOYCE, GRACE PALEY, AND MITCH GOODMAN all have promised (at some future date) to send the staff their reflections on the MayDay actions. Since so little has been written about the actions in the movement press, several felt a piece in the Newsletter, even though late, would be worthwhile.

ACLU/RESIST vs. The FBI:

BELL CHEVIGNY reported on a meeting she had with Mel Wulf and others in the New York office of the ACLU. They talked about the Union's intentions to bring suit against the Justice Department and FBI on the basis of the Media documents and about ways to mobilize public opinion on the issue of pervasive surveillance. One suggestion is to encourage the formation of a Citizen's Commission in every city which might perform some specific tasks such as inquiring ~~of individuals and businesses~~ about policies of providing information to law enforcement agencies who seek such information without subpoenas. Banks, telephone companies, and other corporations should be approached.

Campus groups can investigate university policies. Banks, phone companies, universities and corporations should all be advised of the legal issues involved in such policies, and possible jeopardy.

Bill Davidson reported that in Philadelphia the ACLU has brought suit against the Police Department for the existence of a question about political associations on its interrogation/arrest form. In response to the suit, the Department dropped this question and printed a revised interrogation form.

This is one issue in connection with which RESIST contacts (long out of use) may be brought into play. A letter advocating the formation of local Citizens' Commissions will be sent out in August.

Report on Area Contact Meeting

The impetus for this discussion comes from several areas: dissatisfaction with the manner in which funding requests are checked out, staff dissatisfaction with a simple "dole" relationship to movement groups and a desire to be more ~~soz~~ of a resource to groups funded by RESIST. The example of the Malcolm X United Liberation Front was cited as a model for further development; in this instance, organizers from Tallahassee, Florida came to Boston and New York City and met with RESIST people in those cities. They were then introduced to sources of legal assistance and publicity necessary to the successful defense of five of their members held on a variety of capital charges.

If a different type of relationship between RESIST and local projects and groups -- one that is not entirely based on money, but one in which RESIST becomes a resource organization (financial, legal, publicity, etc.) -- is to be developed, then there has to be greater participation by all members in the Boston area. Claudette Piper suggested the formation of a Boston Working Committee to be composed of staff, ex-staff, steering committee members, area people, and friends. (At a meeting held at the Hein's house on the 30th of June, this proposal was discussed in more detail: area or geographical responsibility was re-defined, in some instances assignments were juggled, and a complimentary method of handling funding requests besides simple geographical assignment was adopted. From now on, the Working Committee will be organized around particular interests as well as on geographical lines. This will result in overlapping and greater communications and, hopefully, better investigation of funding requests by the Working Committee. This group will meet monthly, just prior to the steering committee meetings.)

Discussion on Pentagon Study

NOAM CHOMSKY suggested that the Nixon Administration's real problem with the release of the Pentagon study lies in the damage done to the secrecy system. The Administration is counting on the inability of the general public to connect disclosures about double dealing in past Administrations with similar machinations by the present one. They hope that the entire issue can be turned into a Republicans(good guys) vs. Democrats (bad guys)skirmish without fundamental question about the system being raised. Noam said that in his opinion Nixon sought injunctions against the newspapers not because he had any concern for the reputation of Johnson but rather out of self-serving motives. He said the press is not dealing with two issues raised by the Pentagon papers: 1) that the New Left has been right for the past six years, and 2) that the material does apply to the Nixon Administration and is not just of historical interest, that the same type of planning is continuing.

There were differing opinions as to the added legitimacy these documents give to the American Left in the eyes of the general public.

ARLENE SIEGEL suggested that RESIST arrange a round-table discussion with Ellsberg and various movement people. This could be video-taped and recorded and distributed nationally.

ARLENE, HILDE HEIN, and SHAWN DONOVAN will work on an article about the Pentagon papers for an upcoming issue of the Newsletter. This will probably appear in August.

Frank Joyce said that Ellsberg should be pressed to relate more to the Left in upcoming months and particularly the underground press. When suggestions were made about publicly linking Ellsberg with RESIST through speaking tours, etc., many people expressed hesitation due to distrust of his political position. Hilde Hein said that Ellsberg would be wiser to steer clear of aligning himself with Left groups because this would diminish his ability to speak to a new constituency.

JUNE FUNDING REQUESTS: GRANTED

North Lands Research Institute, Minneapolis: toward the expenses of establishing an office and making the group self-sustaining. \$100.00, \$100.00, and \$50.00.

The Red Sticks Collective, Little Rock, Arkansas. Help with rent and program expenses during the summer. \$260.00.

The Women's Center, Los Angeles: \$235.00 for equipment-addressograph, examining table for clinic and tape recorder.

Charlottesville Draft Resistance Union, Virginia. \$150.00 toward program expenses.

Pit River Nation, Montgomery Creek, California. \$400.00 June \$450.00 July over the next six months for the travel and maintenance expenses of sending 50 people to court in Sacramento several times.

GI, Airman-Sailor Coalition, Tacoma, Washington. \$70-40-40 for program expenses.

The People First, Dorchester, Ma. \$140.00 for paper and adding machine.

Day Care Center, Dayton, Ohio. \$350.00 for program expenses if the community can put up \$450.00.

Malcolm X United Liberation Front, Tallahassee, Florida. \$300.00 X 3 toward a car and other travel expenses necessary to publicize the Quincy # 5 case.

Boston PCRJ \$400.00 for the summer because they are broke.

NOTICE:

The next steering committee meeting will be held July 31, 11:00, at George and Hilde Hein's house 19 Fairmont Avenue Newton, Ma.



P.S. Also funded: The Kensington Project - Philadelphia.
\$ 350.00

RESIST FINANCIAL STATEMENT
JUNE 1971

May 27 balance \$1,679.21

Income for this month past:

pledges	\$2,132.66
contributions	5,507.50
mass mailing	3,507.17
miscellaneous	1,210.00
high school kit	21.21
resubscriptions	<u>19.00</u>
	\$12,397.54

Disbursements for this month:

grants	\$5,235.00
maintainence	1,723.65
payroll	767.00
taxes	318.53
postage	100.00
printing	106.77
supplies	104.16
travel	182.00
security kit	117.63
miscellaneous	<u>473.74</u>
	\$8,902.22

June 26 balance \$5,297.52

Encumberments for coming month

payroll	\$1,200.00
postage	500.00
taxes	200.00
maintainence	150.00
travel	200.00
printing	115.00
advertising for sec. kit	50.00
air conditioning	180.00
grants	<u>700.00</u>
Women's History Center	\$3,295.00
	100.00
San Antonio Coffeeshouse	200.00
Vincent Foliard	200.00
Military Intelligence	200.00

Sources for projected income:

pledges	\$2,000.00
contributions	1,000.00
mass mailing	500.00
security kit	<u>100.00</u>
	\$3,600.00

CURRENT BALANCE plus projected income minus encumberments leaves \$5,602.52 unencumbered. On advice of Claudette and Arlene as to financial conditions over the average summer, we recommend funding no more than \$3,500.00

MASS MAILING Report

Returns this month May 28 - June 28	\$ 3507.17
Returns last month May 13 - May 28	\$ 4,274.38
Total cost	\$ 3,969.99
Profit to date	\$ 3,811.56

This month's Break down

Rep. Legislature	10,000	\$ 786.00
Resist old & dead	2854	\$ 366.00
FOR	5000	\$ 380.50
Charney	5793	\$ 297.00
Paul + Florence	1163	\$ 90.00
Marie Runyon*	3500	\$ 1075.00
USS 7 *	1500	\$ 376.50
No list		\$ 52.00

Promised pledges to date \$116.00 a month
 May 13 - June 28 \$50.00 quarterly
\$1,592.00 yearly

JUNE FUNDING REQUESTS

100/100/50

- 1. North Lands Research Institute, Minneapolis: toward the expenses of establishing an office and making the group self-sustaining (June - \$100 - phone, utilities, office supplies; July - \$100 - phone, utilities, postage for a large local mailing; August - \$50 - phone, utilities)

\$260

- 2. The Red Sticks Collective, Little Rock: help with rent and program expenses during the summer

235

- 3. The Women's Center, Los Angeles: \$385 over 3 months for equipment (\$110 - addressograph; \$125 - examining table for clinic; \$150 - tape recorder)

postpone

- 4. Newsreel, Milwaukee: \$450 for a used Bell & Howell movie projector

(\$150)

- 5. Charlottesville Draft Resistance Union, Virginia: whatever we can afford toward their program expenses

400/400

- 6. Pit River Nation, Montgomery Creek, California: \$1,200 over the next 6 months for the travel and maintenance expenses of sending 50 people to court in Sacramento several times

postpone

- 7. Last Harass, Augusta, Georgia: \$2,000 for a GI-Civilian Solidarity Committee to set up a bookstore-newsstand (also to function as a meeting place)

70/40/40

- 8. G.I.-Airman-Sailor Coalition, Tacoma: \$40/month for several months or a single grant of \$150 for program expenses (including printing their paper, Lewis-McChord Free Press)

over. . . .

9. The People First, Dorchester: \$250 to replace ripped-off food coop \$; \$200 now for their paper; \$375 next month for rent, phone, possibly another issue of the paper

~~\$140~~
\$140/100

10. Lowell Organizing Project, Massachusetts: \$300/month for 4 months (beginning in September) to start a political collective in Lowell that will work with poor and working-class people around local issues and their relation to the war

next mtg
prob. \$150

11. Day Care Center, Antioch, Ohio: \$600 for the down payment on a house and \$150 to fix it up

\$350 if.

12. Malcolm X United Liberation Front, Tallahassee: up to \$1,000 toward a car and other travel expenses necessary to publicize the Quincy 5 case

300/300/300

13. U. Va Draft Information Center

postpone

14. Hennington R. Org. Project

\$350

15. Boston PCPJ

\$400

16. Amram

17.

18.