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Resist Board Meeting, Dec. 28, 1977

Resist

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Dear Resisters,

Here are the minutes from the last meeting, and a copy of the January newsletter, which will be going out in a few days.

I've also included a copy of the report I brought to the meeting if you weren't there; and a copy of big contributors for those of you who might want to write to your generous friends.

Income has been good in the 10 days since the meeting. I should be able to pay off our loan and write the checks for the grants in the next week or so.

Don't forget that our next meeting is here in Boston on Jan. 29th.

Also, there are quite a few brochures left over from the mailing; just drop a note if you want some; or send some names and I'll mail them from here.

Best wishes,

[Signature]

Minutes for December Meeting

Present: Kampf, Lauter, O'Neil, Paley, Brodhead, Joyce, Howe, Vickers

Brodhead will send list of 40 donors to board, who then should write letters to the ones they know, asking for donations. People should give Frank names of people they want the newsletter sent to.

Newsletter: George will write response to Clamshell Alliance article. George is working with Mobilization for Survival, and reported on it. Grace reported on difficulties in relations between Clamshell and the Mob. George wants to attack notion that Clamshell has no leadership.

The March issue should be a special issue on energy and disarmament issues, including George's article. There might be an article about the Midwest Academy's energy project. Copy deadline is February 1.

Frank Joyce will do article on the Trenton 7 for the February issue.

We should have something on Southern Africa.

Reprint article on Indian women from Economic and Political Weekly and give them a plug.

Grant applications: Frank will send copies of proposals to people in areas where they have special interest. He'll also send out bi-weekly bulletin on what proposals have come in.

Liberation: Paul says the next step is to contact people who might write for it, to see whether it has a base of support. Paul is not interested in having small, miscellaneous magazine. He wants substantial intellectual journal; something that will have the sort of intellectual impact NYReview had. To do this one needs a group of people who write for it regularly. By the end of February, we should have an idea of whether there is sentiment to move forward. After this, finances will have to be pursued.

India: Florence reported on her trip to India. Women incredibly oppressed.

Next Meeting: January 29 in Boston at Wayne's, 11am; next March 5, where?
Resistance to many forms of illegitimate authority is necessary to bring health to this country and make it a constructive force instead of a terror in the politics of nations.

— from A New Call to Resist Illegitimate Authority

REPORT FOR DECEMBER

The last meeting made two major decisions: to take over New Social Perspectives (Liberation magazine) and to spend a few more months investigating whether financial backing and a new editorial group can be found; and to not despair about the Resist financial situation, but to establish the goal of making the organization able to give out $1500 to $2000/month by the end of the spring.

We also decided to have only one staff person for the indefinite future.

Liberation

We are now the owners of Liberation. That is, Wayne, Paul, Grace and I are listed as new officers of New Social Perspectives.

All of the material necessary for Liberation business has been moved into the Resist office. I have met a few times with Michael Nil, one of the former editors; and starting in a week or two I will be taking over almost all of the actual business of the magazine. Michael estimates that this will be 5 to 10 hours a week.

The final issue of Liberation has been published, and has reached subscribers. It has a statement from Paul and the old editors in the front about the future; and a promo ad for Resist in the back.

(By the way, I hope you like the new "logo" drawing that Nick Thorkelson did for us. It is a tracing of a color poster by somebody Moor, a Russian graphic designer in the revolutionary period. Though it has been said that those resisting illegitimate authority in the poster are having a hard time of it.)

The next (January) issue of the newsletter will be going to Liberation subscribers. Each additional newsletter mailing costs just under $0.25; so the 3500 person Liberation list will cost us an extra $850 or so per issue. It will take a few issues to determine if contributions from this list justify continuing this financially.

Paul should report on what's been happening with Liberation so far, and how things look for the future.
A definite benefit of Liberation will be the use of their mailing list to trade for other lists. I feel reluctant to trade the Resist list, but I will use the Liberation list to try to line up other mailing lists to try to find potential contributors.

THE FINANCIAL SITUATION

Considering that our bank account is under $200, I feel pretty optimistic. Much will depend on mailings that have just gone out, and on whether the January annual pledges follow through; but for the last two weeks I have felt better about the future than anytime since I came.

To be honest, I was very depressed over the summer, mostly about financial uncertainty, and didn't do some of the groundwork that I should have done then. Since the October meeting, and the decision to stick it out until spring, I have been able to do most of the reorganizing of our costs, record keeping, mailing lists, etc. that I wanted to do. I also feel that we now have some useable promotional material.

Our COSTS have been cut about in half since last spring. It now costs a bit under $1000/month to run the office (including phone, travel, salary, taxes, etc.). The newsletter costs about $0.25 per copy. That is, about $500 for each issue to the Resist list; and an additional $850 to the Liberation list. These figures should stay pretty constant.

Our INCOME has stabilized at just above our costs. The income for October was $1840 (83 pledges, 44 other contributions); for November, $1520 (69 pledges and 22 contributions); and so far for December about $1150.

The November figure was artificially low because the Oct-Nov newsletter did not actually get in the mail until the first week of December; and because the pledge letter was late. The December income is ahead of October, and might be around $2000, depending on what happens with the Xmas mail.

The number of pledges, incidentally, is now 97. There were 135 on the books last spring; but many of them in fact were not contributing at all.

MAILINGS

The main way that I have in mind trying to increase our income over the winter is direct mail. I have started to do some mailings to other lists; and have worked out a new way to do contributors' mailings.

This last week, a mailing went out to the Dollars and Sense list, (the brochure and a letter signed by Arthur MacEwan, an editor of D and S); and to the Radical America list (the brochure and a letter signed by Margery and me). The total number is 8200; the cost per piece is about $0.17, for a total of about $1400. These lists are the best I know of, and should more than cover this cost.
Using the Liberation list to swap, I want to try to do similar mailings, monthly if possible, in the 3000 to 5000 size. Safe Return wants to swap; I also anticipate contacting Socialist Revolution, In These Times, Working Papers, Monthly Review -- generally lists that have a high proportion of socialists with professional jobs. I think this is preferable to "donor lists", like American Committee on Africa, etc., with a high proportion of junk. These lists are "cleaned" of big donors anyway; while magazine lists are usually not.

The goal of the mailings is not so much to produce a surplus to be used for grants, though that would be nice. What I hope is that we can build up our own list, getting new names from mailing list returns.

For example, a 1% return on the D and S and RA mailing will give us 82 new donors, who will receive our newsletter and periodic contributors' mailings.

CONTRIBUTORS' MAILINGS. I have divided our list anew, and sent an emergency begging letter to everyone whose whereabouts we know who has given us $25 or more in the past (about 200). I will do monthly mailings to this group to everyone who has not given in the previous few months.

Next week I will send individual letters to everyone who has given us $100 or more. (About 40). Most of them seem to give in January anyway, so this will be a reminder.

PLEDGE MAILINGS. Now that we have a modest brochure, and the newsletter is looking ok, I want to try to get more people to be pledges. One way is to send the brochure and a cover letter to all our friends. Margery is planning to do this for about 50 people; and Carlos has said he will do it too. I will be pestering all of you in the next month to do the same.

THE NEWSLETTER

The newsletter is more important, now that we have undertaken this Liberation business. In some ways it's a slightly expensive promotional mailing; but in other ways it's the way we present ourselves suddenly to 3500 people with whom we have some vague kind of relationship.

People should be encouraged to contribute to the newsletter; and I would like some guidance on editorial policy, how you like the look, whether the articles are any good, etc.

I have also fixed up a way for people to get the newsletter without a business reply envelope. If you feel funny about hitting up your friends for money, why not put them on this list?

WHAT NEXT?

Though the financial situation remains the most pressing problem, I think the design of a financial strategy is basically under control. Over the next month or two I want to start doing a better job with grant applications.
Not having much hope for grants, I haven't put much energy into communicating with groups that apply to us, or in checking out their applications.

I would like to revive the idea of sending copies of applications to Resisters and others who have particular interests, either topical or geographical. At the meeting and over the next month or so, I will try to set us some kind of system. I think this will make our decisions better, make meetings smoother, make being on the board more interesting, and increase communication at least between me and the board, if not all around.

I also want to do better at communicating with the Board. I feel self-critical about this so far; it's been something I always put off to do other things. I have in mind, in addition to the business with grant applications, a weekly letter on what's new, how the money is, etc. Perhaps a way to circulate comments from each of you to others.

THE END

That's more than enough. Today I think we should talk strategy in general, and allocate say $500 for the most pressing needs. I will send out the money as it comes in, as we did at the last meeting.

Frank
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— from A New Call to Resist Illegitimate Authority

December Grants

At our last meeting we lined up a few emergency grants, did some rejections, and put most of our applications on hold for our next meeting. Here they are:

NEWSPAPERS AND MEDIA

1. Common Sense - Northern California Alliance - 2448a Mission St., S.F. 94110
   A four year old newspaper, openly socialist perspective which covers a broad range of struggles in the Bay Area. They are in the process of making a transition from the newspaper being funded to selling the newspaper, becoming self-sustaining, etc. They are asking Resist for $1,000 for major promotional work, which initially means a subscription drive. We gave them $500 in 1974. Vanguard on the W. Coast has also supported this group.

2. Street Papers (formerly Suffolk Street Papers) Box 972, Smithtown, N.Y. 11787
   This is a community alternative newspaper, collectively produced, free distribution, openly socialist perspective. They are asking Resist for $500 to develop "sustaining" support group, to expand distribution into Nassau county and to develop their mailing list. We gave them $200 times 3 months in 7/75. Their source of funds seems to be from subscriptions and some fundraising activities.

3. Claridad, PO Box 318 Cooper Station, N.Y., N.Y. 10003
   This is the PSP's (Puerto Rican Socialist Party) weekly newspaper. They are asking Resist for $1,000 to launch a subscription campaign to establish a sustainers group. We gave them $500 in 1973. Their main source of funds seems to come from subscriptions.

4. Ithaca Rest of the News, 306 E. State St., Ithaca, N.Y. 14850
   A radio collective which produces political issue tapes available to the Ithaca community and available to other groups around the country. They do 3 shows a week on local radio stations. They seem generally open about socialism to their constituency. An independent organization. IF ANYONE HAS A TAPE RECORDER THEY CAN BRING TO THE MEETING, WE CAN LISTEN TO SAMPLES OF THEIR TAPES. They are promoting their shows and sending a catalogue of their tapes to groups around the country - hoping to establish "program contracts with radio stations throughout the country. Estimate the project to take 4-6 months. They are asking Resist for $1,000 in all but have specific budget items. They have gotten turned down from straight foundations, get occasional $ from Cornell. Two former collective members now work at LNS in N.Y.

5. Middletown c/o 72 Home Ave. Middletown, Conn. 06457
   A newspaper begun in 1976 by politically active people - Wesleyan students and community activists. Have expanded to include some union people and some from black community. They are currently applying for non-profit status. Want the paper to reflect issues in the city and inspire and support struggles and organizing. They are asking Resist for $425 for one issue of the newspaper. They get some money from the College Body Committee at Wesleyan, waiting to hear from Haymarket. Some money from subscriptions. Awaiting a report from Dick Ohmann.
String along with "3"
He has 1 lab Feb

Midwest Academy

(2) Paul to call Wilson
Similarly printers? Etc. - money
5 p.m. or 6 to 7 pm
2. Save Ourselves Organizing Committee - 7010 Reynolds St., Pittsburg, Pa. 15217

This is a N.A.M. initiated group focusing on wife abuse, rape, sexual harassment, etc. They claim that they are the only visible strong feminist organizing going on in Pittsburgh. They are seeking some funds in support of their campaign to get the city to provide free self-defense classes in working class communities for women. They will be going before the city hearing in November. At present, they have no other source of funds. have stayed away from foundations with strings attached.

LEGAL, MILITARY, INVESTIGATIVE, ETC.

1. Citizen Soldier (formerly Safe Return) 175 Fifth Ave. 1010, N.Y. 10010

They are organizing to insure a left presence in newly anticipated AFGE union in the armed forces. They are mailing brochures to GIs to make contacts with Rank and Filers. They are asking Resist for $200 to make a trip to 8 bases in Maryland, Virginia and Delaware to talk with pro-union GIs who responded positively to their mailing. Louis (Louis) came up with positive report on the group. Awaiting a response to letter sent to Dave Cortwright at IPS in D.C. No other sources of funds at present.
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- CPUSA (Provisional)
- Mail Labor Federation
- Homemakers
- Labor Committee
- My Welfare Council
- Mid West Academy Theoretical Hall

TONY AVIRGAN, EILEEN BISSON, FRANK BRODHEAD, BELL CHEVIGNY, JUDY CHOMSKY, NOAM CHOMSKY, UNA CLAFFEY, MARGERY DAVIES, DONNA FINN, NORM FRUCHTER, MITCHELL GOODMAN, KENNETH HALE, HILDE HEIN, ANDREW HIMES, FLORENCE HOWE, FRANK JOYCE, DONALD KALISH, LOUIS KAMPF, MADGE KAPLAN, MARY-LOUISE KEAN, HANS KONING, PAUL LAUTER, DOUGLAS McCAY, RICHARD OHMANN, WAYNE O'NEIL, CARLOS OTERO, GRACE PALEY, CLAUDETTE PIPER, HENRY ROSEMONT, BOB ROSENTHAL, MICHELE RUSSELL, CAROLE SMITH, AMY SWERDLOW, JEAN TURNER, GEORGE VICKERS.
Part II -- Applications that have been around since the summer and I would like to get an opinion on:

1. New York Citizens Review Commission on the FBI
   $300 for public hearings and general support.

2. New Towns Improvement Association (Missouri)
   $400 (of which $200 since raised) for new youth center in rural southeast Missouri.

3. People United for Integration and Quality Education (Wisconsin)
   previous grantee; $400 for immediate printing for political work.

4. Enlisted People's Organizing Committee (Wash, DC)
   part of $9000 to hire black organizer; from David Cortwright

5. "Puerto Rico: its people, its artists" -- script
   $250 to translate pamphlet/to go with slide show.

6. Puerto Rico Solidarity Committee
   $500 to support an issue of Puerto Rico Libre.

7. Alliance Against Sexual Coercion (Cambridge)
   $750 to translate and print brochure "Sexual Harassment at the Workplace" into Spanish.

8. MERIP (Middle East Research and Information Project)
   part of $900 to finance campaign to increase distribution of Merip Reports, their magazine.

9. Prisoners' Rights Council (Pennsylvania)
   $300 to pay for cost of newsletter, newly initiated.

10. Western Coal
    part of $550 to finance distribution and travel of pamphlet on "The Threat of Western Coal".

11. Micronesian Support Committee
    part of $450 to finance pamphlet in Palauan and Japanese on Micronesian situation.

12. Enlisted People's Rights Organization (San Diego)
    $750 for general support and printing newspaper, "Up from the Bottom."

13. Carrier Pigeon (Boston)
    General support for left publications distribution in New Eng.
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Part III -- New Arrivals

1. Alamosa (Colorado) Committee to top Grand Jury Repression
   from Dan Stern; part of several thousand dollars needed for org.
   concentrating on grand jury roundups of Chicano and Latino activists.

2. NACLA
   general support, inc. $500 for good typewriter.

3. Committee to End Sterilization Abuse (CESA)
   $500 for general support

4. Women's Place Resource Center (Portland, OR)
   $750 to supplement income for general operations.

5. Movement in Support of the Iranian People
   part of $4000 to place YNT ad about the Shah's visit and situation
   in Iran.

6. Skyhorse/Mohawk Defense Committee
   any amount for political defense

7. Music Unlimited (MSI Walpole, near Boston)
   $530 for support of prison music program.

8. The Newspaper (Lynn, Mass.)
   $450 for general support; funded before.

   part of $1700 for general expenses.

10. Enlisted People's Union (North Carolina)
    small amounts for support of a demonstration and for general support.

11. Philippine Liberation Courier
    $1550 or part to cover general expenses of printing magazine.
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Meeting — 12/18/77

1. Permission list for WIN — we owe it to DC to swap with us.
2. By magazine group: contact for mailing list.
3. List of 30 names for all Resistors — also BRGs, bookracks.

George to write on "US Special issue for March."

Piven & Cloward book review.

Four Women (Cuban)
Southern Africa (International Bulletin)


Dun. column on "Each"

Henry Rosemont's address for Bob Vickers.

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Here are the names of people who have given Resist $100 or more in the last few years, and who are not regular pledges.

They have all been sent a more or less form letter asking them to contribute. If you know any of them, please drop them a note saying we could use some money now.

Dean Allen
64 State St.
Amherst, MA 01002

Frank L. Alt
245 Bennet Ave., Apt. 76
NY, NY 10040

Warren Ambrose
Rm. 2-227, MIT
Cambridge, mA 02137

Albert B. Byrne
PO Box 493
Sabina, TX 78881

Alexander Calder
Indre-et-Loire
Saiche 37, France

John M. Clarke
PO Box 85
Acworth, NH 03601

Phyllis B. Cox
88 Garden St.
Cambridge, mA 02138

David Crocker
186 Hampshire St.
Cambridge, mA 02139

D and A Dickinson
Graves Road
Ashfield, MA 01330

Peter Elbow
222 No. Sherman
Olympia, WA 98502

Carol Bernstein Ferry
PO Box 657
Scarsdale, NY 10583

John and Paula Friedman
1016 S. Clinton Ave
Oak Park, IL 60304

R and J K Gardiner
831 South Loomis St
Chicago, IL 60607

Susan Grainger
163 Erdman Hall
20 Library Place
Princeton, NJ 08540

Charles and Leslie Gray
1366 Lawrence St., #1
Eugene, OR 97401

F. J. Harte
824 Cuyler #324
Chicago, IL 60603

Daniel Hausman
945 West End Ave #2B
NY, NY 10025

William Hayden
30215 Stellamar Dr.
Birmingham, MI 48010

Stanley Kaplan
2140 East 66th St.
Brooklyn, NY 11234

Michael Kazin
667 Ellsworth St.
San Francisco, CA 94110

Miriam Klein
5 West 87th St
New York, NY 10024

William and Teresa Labov
204 North 35th St.
Philadelphia, PA 19104

John Lamperti
Loveland Road
Norwich, VT 05055

Michael Mage
7008 Wilson Lane
Bethesda, MD 20034

Charles Mason, Jr.
PO Box 108
Washington, DC 20044

Barbara and John Perkins
3262 Shollenbarger Rd.
Oxford, OH 45056

Deborah Philbrick
35 Rhode Island Ave
Providence, RI 02906

TONY AVIRGAN, EILEEN BISSON, FRANK BRODHEAD, BELL CHEVIGNY, JUDY CHOMSKY, NOAM CHOMSKY, UNA CLAFFEY, MARGERY DAVIES, DONNA FINN, NORM FRUCHTER, MITCHELL GOODMAN, KENNETH HALE, HILDE HEIN, ANDREW HIMES, FLORENCE HOWE, FRANK JOYCE, DONALD KALISH, LOUIS KAMPF, MADGE KAPLAN, MARY-LOUISE KEAN, HANS KONING, PAUL LAUTER, DOUGLAS McCAY, RICHARD OHAMANN, WAYNE O'NEIL, CARLOS OTERO, GRACE PALEY, CLAUDETTE PIPER, HENRY ROSEMONT, BOB ROSENTHAL, MICHELE RUSSELL, CAROLE SMITH, AMY SWERDLOW, JEAN TURNER, GEORGE VICKERS.
Resist -- past contributors, page two

George Pillsbury
186 Hampshire St
Cambridge, MA 02138

Frances Fox Piven
35 Claremont
New York, NY 10027

PRO-VITAL
Box 1038
Boulder, CO 80302

Clifton W. Ragsdale, Jr.
16 1/2 Magnolia
Cambridge, MA 02138

Carol B. and M-G Salvadori
2 Beekman Place
New York, NY 10022

Ethel M Sanjines
936 Clayton St.
San Francisco, CA 94117

Gordon Schiff
901 S. Loomis
Chicago, IL 60607

John Simmons
15 Middle St
Amherst, MA 01002

Robert Stover
150 College Ave
Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

Maetha Vicinus
731 East University St.
Bloomington, IN 47401 (has moved)

Josh Wallman
66 Carmine St
New York, NY 10014

Jean Williams
c/o Holway, R.2
Putney, VT 05346

Bee R. Wolfe
109 Whispering Sands Dr.
Sarasota, FL 33561