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Resist Board Meeting Minutes

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### Resist Board Meeting, June 10, 1979

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# resist

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*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

July 13, 1979

Dear Resisters,

Here are the minutes of our June meeting. Our NEXT MEETING will take place in Boston on August 5 at Louis's if there will be enough people around. I will call meeting regulars late next week (July 19-20) to see how many can make it.

Also enclosed is a copy of an article I did about the draft, trying esp. to think ahead to what might happen if draft registration is re-established.

Last April I attended a founding meeting, more or less, of what has become the Boston Alliance Against Registration and the Draft (BAARD). Our understanding at the time was that draft registration would be voted on toward the end of May, and that it would probably pass. As we have an extra desk in the Resist office, I offered the BAARD group some space.

Well, things have expanded and dragged on. The BAARD group meets weekly, puts out an occasional newsletter, has organized a few small demonstrations and two delegations to Congressmen, has done some TV and many radio spots about the draft, and now has a mailing list of some 700 people and media contacts who have asked for more information, etc. BAARD has a more or less full-time summer intern, and a hard core of about 20 people who attend meetings and do outreach work, petitioning, phone calling, button selling (the organization has been more or less self-financing based on button selling and newsletter contributions), and answering peoples questions about the current legislation.

Now that the organization is on its feet, I have been able to reduce my own involvement to advice giving, helping with layout, etc. The current legislative situation is that the House Rules committee is expected to vote on the military authorization bill (HR 4040) next week (7/17 or 18), though we have had many false alarms before. It is now at least possible that the Rules committee will vote to separate the draft registration provisions from the rest of the bill. In that case draft registration will have to be re-introduced as a separate piece of legislation -- a situation which has already developed in the Senate (the bill is S. 109). Particularly if draft registration is separated, it may not come to a floor vote until after the August recess.

So it is possible that draft registration will still be a live issue

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 ONEIL, CARLOS OTERO, GRACE PALEY, CLAUDETTE PIPER, HENRY ROSEMONT, BOB ROSENTHAL, MICHELE RUSSELL, CAROLE SMITH, AMY SWERDLOW, JEAN TURNER, GEORGE VICKERS.



in September, and will stimulate activity on campuses and high schools. Second, if the Senate version of draft registration passes, it will require men age 18 to 26 to begin registration in January, 1980. (The House version would require only men turning 18 in 1981 to register shortly after their birthday.) So if the Senate version passes, it is certain that anti-draft activity would increase and become a major issue in an election year, etc.

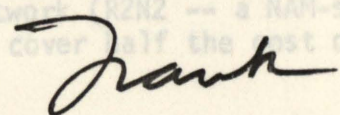
But it is looking more and more possible that draft registration will be defeated. A number of Massachusetts Congress people have already moved from 'undecided' to 'against'; and our contact in Washington, the Committee Against Registration and the Draft, reports similar movement on the part of Congresspeople elsewhere. Also, it is our understanding that Carter will come out strongly against draft registration, though the SALT business may prevent this.

In any case, even if draft legislation is defeated this time around, it is clearly an idea which has some support and will keep coming up. I have talked to both the AFSC people and the BAARD people about the need to find a more permanent location for BAARD in the fall if the situation indicates that the group will need to keep going; but for the moment working with the draft group takes up a fair amount of my time.

A mailing I did in June about the draft and our financial needs generally has brought in \$900 so far. We have made two \$50 grants to draft groups, and have probably spent an additional \$100 on BAARD in the form of phone use and charges on our printing/xerox account.

I would appreciate any news about anti-draft activities, and of course comments on the article.

Best wishes,





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— from A New Call to Resist Illegitimate Authority

### Minutes of June, 1979 Meeting

The meeting was held at Louis's on June 10th. Originally intended for New York, when NY people couldn't come we moved to Boston. In the end only Louis and Frank B attended, though Ken and Frank J were polled by phone on grants.

#### Grants:

1. Draft activity -- we decided to set aside \$250 for anti-draft grants, to be used at the discretion of FrankB or Boston people. So far, \$50 has gone to BAARD, and \$50 to a Kalamazoo, Michigan group on the recommendation of Frank J.
2. Nine to Five -- an organization of women office workers in Boston, need \$ to send people to a national summer school sponsored by Working Women in Ohio. 2 money was checked out, but as a contribution from this source had already been given directly to the school, we send Nine to Five \$225 to cover 3 registration fees for the school.
3. The Abortion Action Coalition (Boston) was given \$300 to pay salary expenses for someone to translate their pamphlet, "More Than a Choice" (previously supported by Resist) into Spanish.
4. The Reproductive Rights National Network (R2N2 -- a NAM-sponsored project based in Chicago) was given \$300 to cover half the cost of printing their anti-Hyde amendment brochure.
5. Positive Productions, the ~~XXXXXX~~ makers of the film on the "Wilmington 10", were given a \$100 moral support grant, and were encouraged to contact us again and to write up something for the newsletter about their work. They had applied for a rather large sum for office equipment; and though this particular proposal did not seem very persuasive to us, we felt that they seemed to be doing good work and wanted to encourage them.
6. South Africa Military Refugee Aid Fund (SAMRAF, formerly SALSCOM, which we have supported twice before). SAMRAF is the major group seeking aid for deserters, conscientious objectors, and other anti-military activities in South Africa. We gave them \$250 to support an intern for 2 months.

(over)



7. Coalition to Stop Institutional Violence (Boston) -- \$250 was set aside for this group, which has been organizing since 1976 against plans in Mass. to set up various secure institutions, new prisons, etc. Frank checked them out and found many people supported their work, so the money was sent.

Rejections:

1. Massachusetts Correctional Legal Services -- we felt that this group, which wanted \$ to pay for expert witnesses in a suit about the conditions in Massachusetts's heaviest prison, fell outside our guidelines/ rules of thumb about what we can support. We encouraged them to send us a letter for the newsletter, which they have done.

2. Praxis, a radical magazine about the arts based in California, did not seem a priority to us, nor did it seem that a small amount of money would have any effect in resolving their financial predicament.

3. Angus MacKenzie, who is writing about the suppression of the underground press by the feds, asked for money for personal support while finishing his work. We felt that we should continue our general guideline about not supporting the work of individuals (instead of groups), but thought it was a good project and encouraged him to write something for the newsletter with a fund pitch.

4. Chrysalis magazine, which had asked for money to help with their very large debt, seemed to us to be too far from actual organizing or political activity generally for us to help.

Other Business:

Frank was given a 10% cost of living pay increase, bringing weekly pay to \$165.