10-31-1982

Resist Newsletter, Oct. 1982

Resist

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalrepository.trincoll.edu/resistnewsletter

Recommended Citation
https://digitalrepository.trincoll.edu/resistnewsletter/170
LESSONS LEARNED

The U.S. has taught Israel many lessons. These lessons are evident in Israel’s foray against the PLO in Lebanon and its ability to influence the election victory of Phalangist leader Bashir Gemayal, the new president of Lebanon. As the US bends to no country’s will but its own, so Israel, under the leadership of Menachem Begin, has learned to let no one, not even the US, force its hand. A recent article in the New York Times (9/11/82) quoted Begin as saying “There is a well-known practice in the United States that when a Government does not accept a certain position of the Administration, efforts are made to change the Government, either by pressure in the press or by announcement by officials, or by assistance to rival parties. This practice is well known, and this intervention has already started. Our American friends must know that Israel is not Chile and I am not Allende.” There’s obvious truth to this statement, but let’s look at the other side of the picture.

In the past Begin has conceded to US pressure, as in the signing of the Camp David Agreement. What is not commonly advertised is that Carter’s success at winning this concession from both Israel and Egypt was partially due to the promise of military arms sales from the US to each of these countries. This is an unlikely option for settlement of the current situation in the Middle East, especially for Israel. US sales of technology and arms to Israel have been so substantial over the years (23% of projected US military and economic assistance for 1983) that Israel is now able to sell Israeli-produced arms to repressive governments in Latin America. Chile, forbidden ground for US military aid due to human rights violations, is one recipient of guns from Begin’s government. Perhaps it should be said that Israel is another United States and Begin another Reagan.

Just as the US has lost its strong hand over Israel, so Ariel Sharon and Menachem Begin, despite their “success” in Lebanon, will never have control over the power and the will of the PLO. Israel is a shining example of the tenacity of a displaced people. For this reason it is imperative that Israel acknowledge the sovereignty of the PLO over the Palestinian people and negotiate a settlement with the Palestinians. If such a course is not agreed to, the aggression of Israel in Lebanon will be avenged in not too many years by yet another generation of Palestinians. Peace will not reign in the Middle East if that peace is negotiated between Egypt, Israel and the Phalangist controlled government in Lebanon.

SPYING ON RIGHT TO LIFE

ADRIANE FUGH-BERMAN

I attended the Right to Life Convention undercover and expected at every moment to be unmasked and revealed as an abortion counsellor. I needn’t have worried ... several kindly conventioners even took it upon themselves to warn me of the presence of spies. “Oh, my,” I said, wide-eyed. “What do they look like?”

Equal Rights for Unborn Children! Choose Life! Some Babies Die by Chance, None Should Die by Choice! Endless tables of exhibits held plastic models of fetal development, inspirational stationery (“a great fundraiser”), antiabortion teeshirts, books, and bumper stickers. Affiliate groups touted adoption, pre-marital celibacy, Phyllis Schlafly, anti-nukes (Prolifers for Survival) and insurance coverage guaranteed not to cover abortions.

Women Exploited

“If only I had had the courage to give it a chance. But I didn’t take time to think it through — I just panicked and it was as if I awoke from a nightmare to find my baby gone and Michael gone and nothing left but shame and guilt and the kind of overpowering remorse that can only be felt by someone who had everything and selfishly, impulsively threw it all away.”

“Women Exploited” pamphlet

Workshops covered many subjects from lobbying to hospice, from legislative updates to “sidewalk counselling” outside of abortion clinics. A very crowded workshop was given by Women Exploited (WE), an organization made up of women who have had abortions and regret them. Nancy Jo Mann told a touching and bitter story about a saline abortion she underwent at age twenty-one. Deserted by her husband, caring for their two children, and going on familial advice, she was quickly hospitalized for the procedure. She received no counselling, and not having been warned about the process involved, Nancy Jo was very traumatized by the abortion. She had a tubal ligation weeks later (“A woman goes into self-destruction after an abortion”) and later developed complications necessitating a dilation and curettage. Problems from one of her

Continued
operations prompted a hysterectomy, after which Nancy Jo became a drug addict, got saved, and is still grieving over a decision she deeply regrets.

I deeply regret that Nancy Jo and other representatives of WE did not receive counselling during their pregnancies. It is a basic tenet of abortion counselling that alternatives are presented and discussed. Any woman who feels that the decision was made for her is almost guaranteed to have emotional problems after the abortion. A good counsellor screens out "victims" who try to transfer responsibility for the decision onto partners, parents, even the counsellor. A woman like that needs time, referrals to explore alternatives, and supportive counselling in order for her to make, and claim, a decision.

Nancy Jo and others in WE claim that they were offered no alternatives to abortion. Perhaps one day we will reach a point where women will not need to be offered alternatives, but will find them independently. Lost in their stories is any sense of free will. They proclaim themselves victims of abortion as though ABORTION were a loitering ghoul, deep-brimmed hat pulled low over upturned collar, who skulks behind trees and traps hapless girls on their way home from school.

Several of the WE stories could have been used at a pro-choice rally to point up the need for sensitive counselling, accurate medical information, and competent health care providers. It is a shame that WE could not devote its energies towards bettering women's health care rather than trying to talk women out of abortions. One list of complications which WE hands out names 88 risks of abortion including stuttering, swallowing constantly, cowering, frigidity, futurelessness, and hatred of holidays.

Olga Fairfax, head of WE in the Washington, D.C. area, has put together a slide show designed to talk women out of having abortions. She claims success with hundreds of teenagers, citing as her one failure a woman who abused both alcohol and drugs, and who succumbed to the lure of a "lunch-hour" abortion at a nearby clinic. Olga's slide show tells women that abortion could leave you dead or sterile (childbirth is far safer); that any decision made in secret is probably wrong; that abortion leads to later child abuse; that having an abortion ruins relationships, and that during an abortion the doctor "dilates the cervix with a gloved hand." For special cases, rape rarely results in pregnancy because the woman may be infertile, and the rapist could be twelve, or eighty; cancer of the uterus still enables a woman to carry a pregnancy for five months, after which the fetus has a chance for survival. (Fetuses that age are unable to survive because of inadequate lung development — Right to Life cases of survivors at that age have underestimated fetal age by going strictly by last menstrual period. It is not unheard of for a woman to have some bleeding, even cyclic bleeding, into her pregnancy.

Olga had an exhibit at the convention which included a preserved 16-18 week old fetus, which she claimed was 12 weeks as she handed it around to passersby. Undoubtedly in an effort to establish rapport, she grinned "looks a bit like you, doesn't it?" to a boy of about eight. Considering the not entirely cosmetic effects of formaldehyde on biological specimens, I hope that the child is not permanently traumatized by that blow to his self image.

We are parents, mothers, from the moment of conception... usually by the third month a woman gets used to the idea.

Olga Fairfax, from her slide show

Abortion and Minorities
Erma Craven, a Black social worker, held a workshop on "Abortion, Minorities and the Poor". This workshop commanded the largest minority representation (about two percent) of any of the workshops at the overwhelmingly white convention. Craven interspersed political statements with lengthy stories designed to show her sensitivities towards issues of racism; I would have been more inclined to believe her if she hadn't called a Lao tribe "Chinese" and later referred to rural Indians as "illiterate coolies" (For the record, India's literacy rate is higher than Canada's.) Craven spoke a lot about sterilization abuse and gave the impression that minority women are forced into abortions as well. She states that pro-choice people didn't want the embarrassment of racially mixed children around; she quoted an unnamed abortion advocate as saying "what would you do if your child was pregnant by a nigger?" She spoke about the myth of world hunger and backed that up with the fact that America generates a lot of lunchroom waste.

Was not Jesus an extremist for love?
Nancy Hackle, PEACE

Nancy Hackle, president of PEACE (People Expressing Concern for Everyone), advocated civil disobedience in a workshop on non-violent direct action. She gave a history of civil disobedience and spoke of breaking the laws of man versus breaking the laws of God. She said she couldn't understand why feminists could be for abortion when "half of the children killed in abortion are women."

Clinics Beware

Life, truth, and justice are the center of this movement.
Mary O'Malley, co-founder of PEACE

...these abortion clinics — one I heard about, they let a dog in, to lick the blood off the floor.
Illinois Right to Lifer

Mary O'Maley, a co-founder of PEACE, stated that the goal was that "not one baby will die from legalized abortion. She advocated sit-ins, and patient "counseling" at abortion clinics ("all a pregnant woman needs is to know alternatives and that someone cares").
described a mock funeral service to be held outside of clinics, complete with infant caskets and red roses; a written request is sent to the director asking for the "bodies of the babies killed that day." The purpose of the service is to emphasize "that the outcome of abortion is the body of a dead baby."

"Blitzing," or the process of talking to as many people as possible in a clinic before being discovered, differs from other actions in that participants leave when asked. One enterprising right to lifer unraveled an entire roll of toilet paper in the clinic bathroom and taped anti-abortion pamphlets every few feet.

Abortion clinic personnel were characterized as "by nature, custom, and experience violent" (honestly, people, I can hardly bring myself to kill cockroaches) and as "conditioned, pathological liars," upon which an "Amen" drifted up from the audience.

A closed caucus planned a demonstration against abortion clinics, supposedly in the first week of September, but possibly anytime this fall.

Rape and Incest: No Exceptions

What if your neighbor beat you up brutally, and then later abandoned a child on your doorstep? Would you take it out on the child for the sin of its father? The child is as innocent as you.

A member of the audience in "The Hard Cases: Rape and Incest"

An entire workshop was devoted to "The Hard Cases — Rape and Incest". It was stated that rape seldom results in pregnancy because not every legal rape results in ejaculation; there is a statistically low probability of any single act of intercourse resulting in pregnancy; and that the trauma of rape may inhibit ovulation; some women are infertile or contracepting; and (my favorite) there is a high incidence of sexual dysfunction among rapists.

Incest, too, supposedly has a low pregnancy rate because incest treatment centers now end relationships whereas previously pregnancy had been a way "to dis­close and end the relationship". In fact, treatment centers are few and far between. Incest remains abysmally underreported; some estimate that one out of four children are affected.

Civil Rights for the Unborn

In any case, should pregnancy occur from rape or incest, the "context of pregnancy" should not be held against the unborn. It was admitted that a woman might be loathe to carry a rape pregnancy; but as men are asked to fight in wars that they might not wish to attend, so women can be asked to make a sacrifice for the ideals of their country. Besides, if the woman is married, the conceptus may be the product of a "holy, licit, loving union." Women use abortion "to scrub away the scarlet letter"; it is a measure which is "only superficially relieving".

One woman in the audience suggested that chaste virginity be stressed to our children and that a woman ought to be willing to defend her virginity with her life. Uncomfortable fidgeting ensued from the panel; one speaker finally volunteered, somewhat self-consciously, that actually she guessed she would rather be raped than killed.

Twisted Statistics

Dr. Bulfin, president of the American Association of Pro-life Obstetricians and Gynecologists, and Dr. Steven Zielinski, vice president of the National Youth Pro-life Coalition, spoke about morbidity and mortality statistics. Dr. Bulfin recommended a book called "Every Woman has a Right to Know the Dangers of Legal Abortion", which is also excerpted in pamphlet form. The book lists 450 complications. Medical studies are largely taken from pre-1973 (83% of the references in the 1981 pamphlet predate legalization) and complications are subdivided and renamed endlessly. Some are simply invented, my favorite of which is "family feticidal syndrome", defined as the "three or more generational pattern of artificial pregnancy termination."

Dr. Zielinski claimed that maternal death rates are inflated because they include a multitude of abortion deaths. He also attacked abortion statistics because abortion patients tend to be young, white, and middle or upper class, and therefore have a good chance of surviving any surgical procedure, including abortion. (He might have gone on to say that obstetric outcomes of this group also are better; childbirth is statistically much riskier for minorities and lower income groups.)

Choose Life!

Well, I got into it, see, because my wife and I both found out that we were unwanted... and then when my wife was
forty she found out she was pregnant — she wasn’t pleased about that at all. But our little daughter, she’s just beautiful — she’s ten now.

Right to Life

Several of the people I met at the Right to Life Convention were very nice to me. Their masses, at least, are sincere, enthusiastic, God-fearing sorts who are misinformed constantly by their leaders. They are completely insulated from the real world; they honestly believe that abortion is phenomenally dangerous, emotionally disastrous, and the primary factor in teenage sex, promiscuity, extramarital sex, sterility, and general moral malaise.

I asked one Illinois lawyer if he had ever known a woman who had had an abortion. “Me”, he looked shocked and uncomfortable. “No.” At a later point he also told me “Man wasn’t put here for pleasure. Anyone who’s ever suffered anything knows that.”

A woman I talked to described the butchery of doctors who did abortions. I asked her if it weren’t possible that there could be competent and incompetent pro-abortion doctors just as there were competent and incompetent anti-abortion doctors. Did she believe that politics determined skill? “Well,” she responded with surety, “no doctor who would do an abortion could possibly care about his patients.”

The separation of beliefs and reality has been raised to a high art in the Right to Life movement. They will use almost any tactic to scare a woman out of having an abortion. I think it is anyone’s right to speak his or her mind on whether abortion is moral or not; what is abominable is the misinformation which is smooth spewed onto an audience ill-equipped to evaluate the situation critically.

Off our Backs, Aug.-Sept. 1982. Adriane Fugh-Berman writes for Off our Backs. This article is reprinted by permission.

BEYOND EL SALVADOR: NEW BOOKS

COLIN DANBY

Under the Eagle by Jenny Pearce, Latin America Bureau (1982), 1 Amwell Street, London EC1R 1UL, Updated Edition, 296 pages, $7.50.
Bitter Grounds: Roots of Revolt in El Salvador by Lisa North, Between the Lines (1981), 427 Bloor Street W., Toronto, Ontario, Canada, 144 pages, $7.95.

We North Americans are bound to our southern neighbors by more than an accident of geography. The United States has played a dominant role in this hemisphere’s history, shaping the lives of millions in the Caribbean, Central America, and South America.

U.S. involvement in El Salvador has received considerable attention over the last couple of years and a large opposition movement has developed, in large part because of memories of Vietnam. But El Salvador is another Vietnam only insofar as it is yet another third world country on which counterinsurgency has been inflicted. As a Central American republic, part of Uncle Sam’s back yard, El Salvador’s modern history has been shaped by the U.S., especially over the last twenty five years. By contrast the U.S. came late into Vietnam, after French and Japanese imperialism had played out their roles. In this hemisphere the U.S. has had more time to establish its dominance, and more practice enforcing it.

While the inhabitants of Central America and the Caribbean have been well aware of the U.S. role in shaping their history, North Americans have been mostly ignorant of events to the South, except when popular resistance in one country or another seriously threatens U.S. interests, and the U.S. responds with customary force. Thus we remember the history of the Caribbean and Central America as a series of uprisings and interventions: Guatemala in 1954, Cuba in 1959 and 1961, the Dominican Republic in 1965, Nicaragua in 1979 and now El Salvador. Behind these events is a continuous history, often of harsh repression and unimagi-
noble suffering.

To understand the Salvadoran revolutionary war, and to appreciate what is at stake, we need to understand the particularity of Salvadoran history, as well as its regional context, in what Washington calls the “Caribbean basin.” For the latter, we can turn to Jenny Pearce’s praiseworthy book, Under the Eagle. Subtitled “U.S. Intervention in Central America and the Caribbean” and written with the full resources of the Latin America Bureau in London, this book traces U.S. power in the region from 1823 to the present, focusing on the last twenty years. It is written to be as accessible as possible, with a chapter-by-chapter bibliography instead of footnotes and supplementary material in boxes throughout the text. Pearce’s narrative moves from country to country, building an analysis of the evolution of U.S. power in the region. Economic matters are central to the analysis, as they are to U.S. power in the region. Pearce shows how the exercise of that power has changed in response to the problems and needs of the U.S. economy and revolutionary pressures in the region. Particularly valuable is Pearce’s analysis of the shocks to U.S. power in the early 1970’s, and the ways U.S. power since has been affected. Part Three of Under the Eagle begins:

By 1971 the post war international monetary system based on the supremacy of the dollar was disintegrating. In that year the United States registered a net trade deficit, and in August 1971 Nixon suspended the convertability of the dollar into gold and violated the rules of free trade enshrined in Bretton Woods by putting a 10% surcharge on imports into the United States. By 1974 American capitalism had reached its worst economic crisis since the war with simultaneous stagnation, inflation, and growing unemployment.

In 1973 the United States formally recognized defeat in Vietnam; the Paris treaty was signed in that year and the Thieu regime fell in April 1975.

In October 1973 The Arab nations imposed an oil embargo against the United States because of its support for Israel during the October war; this was followed by the OPEC price increases of 1973-74 which more than quadrupled the price of oil.

In June 1972 a team of hired burglars were arrested while breaking into the Democratic National Committee headquarters in Washington... The Watergate break-in and subsequent cover-up led to the White House resignations and finally that of Nixon himself in 1974. This sequence of events heralded the most serious crisis in the American system since it had first asserted its global economic, military and political supremacy after the Second World War. The maintenance of this dominant position had proved a costly business.

The book ends with a chapter on El Salvador, following the course of U.S. policy to 1981; an update, evidently written in late March 1982, is appended. The book’s sixty pages on El Salvador are a good summary of that conflict in themselves, but what makes this book important is the attention it pays to countries like Haiti, whose tragic history has received little attention, and Guatemala, which has perhaps suffered more under U.S. power than any other country in Latin America, and where a decisive challenge to U.S. power is shaping up.

For those wishing to understand El Salvador more fully, there is no better book than Tommie Sue Montgomery’s Revolution in El Salvador. This book takes its place alongside Alastair White and Stephen Webre’s books as an original and pathbreaking work of historical analysis. Montgomery draws on interviews with more than a hundred Salvadorans, including many directly involved in events of the last three years. She has also drawn on the excellent social and economic analysis that flourished in Salvadoran universities in the late 1970’s. Revolution in El Salvador opens with the fullest account of the 1979 coup published anywhere. This is followed by two chapters on Salvadoran economic and political history. These chapters have the particular merit of exploring the cycles into which Salvadoran history seems to fall, something other writers have noticed but which Montgomery is the first to analyse thoroughly. There follow chapters on the church and the left, exploring the catalytic role of the Catholic Church in the Salvadoran revolution and the nature of the revolution itself. These chapters are original, and exciting. While detailed and carefully footnoted, this is not merely an academic book. Montgomery comments, for example, on the role of women in the revolutionary movement:

Fifty percent of the OP (Popular Organization) rank and file, thirty percent of the FMLN (Farabundo Marti Front for National Liberation) combatants, and forty percent of the revolutionary leadership are women — an extraordinarily high figure in a society with a strong (even by Latin American standards) cultural trait of protecting females...

Behind the statistics is a revolution in attitudes. One guerrilla said in an interview that the “process of coming to see women as companeras and not as sex objects” was one he and his fellow guerillas had had to go through in the mountains. In his particular unit two-thirds of the combatants were women. “There is great concern,” he said, “to destroy machismo.” Alex Drehsler encountered similar attitudes in Chalatenango. Said a male guerilla commander, “We are trying to teach the women that they do not have to accept only the traditional roles for women, that they should try to examine their potentialities. We have some peasant women who join us as cooks. Soon they realize that they have opportunities to do other things. They become combatants, medics, or leaders.”

Montgomery’s final chapter takes her history up until April 1982.

Cynthia Arnson and Liisa North have written shorter books, each with about one hundred pages of text. Arnson has written a straightforward account of the Salvadoran conflict and its historical roots; she has been able to take advantage of Montgomery’s book, as well as interviews and her own excellent earlier work on U.S. aid to the Salvadoran government. El Salvador: A Revolution Confronts the United States is perforce a summary, but a clear and intelligent one, which includes everything of consequence. Arnson ends by making a
good case for a "Zimbabwe option," a negotiated solution to the conflict. The requirements of U.S. power at the moment, however, seem to foreclose this possibility, a point that Pearce makes in the conclusion to her book. Because of the focus of her book and perhaps because of the constraints of the Institute for Policy Studies' left-liberal politics, Arnson's explanation of Reagan administration policy is basically that policymakers lack understanding of the revolutionary movements they face:

The failure to address these issues, (the problems of backing a repressive, rightist government) and the resulting inability to find a solution to the Salvadoran crisis, is rooted in a distortion of the definition of U.S. national security. Since the onset of the Cold War and the policy of containment, U.S. policymakers have viewed the complex problems of decolonization and development through a single, anti-Soviet prism. Movements for reform and wars of national liberation have been stripped of their historical foundations and their legitimacy. They have been seen only as extensions of Soviet power or as results of direct Soviet intervention and hence a threat to U.S. global interests.

While this attitude sums up the ideological, propagandistic aspects of U.S. policy, Pearce's book makes clear that it is movements of national liberation in themselves that are a threat to U.S. power. From that standpoint U.S. policy is not based on misunderstandings but is quite rational.

Liisa North's *Bitter Grounds* focuses more on El Salvador's political economy than U.S. policy. As North states in her preface, the book is a synthesis, based on secondary sources. Within its scope, however, the book is a solid, tightly structured, and cogent analysis, devoted to explaining the conditions that gave rise to the revolutionary movement. This book seems intended primarily for a Canadian audience, concluding with a chapter by Tim Draimin on "Canadian Foreign Policy and El Salvador." This chapter is particularly interesting because it points out the complexities and pressures of Canada's relations with the U.S.

FOOTNOTES

1. See Michael Klare's *War Without End* (Vintage Books, 1972) for an exploration of counterinsurgency in all its aspects.

Colin Danby works with Central America Information Office, 1151 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02138.

The purpose of the NEWSLETTER is to support and report on Resist's grants and fund raising activities. It also publishes short articles of general interest to the left. Subscriptions to the newsletter are $5 per year.
WHOSE MOVEMENT

The Third World and Progressive Peoples Coalition (TWPPC) is the group that demanded, and won, a significant Third World presence in the organizing and events of the June 12 Rally in NYC. The Village Voice (6/1/82) printed a cartoon by Feiffer which seemed to criticize TWPPC's intervention in this event. This cartoon, printed here with a response by the National Black Independent Political Party, prompted a response in the Amsterdam News (NYC) discouraging Black communities from supporting the June 12 Rally.

Feiffer

A nuclear freeze campaign is meaningless outside a progressive political context.

WE, THE WOMEN AND PEOPLES UNITED FRACTIONALIST ALLIANCE, DEMAND THAT THE NUCLEAR FREEZE CAMPAIGN SUPPORT THE FREEDOM STRUGGLES OF ALL THIRD WORLDPEOPLES.

SUPPORT THE ERA, AFFIRMATIVE ACTION, GAY RIGHTS, ABORTION, ALL CONSUMER AND ENVIRONMENTAL Demands.

MASS TRANSIT REDISTRIBUTION OF CORPORATE WEALTH.

BY THE WAY WHO FUNDS THE WOMEN AND PEOPLES UNITED FRACTIONALIST ALLIANCE?

If you or your organization disagrees with this cartoon write to the Village Voice
Donations can also be sent to T.W.P.P.C.

The National Black Independent Political Party

Third World Progressive Peoples Coalition
1119 Fulton Street
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11238

Village Voice
80 University Place
New York, N.Y.
ASSOCIATION IN SOLIDARITY WITH GUATEMALA (ASOGUA, PO Box 13006, Washington, DC 20009).

A group of North Americans and Guatemalans united in Washington in 1979 to work for a more just society in Guatemala. This meeting was the beginning of ASOGUA. At that time only two other Guatemalan solidarity groups existed in the US. Since their beginning, the volunteers and staff at ASOGUA have been busy producing leaflets and organizing events with the objective of educating people in the US about repression and struggle in Guatemala. They've written pamphlets on many subjects including: "Guatemala: The People's Choice, Program for a Revolutionary, Patriotic, Popular and Democratic Government," "Tourists Risk Death" and an appeal for people to "Campaign Against US Repression." Other activities include monthly vigils in front of the White House to protest actions of the Guatemalan death squads, and US support of the March 1982 elections in which only four right wing parties participated. One of ASOGUA's most recent involvements, they tell us, is to work for greater contact with Black and Latin communities whose issues are not directly connected with problems in Central America, but are related on the systemic level. ASOGUA produces a weekly half-hour radio show on a local listener sponsored radio station. They also give presentations using slide shows and speakers from different movements in Guatemala. Resist's grant will help ASOGUA with the purchase of a slide projector.

CENTER FOR STUDENT CITIZENSHIP, RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES (221 Plaza St., Park Forest, IL 60466).

One of Resist's most recent grants will help with some of the costs for this book by and for youth of the Chicago area — a project of CSRR. This project will be almost entirely an exercise in youth involvement and self-determination. Young people will assume responsibility for all aspects of the project. The project will provide those involved with an opportunity to express their creative talents and develop journalism skills as well as offering them a cooperative work experience — an experience lacking in the Chicago educational system. It will enable them to share valuable information and insights on issues which affect them. The young authors anticipate that the project will prompt other students to become active — "to take control of their lives." Issues to be covered in the book include student rights, the draft, youth unemployment, racism, the nuclear arms race, gay rights, youth self-determination, gang violence, sexism and youth as a world citizen.

FEMINIST VIDEO PROJECT (C/O Harriet Hirshorn, 801 Union St., Brooklyn, NY 11215).

Resist was able to cover the post-production costs of this independent film project, a 45 minute broadcast quality documentary about the involvement of women in both historic and current civil disobedience actions. The documentary will follow the history of civil disobedience, beginning with the suffragettes, as used by women to gain political rights. The film makers have interviewed experienced activists including Grace Paley and Molly Rush. On June 14, 1982 they followed the experience of one women's affinity group that was arrested at the US mission to the UN during the second Special Session on Disarmament. Issues to be critically addressed by the documentary include: the significance of women organizing women on peace issues, the relationship between feminism, nonviolence and pacifism, and the effectiveness and potential of civil disobedience as a political strategy for social change. There will also be discussion of the legal, political and personal conflicts surrounding civil disobedience. The film makers have been working on this project since they videotaped the Women's Pentagon Action in November 1981. They realized then, they tell us, that an overview of women and civil disobedience, historically and currently, could be an invaluable organizing tool. These women hope that the broad range of perspectives presented in the videotape will offer a provocative point of departure for critical discussion.

ADDITIONAL GRANTS

THIRD WORLD AND PROGRESSIVE PEOPLE'S COALITION (Brooklyn, NY)

ADHOC LEBANON EMERGENCY COMMITTEE (Cambridge, MA)

WOMEN'S HISTORY RESOURCE CENTER (Berkeley, CA)

BLACK AND PROUD LIBERATION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (Jackson, MS)

KALAMAZOO VETS FOR PEACE (Kalamazoo, MI)

BLACKS AGAINST NUKE'S (Washington, DC)