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Resist Board Meeting, April 30, 1989

Resist

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A call to

RESIST

illegitimate authority

One Summer Street, Somerville, Massachusetts 02143

617/623-5110

Frank Brodhead
Pam Chamberlain
Connie Chan
Bell Chevigny
Noam Chomsky
Kate Cloud
Tess Ewing
Norm Fruchter
Mitchell Goodman
Kenneth Hale
Frank Joyce
Louis Kampf
Hans Koning
Paul Lauter
Beatriz Manz
Nancy Moniz
Richard Ohmann
Wayne O'Neil
Carlos Otero
Grace Paley
Roxanna Pastor
Merble Reagon
Henry Rosemont
Tatiana Schreiber
Rena Scott
Meredith Smith
Amy Swerdlow
Ken Tangvik
Rene Valle
George Vickers
Nancy Wechsler
Fran White

Board Meeting - April 30, 1989 - 11am
George Vickers' apartment
205 W. 19th St.
New York, NY 10011 / Tel (212) 741-0545

Dear board member,

We'll be having our first board meeting of the Spring in New York. I hope that we all have lots of renewed energy.

You'll find the business items of the meeting at the end of the grants agenda portion of this letter. There's also the usual "if you can't make this meeting..." sheet to send back to us. If you have any comments and can't come to the meeting, please send in your feedback as well as your proxy.

AGENDA

** Any last minute items of information by staff which are important to meeting.

** With videos mentioned on this agenda, we'll be having a showing in Boston before the April 30th meeting since videos total time is from 2 to 4 hrs. If I get them in time, I'll also try to send to NYC for members their to pre-view. Details to come.

GRANT REQUESTS

Prisoners

- 1) Menard Self-help & Improvement Organization (MISSION) (Menard, IL) - \$? asked for expenses of organization.
- 2) Prison Book Program (Jamaica Plain, MA) - Requesting \$600 for reproduction and distribution of national resources lists for prisoners.
- 3) Prisoners With AIDS Rights Advocacy Group (Milan, MI) - Request of \$600 for expenses of group.
- 4) National Committee on U.S. Corrections (Farmington, MI) - Asking for \$600 for a copying machine.
- 5) National Committee to Free Puerto Rican Prisoners of War/Boston Chapter (Dorchester, MA) - \$600 asked for dubbing copies of their video on the play "Golpes de Rejas" ("Blows Against the Bars"). ** video for viewing, see above.

Middle East Work

6) National Mobilization for Survival (New York, NY) - Postponed from March 5th meeting. They're asking for \$450 to reprint and mail their brochure "Middle East Peace Alternatives." They've told me that they don't have the updated copy yet. There were questions raised on just how useful this brochure would be to grassroots groups around the country. I'm making inquiries of various groups.

7) Break the Silence Mural Project (Berkeley, CA) - \$600 request for costs of a fund raising campaign for murals on Palestinians to be done in East Jerusalem and the U.S.

Women

8) Women for Social Justice (St. Cloud, MN) - Postponed from March 5th meeting. \$600 request for expenses of their state-wide networking workshop. We needed a reference on this group and also needed to know about their participation in anti-porn demos. Please read Jan. 1989 article in proposal pack.

9) WRY CRIPS - Disabled Women's Theater (Berkeley, CA) - \$600 requested for access needs for '89-'90 creative arts workshops.

10) Bridges: A Journal for Jewish Feminists and Our Friends (Nehalem, OR) - They're asking for \$1,000 (??) toward expenses of production of this twice yearly publication. I asked them to send outline or a copy of publication. Outline is in proposal.

Central & Latin America work

11) San Francisco CISPES (CA) - \$600 request for computer printer, programming and training costs.

12) Washington Office on Haiti (DC) - Request of \$600 for production costs of quarterly newsletter, "Haiti Beat."

13) Semilla de Libertad Foundation (Chicago, IL) - \$600 asked for copying machine.

14) Intercommunity Center for Justice & Peace (New York, NY) - \$600 requested for production of a brochure on repeal of employer sanctions on undocumented people.

15) Washington State District CISPES (Seattle, WA) - \$600 asked for mailings to CISPES donors and chapters.

16) Guatemala Solidarity Committee/CASA (Cambridge, MA) - Request of \$600 for expenses of a Guatemala Activist Forum on May 6 & 7.

17) Bay Area Labor Committee on Central America (Oakland, CA) - \$600 requested for production of a brochure and for mailings for a national material aid campaign to support Nicaraguan farm

worker union women.

18) North American Farm Alliance (Ames, IA) - They're asking for \$600 for production of a brochure on their Farms Not Arms Project to develop grass roots coalitions between farmers, peace and Central America solidarity activists.

19) New Hampshire Central America Network (Concord) - Requesting \$600 for producing a brochure on the group. This has been postponed from March 5th and March 22nd meeting because they have not send text of the brochure. They have promised to send it soon; when it comes I'll send copies to you.

20) Resource Center for Nonviolence (Santa Cruz, CA) - \$1,000(?) requested for scholarship support for low income people for their Americas Connections program.

Peace/Anti-militarism

21) Vermont Solidarity II Conference (Montpelier) - Request is for \$600 for production of a guide & info booklet for conference

22) Sacramento Peace Center (CA) - Request of \$600 for start-up costs for a new movement newspaper for 20 peace & justice groups.

23) Alliance for Survival (Santa Ana, CA) - \$600 asked for production of a brochure on their Citizens' Commission for Economic Security campaign.

Community Organizing

24) Central Appalachian Life & Work (Clintwood, VA) -They're asking for \$600 for a copying machine.

25) Sandoval Environmental Action Community (Bernalillo, NM) - Request of \$600 for printing & mailing costs for their "Save Sandoval" campaign against a wall board plant in the area.

Miscellaneous

26) Trans-Aid Support Services (Orlando, FL) - \$600 asked for a typewriter and for a copier. Postponed from March 5th meeting: we needed more info.

27) Iowa Citizen Action Network (Des Moines) - They're asking for \$600 toward salary of a staff person to work on organizing to expand the Iowa civil rights code to ban discrimination based on sexual orientation.

28) New England Center to Investigate FBI Abuses (Brunswick, ME) - Request of \$600 for 20 dub copies of a 3 hr. video on Second National Conference on Abuses by the FBI. ** video to review

29) The Free Press (Fargo, ND) - \$520 asked for printing costs of

two issues of this newsletter.

30) Emerge (Cambridge, MA) - Request of \$600 for organizational evaluation/consultation fees for this domestic violence program for men.

31) Witness for Nonviolence for Treaty Rights in Northern Wisconsin (Milwaukee) - They're asking for \$606 for expenses of their actions at boat landings to prevent violence against Native Americans.

32) Asia Resource Center (Washington, DC) - \$500 request for costs of traveling exhibit of re-cycled SE Asia war materials.

33) "Making the News Fit" (Seattle, WA) - Request of \$600 for promotion campaign to distribute this video on U.S. press coverage of El Salvador. ** video to review, see note above

BUSINESS/POLICY ITEMS

* Staff raises - I've enclosed copies of the salary proposal approved last year. We need discussion on the question of a raise for myself since both Tatiana's and Nancy W's were automatic in April. I will be starting my fifth year at Resist the second week of May.

* Proposal & Discussion on the Resist computer situation - We discussed this at a board/staff lunch with Tess Ewing. Our present computer is not adequate for our present and future use. We'll have a proposals either for the meeting or I'll send it to you before then.

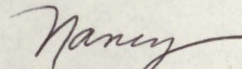
* Board Outreach Committee update

* Office - Finances and other miscellaneous items.

* Next board meeting - time and place

When I receive any additional info before the meeting on any of the above, I'll send you copies.

For peace and justice,



Nancy Moniz, Resist staff

Cut out & send to office

Sorry, I can't make the April 30th meeting. My choice for a date for the next Resist board meeting is:

June 11th ____ June 18th ____ June 25th ____

Signature

Salary Proposal for Resist - adopted June 2, 1988

Proposed by Tatiana Schreiber, Nancy Moniz, Nancy Wechsler

Purposes:

1. Assure starting workers of minimal standard of living.
2. Reduce wage gap between lowest and highest paid workers.
3. Assure Resist that salaries will not rise unreasonably.

Proposal:

1. Our goal is to change from our present system of getting a cost of living raise every January plus a 10% raise on our hiring anniversary to a cost of living every January plus a flat rate each year (say .50 to .75/hour). We propose to reach this goal by taking the following steps:

2. Raise Tatiana's salary now to be equal to Wechsler's. In other words give her a 10% raise now instead of waiting till December (her anniversary date).

3. In April, 1989 Tatiana and Wechsler still get 10% raise. (This is Wechsler's anniversary date...and will be the beginning of her fourth year at Resist. Moniz got this 10% raise 5/88.)

4. In May 1989, the beginning of her fifth year at Resist, Moniz begins new system by taking flat raise.

5. By 1990 everyone takes flat raise.

6. Each January everyone gets cost of living raises.

7. New workers start at higher wage to be decided. They are on new system of flat raise plus cost of living.

Flat rate raise of between 50-75 cents/hour would be decided each year by the board, depending on finances of organization.

At the point of new hiring, the board will determine the starting salary.

Present Salaries
(figures rounded off)

as of March 29, 1989

Tatiana Schreiber

\$9.90/hr \$123.74 gross/week = \$6434.48/year

at 40 hours/week that would be \$396.11 or
\$20,592.72 yearly

health insurance paid in full: \$128.69/month

** April, 1989 10% raise in salary to:

\$10.89/hr \$136.13/week = \$7,077.65/year

at 40 hours/week that would be \$435.55 or \$22,648.60

Nancy Wechsler

\$9.90/hr \$316.76 /32 hour week = \$16,471.52/year

at 40 hours/week that would be \$396.11 or
\$20,592.72/yearly

health insurance paid in full. NW's insurance is with a
different company. The arrangement is: Resist pays
\$65.50 to company/month and reimburses NW \$63.19/month
(there is a \$1,000 deductible) for a total of \$128.69.

** April, 1989 10% raise in salary to:

\$10.89/hr \$348.44/week = \$18,118.79/year

at 40 hours/week that would be \$435.55 or \$22,648.60

Nancy Moniz

\$10.96/hr \$438.22/week
\$22,787.44/yearly

health insurance paid in full: \$128.69/month

** May, 1989 raise of \$.50/hr would be to:

\$11.46/hr \$458.22/week = \$23,827.44/year

May, 1989 raise of \$.75/hr would be to:

\$11.71/hr \$468.22/week = \$24,347.49/year

Board Minutes
April 30, 1989
NYC

Present: Kate Cloud, Paul Lauter, Nancy Moniz, Louis Kampf, Frank Brodhead (chair), Grace Paley, Pam Chamberlain, George Vickers, Tatiana Schreiber, Merble Reagon, Bell Chevigny and Nancy Wechsler (minutes).

BUSINESS/POLICY ITEMS

* The suitcase with the board files and video tapes was stolen in NYC. Board voted to fund replacement of case (it was Nancy Moniz's) and to buy another one for Resist. We also agreed to fund replacement costs of videos for the groups whose videos we lost.

* Staff raises - It is time now to switch from 10% raise system to hourly wage increase (which we adopted when we adopted our personnel policy). We agreed to give Nancy Moniz a 50 cent an hour increase. Nancy Wechsler and Tatiana will get this increase next April on Wechsler's anniversary date. Nancy Moniz also requested the option to be able to take two weeks unpaid vacation sometime during the year, above and beyond the three weeks paid vacation in the personnel policy. All staff were supportive of this. Wechsler asked for option to be able to take an additional unpaid week as well. Requests granted.

* Proposal & Discussion on the Resist computer situation - We discussed this at a board/staff lunch with Tess Ewing. Our present computer is not adequate for our present and future use. Everyone should have received a report on this right before the meeting. Decision: Buy an AT compatible clone with a 286 chip. The board allocated up to and around \$2000 for this purpose. Pam Chamberlain said she might be able to get a good deal through the state.

* Board Outreach Committee update - Committee met with Oscar Hernandez. He is a founder of the Honduras Information Center, and very knowledgeable about Central America work. We agreed to ask him to join the board.

Ava Young was also suggested and the committee will contact her. The committee is also planning on contacting several inactive board members to see if they will be coming back at some point, to see what kind of space we still have for new members.

* Office/Finances:

Cambridge Trust Company--	\$16,081.24	
Working Assets--	\$63,636.25	
Loan Fund--	\$ 3,500.	Total: \$83,217.49
Cohen Endowment Fund	\$10,336.24	Total: \$93,553.73

Next Board Meeting: Sunday, June 11, 1989
(Place to be announced.)

GRANTS: We gave out a total of \$8200 to 20 groups.

1) Menard Self-help & Improvement Organization (MISSION) (Menard, IL) - POSTPONED. Questions were raised as to ability of people to do what they set out to do. Questions raised as to how much of an organization this is, versus an individual or two. Tatiana liked that they were attempting to be multi-racial, liked goals. Grace liked the guys letter. Postponed to get more info/references.

2) Prison Book Program (Jamaica Plain, MA) - \$450 for reproduction and distribution of national resources lists for prisoners. Positive references. Question raised as to whether or not it made sense to update the list so often.

3) Prisoners With AIDS Rights Advocacy Group (Milan, MI) - \$200 towards expenses of group. Mike R. (GCN) said they were just a few people, but doing good work. Discussion about whether or not to print something in our newsletter about organizing in prison. Some thought it would bring in too many applications from prisoners/prison groups...which are hard to get references for and hard to evaluate. We agreed to do an article on barriers to doing prison organizing. We will include in the article a list of prison resources. It was suggested we mention we are looking for applications from groups where the group is already in place.

4) National Committee on U.S. Corrections (Farmington, MI) - NO GRANT. References were positive. Only two people seem involved. They say they are the coordinators of prison work. Questions raised about limited goals of group, and contents of newsletter. Question raised about politics of "New Afrika." People didn't know what they were.

5) National Committee to Free Puerto Rican Prisoners of War/Boston Chapter (Dorchester, MA) - NO GRANT. Several people saw video. Roxanna thought the play would not convince the unconvinced. Certain sections were objectionable, including stuff about gays/lesbians and about the Cuban people. Annette Diaz saw the play, knew of the group. She thought they were somewhat sectarian, didn't like play. Questions raised about whether or not we should necessarily take a stand on independence. We agreed to turn down request for grant and say something that expressed the following views: We didn't feel the play would reveal the situation for prisoners as a whole (which was a goal). We feel that these people are being railroaded, but didn't feel like this was appropriate vehicle to talk about it. It would not convince people who are unconvinced. We don't think this will accomplish what you have set out to do. It didn't reveal complexity of situation in PR. People who saw the video didn't think it was very effective. //We also need to mention the video was stolen, and reimburse them for replacement costs.

6) National Mobilization for Survival (New York, NY) - Postponed from March 5th meeting. Questions were raised previously about how helpful a national pamphlet would be to local groups. Talked to Arkansas Peace Center, Sacramento Peace Center, and Kathy Gilbred. All said it would be helpful. We still didn't have a copy of the updated pamphlet in our packets. We decided to turn them down for now, and let them know they should come back to us

when they have a copy of the brochure. Let them know we will keep their proposal on hand, and they don't have to re-answer all the questions.

7) Break the Silence Mural Project (Berkeley, CA) - \$400 for costs of a fund raising campaign for murals on Palestinians to be done in East Jerusalem and the U.S. Reference was positive. It was noted that we were more excited by this because it was in E. Jerusalem, and not the Bay Area. Questions raised about who target for project is. Discussion of politics of addressing your organizing primarily to Jews. We gave a grant and need to tell them the money isn't for travel, but to support organizing work in the US.

8) Women for Social Justice (St. Cloud, MN) - Postponed from March 5th meeting. NO GRANT. We still didn't have a reference. Headwaters fund hadn't heard of them. Discussion of anti-porn position/actions, etc. Questions raised about what else they do. Seemed to only hold sit-in and put out voting record of one guy. Some people liked the group and the anti-porn demo, others didn't. Questions raised about their position on porn might exclude some women from the conference they were organizing re: battered women. Concern raised as to why Headwaters board member hadn't heard of group, since she is active in battered women's movement. Possible because this is a student-based group.

9) WRY CRIPS - Disabled Women's Theater (Berkeley, CA) - \$450 for access needs for '89-'90 creative arts workshops. Positive reference from Vanguard. Good outreach to wider audience. Probably hard to get funding for this work. Questions raised about politics and priority. Question raised about spectrum of politics in group. Resist priority to fund accessibility projects.

10) Bridges: A Journal for Jewish Feminists and Our Friends (Nehalem, OR) - We had our longest discussion around this one, and ended up deciding on NO GRANT. Reference: Grace said the east coast people worked in Feminist Task Force of NJA. She worked with them on Jewish Women Against the Occupation Vigil. Questions raised about why start another journal? Questions raised about whether or not they could get their articles in Tikkun? Answer was probably No as far as Tikkun is concerned, and they want a new journal because they feel compelled to articulate and speak inside a Jewish community. Questions raised about whether Resist should support something that is into pursuing Jewish identity. Questions raised as to whether or not this was tied to an organizing project. (There was disagreement on this as well as much of the rest.) Questions raised about degree to which they were into ritual. (In one of the better moments at the Board meeting, Grace replied: Ritual, schmitual, everyone on the west coast is into ritual.) Some people felt these kinds of publications helped further discussion. Big difference of opinion on this one. We were very divided when we took a vote. We should write them a friendly letter and say that this kind of work is not a priority for Resist at this time. We should say we were considerably divided on the question of giving them a grant. Some people felt positive and that it would further political discussions and that it was part of a larger organizing project, and others simply disagreed and felt that this wasn't the kind of project we generally fund.

11) San Francisco CISPES (CA) - \$200 for computer printer. Very little discussion.

12) Washington Office on Haiti (DC) - \$450 for production costs of quarterly newsletter, "Haiti Beat." Mixed references, depending on source. Some positive, some more critical. Issues about whether or not they were too into lobbying/Congress oriented. Hard not to fall into this in Washington.

13) Semilla de Libertad Foundation (Chicago, IL) - \$450 for copying machine. George V. gave very positive reference. People liked proposal/group.

14) Intercommunity Center for Justice & Peace (New York, NY) - NO GRANT. George gave reference. Questions raised about whether or not they could get money elsewhere for this work. Questions raised about social service content of work. We should turn them down with a nice letter saying we think they can probably get the money elsewhere. If you have another project which you might have more trouble getting funding for, please re-apply.

15) Washington State District CISPES (Seattle, WA) -NO GRANT. Dan P. at Peace Development Fund said they were not too effective. Based on that, no grant was given.

16) Guatemala Solidarity Committee/CASA (Cambridge, MA) - \$450 for expenses of a Guatemala Activist Forum on May 6 & 7. References were positive. Very little discussion.

17) Bay Area Labor Committee on Central America (Oakland, CA) - POSTPONE. Tess gave a positive reference for group, but we had trouble finding a west coast reference.

18) North American Farm Alliance (Ames, IA) - NO GRANT. Questions raised about quality of pamphlet. Needs another edit. Paragraph headings don't always relate to what's in paragraph. We should say something to them like: The issue is important, much of information is good, but it would benefit from an editorial consultant going over it again. Not effective in present form. We might be open to funding another project. We are excited by the work you are doing.

19) New Hampshire Central America Network (Concord) - \$400 for producing a brochure on the group. This had been postponed from March 5th and March 22nd meeting because they had not send text of the brochure. Positive reference. Brochure didn't seem exciting enough to bring in new people, convince them to work on this issue.

20) Resource Center for Nonviolence (Santa Cruz, CA) - \$500 for scholarship support for low income people for their Americas Connections program. Positive reference from George and Grace.

21) Vermont Solidarity II Conference (Montpelier) - \$450 for production of a guide & info booklet for conference. References were positive. Haymarket is working on conference. Application very unspecific. Questions raised about usefulness of conference. List of ideas for workshops was impressive,

but some were too general. Question raised about our position on funding conferences. It was felt that this was an organizing conference. We agreed to give them a grant and mention that we were not happy that their proposal was so vague. Add something like: we assume you will have workshops on specific organizing around specific areas of work.

22) Sacramento Peace Center (CA) - \$450 for start-up costs for a new movement newspaper for 20 peace & justice groups. Alicia Flores of Migrant Farmworkers checked on them with her contacts and received very positive references.

23) Alliance for Survival (Santa Ana, CA) - NO GRANT. Questions raised about inclusion of gay and lesbian organizing. Questions raised as to whether they could get money elsewhere. Project was unobjectionable but also unexciting. Questions raised about what they were really doing. Vote postpone, versus deny funding. NOs had it.

24) Central Appalachian Life & Work (Clintwood, VA) -\$450 for a copying machine. Very positive reference. Question raised about social service nature of work. But in context, what else can they do? On the face of it we don't usually fund this work, What about supporting the Miner's strike? Trying to do a lot.

25) Sandoval Environmental Action Community (Bernalillo, NM) - \$500 for printing & mailing costs for their "Save Sandoval" campaign against a wall board plant in the area. Very positive reference. Native American issues brought up.

26) Trans-Aid Support Services (Orlando, FL) - TOKEN \$100 towards a typewriter and for a copier. Postponed from March 5th meeting. Beth Raps of the Feminist Task Force of Florida said there is one staff person, but it is a group. Question raised about number of people involved. Discussion about their making illegal (anti-AIDS) drugs. Social service. Some criticisms of newsletter, specifically their use of the term "AIDS Whores". We should mention this use of the term whores. We didn't really know what exactly to make of this group.

27) Iowa Citizen Action Network (Des Moines) - \$450 toward salary of a staff person to work on organizing to expand the Iowa civil rights code to ban discrimination based on sexual orientation. Positive reference. Little discussion.

28) New England Center to Investigate FBI Abuses (Brunswick, ME) - NO GRANT. A lot of people went to the conference and it seemed to be useful. Pam suggested the most useful reason to have video of conference is for planners of future conferences to evaluate speakers. This is not a good enough reason to do it. We should turn them down and say it is not a priority for us, we don't see a political use for the tape, we don't see this as a useful too. Very narrow use. They said it cost \$20.20 to reproduce one tape. We owe them for losing 2.

29) The Free Press (Fargo, ND) - NO GRANT. Couldn't find reference. This is

a college group. We admire them. Newsletter seems a bit dull, but has a lot of good issues. Funding college groups is not a priority for us. Send a nice letter.

30) Emerge (Cambridge, MA) - \$450 for organizational evaluation/consultation fees for this domestic violence program for men. Positive reference. Very successful in dating violence project. Lots of internal problems. Questions raised about this particular project, and whether or not it was a conflict of interest for Resist to fund since the person doing the consultation would be Renae Scott (through the Multi-Cultural Project). Questions raised about whether or not a therapeutic approach was helpful. Long discussion. We couldn't agree about the conflict of interest issue. People liked Emerge. Some questions were raised about the grassroots politics of the group. Finally decided to fund project.

31) Witness for Nonviolence for Treaty Rights in Northern Wisconsin (Milwaukee) - \$450 for expenses of their actions at boat landings to prevent violence against Native Americans. Positive reference. We liked group and project. We would like to write it up for the newsletter. We should get photos.

32) Asia Resource Center (Washington, DC) - \$500 for costs of traveling exhibit of re-cycled SE Asia war materials. Positive reference. People liked group and project.

33) "Making the News Fit" (Seattle, WA) - \$450 for promotion campaign to distribute this video on U.S. press coverage of El Salvador. This isn't really a part of a group, group is really just acting as the fiscal sponsor. It is just a few people. People who saw video really liked it. A little dated perhaps, but very good. High quality. It could use an update. Maybe it could be shown with a moderator who gave an update. Non-rhetorical, persuasive. Maybe Point of View series (Mark Weiss) would be interested. We should suggest this. We acknowledged we were making somewhat of an exception in agreeing to fund this project, but after all--we made the guidelines and we can bend/break them! In letter to people we should say we don't generally fund individuals working on a project, but we are making an exception because of the high quality of the work and the need for information about El Salvador.

That's it. See you at the June Board meeting.

Nancy Wechsler

I am more than delighted to have been asked by a Resist Board Member to possibly becoming a member of the Resist organization. I have known about Resist for some time and considers it to be an important ally to those organizations involved in educating others about current events or simply seeking alternative ways of resolving problems that permeates our society. I am, therefore submitting my candidacy to be a member of the Resist board and look forward towards contributing to causes Resist seeks to support.

My background

I was born in Honduras and lived there until my grandparents brought me to the United States in 1964 at the age of 11. Initially, I stayed in New Orleans with relatives and eventually settled in Oregon with my grandparents. From there I came to Boston where I decided to make it my home.

My ties to Honduras continued despite the distant. I went back and forth between the two countries in addition to visiting the other countries in Central America and southern Mexico, particularly the Yucatan Province.

Most of my work in Boston involved community oriented positions as a community organizer in addition to organizing tenants.

My political activism began in 1968 during the Viet Nam war. Once I learned about the nature of U.S. involvement in the war I volunteer along with hundreds of others to protest and to encourage others to do the same by participating in protest marchers as well as sittings etc.

In 1978 when the situation in Nicaragua became acute I joined with others in the founding of the Nicaragua Solidarity Committee, both at the national and local levels. Two years after that I actively sought support among existing solidarity organizations like CISPES and the Guatemala Committee to join in an effort to create what is now known as the Central America Solidarity Association. Soon thereafter I was one of the founders of the Honduras Information Center.

Since 1987 I have been working as an administrative assistant at the New England Home for Little Wanderers in its Foster Care/Adoption Unit. Prior to that I worked at Oxfam America where I did consulting, particularly on Honduras. Also, I co-coordinated a study tour to Honduras-Nicaragua in which 23 U.S. citizens from accross the country participated.

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