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Resist Board Meeting, Oct. 22. 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

Board Meeting - Oct. 22, 1989 - 11am
Ken Hale's house
209 Waltham St.
Lexington, MA 02173 / Tel (617) 861-8164

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
Renae Scott
Meredith Smith
Amy Swerdlow
Ken Tangvik
Rene Valle
George Vickers
Nancy Wechsler
Fran White

Dear board member,

While I'm away in Mexico (whoopie!!) Yana will be dealing with the details for this board meeting. Any questions, please check with her. I'll be back about a week before the board meeting.

Please check the business items at the end of the grants agenda portion of this letter. If you can't make the meeting, just drop us a note of any opinions, etc.

The next board meeting has been tentatively set for December 3rd in New York City. It's especially important for you to get back to Yana if this date isn't good for you (particularly non-Boston members.) Please send in the meeting dates options sheet at the end of this letter or call the office.

AGENDA

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

GRANT REQUESTS

Central and Latin America and the Caribbean

1) Central America Resource Center (St. Paul, MN) -\$600 requested for postage and printing costs in their campaign to defend the Center against right wing attacks.

2) El Puelche - Informativa Chileno (NY, NY) - Requesting \$600 for publishing 2 issues of their newsletter and for flyers and postcards. Postponed from Sept. meeting - we needed more info and references on their politics, etc.

3) Center for Information, Documentation & Research on Haiti (Boston, MA) - They're asking for \$1,200 for newspapers & magazine subscriptions. Postponed from last meeting - we needed a reference.

4) Pledge of Resistance/Albany (NY) - \$415 request for 3 month house meeting campaign to educate new and existing members on the situation in El Salvador.

5) Central America Resource Center (Austin, TX) - They're asking for \$525 for a promotional mailing for their bi-monthly compilation of news articles, The C.A. Newspak.

6) Delaware County Pledge of Resistance (Swarthmore, PA) - \$407 requested for answering machine, furniture, telephone and subscriptions for their new office.

7) Neighbor to Neighbor/New England Office (Cambridge, MA) - Request of \$600 for expenses of their Campus Campaign to activate students against U.S. support of the government of El Salvador.

Peace/Anti-Militarism

8) Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (Des Moines, IA) - \$600 request for reprinting brochure on the impact of military spending on Iowa tax payers.

9) Snake River Alliance (Boise, ID) - \$500 asked for organizing a rally at the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory, a nuclear weapons production facility.

10) No War Toys Coalition (San Francisco, CA) - Request of \$500 for expenses of their campaign.

Women

11) Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence (Madison) - \$600 grant asked for production of a newsletter. They're also asking for a \$1,000 loan for a fund raising project (see Loans)

12) Rhode Island Women's Health Collective (Providence) - Request of \$600 toward expenses of their Maternal & Child Health Project for low income women.

13) Rosie Jiménez Day Coalition (Somerville, MA) - \$600 asked for expenses of a demonstration on abortion rights and health care for women.

14) Women's Resource Center (Boseman, MT) - Asking \$600 for printing and mailing costs for a bi-monthly newsletter.

Gay and Lesbian

15) National Coalition of Black Lesbians & Gays (Cambridge, MA) - Request of \$500 for honoraria for trainers for the national conference Oct. 6th to 9th and for start-up costs of newsletter.

16) Lesbian & Gay People of Color (Baltimore, MD) - Requesting \$600 for expenses of a Black Lesbian & Gay Caucus, "A Meeting for

Ourselves, on Nov. 11th.

Community Organizing

17) Homeless Action Committee (Albany, NY) - Request of \$500 for production of a brochure, newsletter and leaflets and for rent.

18) Louisiana Consumers League (Baton Rouge, LA) - They're asking for \$550 for their "Take the Green Out of Insurance" campaign.

Miscellaneous

19) Cambridge-Ramallah/El-Bireh Sister City Campaign (Cambridge, MA) - \$600 asked for costs of publicizing a fund raising reception on Nov. 19th.

20) Comisión Independiente 6 de Marzo (Alamosa, CO) - \$1,000 asked for costs of Freedom of Information Act material.

LOAN REQUEST

21) Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence (Madison) - They're asking for a \$1,000 loan for a fund raising project.

BUSINESS/POLICY ITEMS

* Windfall gift - Discussion on how to invest funds. Nancy W. will report on suggestions from Bob Zevin and our broker.

* Office - Finances and other miscellaneous items.

* Next board meeting - We have a tentative date, December 3rd, but we'll have to set the definite date.

When any additional info is received at the office before the meeting on any of the above, copies will be sent to you.

For peace and justice,

Nancy

Nancy Moniz
Resist staff

CLIP AND SEND TO RESIST OFFICE

I won't be able to attend the Oct. 22nd meeting in Boston. My preference for a date for a December meeting is:

_____ Dec. 3 _____ Dec. 10 _____ Dec. 17

Signature

Resist Board Meeting - Oct. 22, 1989
Ken Hale's House

Present: Nancy Moniz, Tatiana Schreiber, Louis Kampf, Fran White, George Vickers, Nancy Wechsler (minutes), Pam Chamberlain, Tess Ewing (chair), Oscar Hernandez, and Ken Hale.

GRANT REQUESTS We gave out a total of \$6547 to 14 groups.

1) Central America Resource Center (St. Paul, MN) -\$600 for postage and printing costs in their campaign to defend the Center against right wing attacks. Reference: Paula R.- positive reference, good organization, terrific staff. They have been singled out by Right. They work well with other groups, co-sponsor many events. Very good group. It was suggested we try to get a newsletter article about their successes.

2) El Puelche - Informativa Chileno (NY, NY) - "Some" (\$200) for newsletter and for flyers and postcards. This had been postponed from Sept. meeting - we needed more info and references on their politics, etc. George V.- Just a few people in this group. It is a MIR group. Event was yesterday. This is not the only MIR group in NY. Don't reach very many people. Wouldn't put at top of priority list. MIR people are backing the elections in Chile (the whole coalition is backing the Christian Democrats). One of the MIR leaders was just assassinated in Chile. MIR has just re-opened their paper. Some discussion of MIR politics. Some people on board know a lot, others know less. Discussion as to whether or not to give them "some."

3) Center for Information, Documentation & Research on Haiti (Boston, MA) - "Some" (\$200) for newspapers & magazine subscriptions. Postponed from last meeting - we needed a reference. Ref: Roland LeForest - Knows they exist. Long term goal is social change. other ref: didn't feel this effort would duplicate other efforts. Neither reference said anything either good or bad, but that this project of gathering info was useful to have. Disc: Is this group associated with some faction? References didn't know. Questions raised about how central this particular work is. Is this on the cutting edge? Doesn't seem that significant. Not cutting edge, but important to have this information available. Suggest in letter: publicize what resources are available.

4) Pledge of Resistance/Albany (NY) - \$415 (as requested) for 3 month house meeting campaign to educate new and existing members on the situation in El Salvador. Reference: Terry Dix- Social Justice Center. Pledge offices are at the Social Justice Center. Work with other Central America groups very well. Very direct action oriented. Work in coalition with other groups on other issues. David E. (Committee for New Korea Policy)- this is good project. Discussion: House meeting stuff good idea. They said they haven't applied for grants before. We should tell them to apply to other groups, including church funding sources. We should tell them that it is usually best to try Church foundations and other large foundations first, and then come to Resist for projects they won't fund.

5) Central America Resource Center (Austin, TX) - \$525 (as requested) for a promotional mailing for their bi-monthly compilation of news articles, The C.A. Newspak. Ref: Live Oak Fund- outstanding organization. Excellent work, use volunteers well, good staff people. NLG- Willingness to share information and funds. Team player. George- useful information. Tess- useful work, good answers to our questions. Questions raised on size of budget and large grants. What to do? They are asking for our money to increase their circulation, and maybe they can't get money from these foundations for that. Since they are so successful they should be able to get other funding. We should put sub info into our newsletter. We finally decided on a YES: Give them a grant for this particular project, this time, but encourage them to look elsewhere in the future, that they

are too big budget for us and already get lots of grants.

PLEASE NOTE: This last grant discussion prompted a discussion of whether or not we should add a question about large budget organizations to the application form/or merely raise it in a follow-up letter to groups. This particular question was not resolved at this board meeting. We did agree we should ask them if the funds they get are earmarked for certain projects already. We need to say something like, "We normally fund organizations that are too leftwing to get money elsewhere. If you get some liberal money for some work, but not for other work, please explain this in your application form."

6) Delaware County Pledge of Resistance (Swarthmore, PA) - \$407 (as requested) for answering machine, furniture, telephone and subscriptions for their new office. Positive reference- says group is outstanding, works well with other organizations, active in coalition building, good participation at rallies. Discussion: good group. We've funded them previously. Don't have huge sources of funding.

7) Neighbor to Neighbor/New England Office (Cambridge, MA) - NO GRANT. They had requested \$600 for expenses for their Campus Campaign to activate students against U.S. support of the government of El Salvador. References: Mike P., NECAN- had problems in the past with N2N in Maine, not checking things out with other groups. Not been such a problem anymore. Coffee boycott is departure from Congressional work. Prokosh is afraid they will abandon Congressional work. Good tactic, but lousy strategy. Rose Mulligan, Peace Development Fund- Connecticut work done well. Not sure how good they are at sustaining people's interest in Central America work after the original Congressional blitz. Not sure about boycott strategy. Are they working with other Central America Student groups in Boston? Discussion: idea of boycott is bad idea, given the number of boycotts there are already. There are several things that make boycotts work--like the Nestle's boycott and the UFW boycott. This boycott doesn't have what it takes to be successful. General agreement that this is a bad idea. Coffee comes in from many sources and gets mixed together. Central America work should be on totally different level-- we have gone beyond groups that focus on one country -- with peace proposal for Region. Bush administration has a regional policy. We have to focus on US foreign policy in region. Coffee boycott is a waste of time. More useful to put that energy into attacking US foreign policy. It is irresponsible to organize boycott unless you can do it on a national level. They have not been doing grassroots organizing. Now they want to, but they don't know how.

Coffee that is 80% Salvadoran is: Proctor and Gamble, Nestle, Folgers. Arena Party is based on coffee oligarchy. Best coffee from El Salvador goes to Europe and Japan.

N2N has just approached CISPES with idea of boycott.

NO GRANT: We don't feel that a coffee boycott is a good strategy at this time. Emphasis should be placed on working to change the US's regional foreign policy for Central America.

8) Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (Des Moines, IA) - NO GRANT. \$600 was requested for reprinting brochure on the impact of military spending on Iowa tax payers. We did fund them last year. Reference: Dan P.- Last year Dan said their approach was interesting, good at making connections, etc. This year Dan said that they got a proposal from CND which they didn't fund. It was all over the map. Stuff they had started had fallen through. Peace house didn't work out. Youth work and canvassing didn't work out. Some problems with one of the men (Ed Fallon) "prima donna". Having problems with board--down from 12 to 6. Bob Bremer works with Ed Fallon. Appearance of counter culture, but group is useful. Brochure is useful. Group holding its own and improving. Discussion: Seems like they haven't done what they set out to do. Suggestion we wait till next year. Too unfocussed, too diffused. Proposal seems ok, references too negative.

NO: We're not in a position to fund you now, but would be interested in knowing what you are up to in the future, specifically the makeup of your board and future work.

9) Snake River Alliance (Boise, ID) - \$500 for organizing a rally at the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory, a nuclear weapons production facility. Tatiana read aloud their letter which contained more information and clarified some questions. Reference: A Territory Resource- was about to do site visit. They have funded them. Credibility among environmental and peace groups. Work in coalition. Liz Paul good leader but doesn't cultivate leadership in others. Peter Drucker, national MOBE- extremely conservative part of the country. Group does good work. Large budget, liberal money. This is one of the main organizations in Idaho. Decision: We decided to give them money, and ask them to consider taking positions on the issues we raise in question #10 of the application form. Also their response about Native Americans is condescending. It isn't an issue of Native Americans being empowered to do this kind of work, but of them learning about what the important issues are to Native Americans, and doing coalition work. We should suggest they get in touch with Native Action in Montana for some help with this.

10) No War Toys Coalition (San Francisco, CA) - POSTPONED request of \$500 for expenses of their campaign. Tatiana's letter asking follow up questions came back to us. Earthquake interrupted our attempts to get references. Some people Tatiana called didn't know much about them other than that they get press at christmas time. Vanguard is looking at their proposal now. Postpone to get more information.

11) Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence (Madison) - \$600 grant for production of a newsletter. \$1,000 loan for a fund raising project (see Loans) Reference- a lot of work is social service, not political. Would they be good at paying back loan? One reference didn't know, the other thought it would be good at paying back loan. Growing movement in Wisconsin. State coalition is part of larger social change movement. Very involved with legislative work on restraining orders. Done a lot of work with low income women. People liked the newsletter. Usually these state-wide coalitions are political and help keep the shelters focussed on being political.

12) Rhode Island Women's Health Collective (Providence) - \$600 toward expenses of their Maternal & Child Health Project for low income women. Health project is organizing project, not provision of services. \$600 is for general work on project. 1 1/2 years ago they conducted conference on women and AIDS. Reference: Norma Swenson- sensible, well organized, good group. They had a speakout on shrinking services in the area. Info/advocacy group. Public education. Big impact, little resources. Coalition work with black, Hispanic, Native American communities. Yes on strength of reference and newsletter.

13) Rosie Jimenez Day Coalition (Somerville, MA) - \$600 for expenses of a demonstration on abortion rights and health care for women. We had a long discussion on this one. Reference: (VERY CONFIDENTIAL- references didn't even want organizers to know that these criticisms were made by Latinas.) Elba Crespo: in group which co-sponsored event, but not active in this. It was pouring rain for the event. Started at BCH, march to Copley for speakers. Since it was pouring rain there was some discussion of calling off march. Latina women wanted to march, and organizers agreed to go ahead. Then there was some discussion about not having the speeches. Latina women wanted to have the speeches, since they felt this was one place they would have input. After discussion, speeches were held. Elba felt like organizers didn't really understand why people of color needed to be involved. Annette Diaz: "What a nightmare," but still thinks group should be funded. Opportunistic strategy. They want to link up with people of color but they have a narrow perspective. 90% of marchers were white. Good intentions but things went array. Latina women asked to organize bi-lingual aspects of event, but that wasn't a priority for them. They wanted to bring their message to english speaking people. 300 people at event, but organizations aren't ready to do multi-ethnic, multi-racial event. Stephanie Poggi: Thought event was

good, significant participation of Latina women and women from BCH.

Discussion: some lack of clarity about who they were trying to reach. No plans to process all this as a coalition. We should encourage them to have post event wrap up. Latina women were listened to, as the organizers decided to go ahead with march and speakers. Questions raised about what to do with what we have heard. What is our responsibility? What is responsibility of Latina women to say something. They didn't want us to mention these criticisms were made by Latina women. Some of us are friends with many of the organizers. What should we do? Decision: We voted to fund the group and say something like: We would like to hear in the future about evaluation from all groups who have participated. How is this continuing to build coalitions, broadening the base, etc. In future years, also, we think it would be good to have follow-up meetings of coalition to evaluate/wrap up. A condition for funding for next year will be that the proposal must have this evaluation built in. We would also like to get a report on a wrap up from this years' efforts.

14) Women's Resource Center (Boseman, MT) - "Some" (\$200) for printing and mailing costs for a bi-monthly newsletter. Reference: staffperson at Battered Women's Network: not able to say anything negative. Serve wider community. Take Back the Night, involved in battered women's network, good reference library, hasn't heard anything negative about center. Center does specific outreach to Native Americans and lesbian women. Newsletter very important. They did do a fundraising letter to faculty. Discussion: Sounds like they do serve more than just campus community. Good project, but we don't ordinarily fund campus organizations. But here's a little grant to help you along.

15) National Coalition of Black Lesbians & Gays (Cambridge, MA) - \$500 for honoraria for trainers for the national conference Oct. 6th to 9th and for start-up costs of newsletter. Reference: Chicago Resource Center: has funded them. Newsletter idea makes sense. National Minority Aids Coalition: important to fund this group. Leader on national level. Difficult moving from DC to Detroit. Director is in process of leaving. Effectiveness on national level is mixed bag. \$600 will make a big difference and go a long way. They need to articulate a clearer national agenda. Discussion: They have managed to hang in there for 10/11 years so far. This sounds like a transition time. Hard for any organization to be effective national organization. Sounds like a time they could really use our money.

16) Lesbian & Gay People of Color (Baltimore, MD) - \$600 for expenses of a Black Lesbian & Gay Caucus, "A Meeting for Ourselves", on Nov. 11th. Reference: Sue Hyde (NGLTF) had met Andre, good guy. Too bad he's with APC, but he shouldn't be penalized for it. Ann Gordon: The new group is well respected, hard working, gifted bunch. Event sounds wonderful.

17) Homeless Action Committee (Albany, NY) - NO GRANT. They had requested \$500 for production of a brochure, newsletter and leaflets and for rent. Reference: Social service with political perspective. Sleep-ins at city hall. Decision: Come back to us when you are a little further along, when newsletter and brochure are a bit more developed.

18) Louisiana Consumers League (Baton Rouge, LA) - NO GRANT. They asked for \$550 for their "Take the Green Out of Insurance" campaign. Reference: David comes from Nader politics. Discussion: They can get money elsewhere. Nader-type project.

19) Cambridge-Ramallah/El-Bireh Sister City Campaign (Cambridge, MA) - \$600 for costs of publicizing a fund raising reception on Nov. 19th. Haymarket was impressed by plans for coalition work. Todd: sister city concept is great. Good working relations with Arab groups. Things aren't as good with Jewish groups. Louis is in this group and gave a run down of his perspective. Said this could serve as a model for other cities around the country. Everyone felt very positive about this project. Middle East work is still a priority for us.

20) Comision Independiente 6 de Marzo (Alamosa, CO) - POSTPONED Decision on request for \$1,000 for costs of Freedom of Information Act material. Reference: Chinook Fund, Denver: Fighting for Land Treaty Rights. Group not divisive. People have hope that this will be positive. NLG has worked on some of the legal aspects. This group is working on issues beyond the legal stuff. Ken Hale: Sounds like typical land rights issue. Discussion: Is the money requested for legal or political work? How will they use the FOIA documents? Can they even get them, given this is an ongoing case? Postpone to ask them these questions.

LOAN REQUEST

21) Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence (Madison) - \$1,000 loan for a fund raising project. We agreed to loan. See discussion above.

BUSINESS/POLICY ITEMS

* United Farmworkers/Fenway Benefit. Tess organized our participation in this. They put us down as "endorsers" but we really only agreed to "sign on" to the grape boycott. Tess called them to note the error, and they sent letter of apology.

* Meredith Smith resigned from board. Meredith sent us a letter. Discussion of why we keep other people on, but Meredith and Ken are allowed to resign. Are some people more important than others? Question of whether or not to accept Meredith's resignation. Decision: Send her letter thanking her for years of work at Resist, and accepting her resignation as an active board member. Say that the board is discussing whether inactive members need to formally resign. Is this OK with you? We consider you a part of Resist's community.

We have to have a discussion of this, and what names to leave on/take off our stationary.

*Roxanna Pastor- Nancy Moniz saw her in Mexico. She is working very hard, but is relaxed and good. She will be in Boston Nov. 5-11.

* Windfall gift - Discussion on how to invest funds. No report yet from Bob Zevin or Julie Wendrich. Initial discussion was about safe, longer term investments. Wechsler will get back to board when something concrete is put together. We did agree that it would be alright to switch some of our money market accounts from Working Assets to Calvert if that is what Bob suggests. Calvert is doing better, and is more socially responsible. Sub-committee formed that would have authority to help staff make decisions, if decisions needed to be made between board meetings: Louis and Pam volunteered. *

* Office - Finances and other miscellaneous items.

Cambridge Trust	\$ 12,410.05	
Working Assets Cash	\$108,497.92	
Loan Fund	\$ 3,734.57	
		\$124.642.54
Cohen	\$ 10,774.32	
Resist Endowment Fund		
(Petal Fund \$)	\$ 5,000.00	
		\$140.416.86
Outstanding loan to D&S due 1/26/90		\$1000

* Next board meeting - December 3rd in New York City. George won't be able to be there. We will check with Bell to make sure it can still be at her place.

* Newsletter: Tatiana was doing Nancy Moniz's job for three weeks and between that and some personal things that came up, found it hard to also do the newsletter. Next newsletter is not yet planned. Any ideas? anyone writing anything interesting? Tatiana would like to get article on the South Africa defiance campaign.

* Typewriters: We have had several people write or call us about typewriters to donate. We still haven't heard from the prisoner who wanted one, about where we can mail it to. We should ask GCN to put in their resources packet that if they need a typewriter to get in touch with us, and to let us know who and where to send it to.

* Board thanked Tatiana for the fine job she did while Nancy Moniz was away.

* Board thanked Wechsler for her help putting Resist in the best financial footing it has ever been in.

That's it.

Nancy Wechsler