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Resist Board Meeting Minutes

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### Resist Board Meeting, Dec. 3, 1989

Resist

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A call to

# RESIST

illegitimate authority

One Summer Street, Somerville, Massachusetts 02143

617/623-5110

Board Meeting - Dec. 3, 1989 - 11am  
Bell Chevigny's apartment  
400 Riverside Drive, #6C  
New York, NY 10025 / Tel (212) 749-2801

Frank Brodhead  
Pam Chamberlain  
Connie Chan  
Bell Chevigny  
Noam Chomsky  
Kate Cloud  
Tess Ewing  
Norm Fruchter  
Mitchell Goodman  
Kenneth Hale  
Oscar Hernandez  
Frank Joyce  
Louis Kampf  
Hans Koning  
Paul Lauter  
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

Dear board member,

Since we haven't had a New York meeting at Bell's before, you could call her for directions. She also mentioned that she'll have room to put up several people that weekend. Please call her if you need a place to stay.

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

We haven't set a date for the meeting following the December meeting. Please send in the meeting dates options sheet at the end of this letter or call the office.

We'll also have the interest from the Cohen Endowment Fund with which to make a grant of grants. We'll need to remember this in our decisions.

## AGENDA

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

## GRANT REQUESTS

### Peace/Anti-Militarism

- 1) No War Toys Coalition (San Francisco, CA) - \$500 requested for expenses of the campaign. This was postponed from the last meeting. We needed a reference.
- 2) Rock County Ecumenical Peace Network (Janesville, WI) - Requesting \$300 for printing and mailing of their newsletter and for leaflets to distribute on tax day.
- 3) Rural Southern Voice for Peace (Burnsville, NC) - They're asking for \$350 to replace the hard drive and collector card in their computer.



4) Blacks Against Nukes (Washington, DC) - \$600 request toward cost of purchasing a word processor/computer.

#### Gay and Lesbian

5) Gay Community News (Cambridge, MA) - \$600 asked toward purchase of a copying machine.

6) ACT UP/Los Angeles (CA) - Request of \$600 for production costs of a Spanish translation for their brochure and for the banner for work of their Latino Outreach Committee.

#### Community Organizing

7) Survival News (W. Roxbury, MA) - \$600 request for costs of increasing publication of the News to four times per year.

8) Broadbased Organizing Project (Duluth, MN) - \$500 asked for the tuition costs of two low-income people to attend the 7-day national Leadership Training sessions.

9) Hotel Tenants' Rights Project (New York, NY) - Request of \$600 toward costs of printing and mailing their newsletter.

10) Human Rights Organizing Project/Direct Action for Rights & Equality (Providence, RI) - \$600 asked toward expenses of a series of events, "DARE Movie Nights."

#### Central & Latin America & the Caribbean

11) Central America Refugee Committee (San Francisco, CA) - \$548 asked for production costs for 4 months of a Spanish and an English version of their newsletter.

12) Boston Comite de Derechos Civiles (Jamaica Plain, MA) - Request of \$800 for Spanish translation, printing and mailing of a Resist newsletter article on the proposed referendum on the status issue of Puerto Rico for the Boston Puerto Rican community

#### Southern Africa

13) Cultural Resistance (Boston, MA) - \$600 asked for expenses of a subscription drive for their publication, Uncensored.

14) Africa Resource Center (Oakland, CA) - Asking \$600 toward purchase cost of a computer.

#### Prisoners

15) Industrial Workers of the World/SW Ohio Branch (Lucasville) - Request of \$600 for purchase of a copying machine, for paper for brochures for prisoners, and for purchase of books for their Prisoner Education Project.



16) Prisoners' Rights Advocacy Centers (San Antonio, TX) - Requesting \$600 for expenses of a mailing to 5,000 families of prisoners in Texas of a brochure, letter and petition on abuses to prisoners in that state.

#### Women

17) The Empowerment Project: Self Defense & Self Awareness (Albany, NY) - Request of \$400 for printing of a brochure.

18) Advocacy Center for Older Women Workers (Newton, MA) - They're asking for \$450 to cover printing & mailing costs of two issues of their newsletter.

19) Women's World Banking/Miami Valley Affiliate (Yellow Springs, OH) - \$500 requested for printing & mailing of brochure.

#### Environmental

20) Coalition Against Pesticides (Madison, WI) - \$600 request for expenses of outreach campaign to the community to increase membership.

21) Native Americans for a Clean Environment (Tahlequah, OK) - \$598 requested for a camera, film, processing and a slide projector.

#### Miscellaneous

22) Comision Independiente 6 de Marzo (Alamosa, CO) - \$1,000 asked for costs of Freedom of Information Act material. Postponed from last meeting: we needed more info on how the material would be used or if, in fact, it could be obtained. No answer from them yet. I'll send any info when I receive it.

23) Palestine Panel Project/Lesbian Work Group (Seattle, WA) - They're asking for \$450 to \$500 for costs of rain proofing their panel display on the situation of Palestinians in the Occupied Territories and the Intifadah.

#### BUSINESS/POLICY ITEMS

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

\* Status of Board members - At the last meeting, we decided to have a discussion on who is active and who is inactive. This came up after Meredith Smith sent in a letter of resignation. Board members did not feel comfortable with this. We do have some board members still listed on the board who have not been to a meeting in years. How do we decide who is on the board or not?

\* Board Outreach - Report. Should we start again to look for



board members? Discussion.

- \* Newsletter
- \* Office - Finances and other miscellaneous items.
- \* Next board meeting - When and where?

When any additional info is received at the office before the meeting on any of the above, I'll send copies to you.

For peace and justice,

*Nancy*  
Nancy Moniz  
Resist staff

CLIP AND SEND TO RESIST OFFICE

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I won't be able to attend the Dec. 3rd meeting in Boston. My preference for a date for a December meeting is:

\_\_\_\_\_ Jan. 14 (this is MLK weekend)      \_\_\_\_\_ Jan. 21      \_\_\_\_\_ Jan. 28

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature



Resist Board Minutes  
Dec. 3, 1989  
Bell Chevigny's apartment  
New York, NY

**Present:** Grace, Nancy M., Tatiana, Paul, Hank, Kate, Bell, Louis (secretary), Merble, Frank.

**GRANT REQUESTS** We gave out a total of \$6408 to 14 groups.

- 1) No War Toys Coalition (San Francisco, CA) -\$500 (COHEN FUND) for expenses of the campaign. This had been postponed from the last meeting because we needed a reference and more information. Additional recommendations are positive. approved. \$500 (COHEN FUND)
- 2) Rock County Ecumenical Peace Network (Janesville, WI) - NO GRANT. They had requested \$300 for printing and mailing newsletter and distributing leaflets on tax day. Nancy M. was not able to get reference. People felt they could get funds elsewhere.
- 3) Rural Southern Voice for Peace (Burnsville, NC) - \$350 (as requested) to replace the hard drive and collector card in their computer. Solid recommendations. One of the few good groups in N.C. Approved: \$350 (COHEN FUND).
- 4) Blacks Against Nukes (Washington, DC) - \$600 toward cost of purchasing a word processor/computer. Reference: they aren't a visible group, doing mainly the newsletter; it's not activist. People felt that even though they're not activist, their presence is important. Staff will make recommendations to them about computer. Approved: \$600.
- 5) Gay Community News (Cambridge, MA) - \$600 toward purchase of a copying machine. People impressed by them. Approved: \$600.
- 6) ACT UP/Los Angeles (CA) - \$200 (SOME) toward production costs of a Spanish translation for their brochure and banner. Liberty Hill Foundation in Santa Monica would be interested in getting proposal from them. Good recommendations about their outreach to minorities. Question came up as to why they're not doing translation together with Latino group in area. Question came up as to what is to be done with brochure? It was mentioned that this is not a really good outreach project, which needs more than translation of brochure. Latinos might need another kind of brochure. Decision: "Some" but with note articulating above criticisms. \$200.
- 7) Survival News (W. Roxbury, MA) - \$600 for costs of increasing publication of the News to four times per year. Recommendation is strong. Approved. \$600
- 8) Broadbased Organizing Project (Duluth, MN) - NO GRANT. They had asked for tuition costs for two low-income people to attend the 7-day national Leadership Training sessions. Recommendations say the Leadership Training Session is liberal, not radical. One recommender says some of the people involved in project are very good. There was criticism of their politics, and the tentative nature of their project; they seem not to have reached out to black churches. They have \$1600 balance, and should be able to get liberal money. Decision: grant denied.
- 9) Hotel Tenants' Rights Project (New York, NY) - \$600 toward costs of printing and mailing their newsletter. Funding Exchange people gave them



money, despite their large budget, because they're doing grassroots organizing done by poor women of color. Other strong recommendation about the unique nature of their work. Approved: \$600.

10) Human Rights Organizing Project/Direct Action for Rights & Equality (Providence, RI) - \$200 (SOME) toward expenses for "DARE Movie Nights" series. Haymarket recommends them. There was discussion as to whether seeing movies is important project. Is it being done for outreach? Decision: "Some," because they're good organization, and project might be useful.

11) Central America Refugee Committee (San Francisco, CA) - \$548 (as requested) for production costs for 4 months of a Spanish and an English version of their newsletter. Strong recommendation. Approved. \$548.

12) Boston Comite de Derechos Civiles (Jamaica Plain, MA) - \$600 for Spanish translation, printing and mailing of a Resist newsletter article on Puerto Rico. Recommender says they're only Puerto Rican group in Boston area working on this issue, and that they have strong base in community. Approved: If they need editorial help, Louis knows people who can help. \$600.

13) Cultural Resistance (Boston, MA) - NO GRANT. They had asked for money for a subscription drive for their publication, Uncensored. Recommenders like Newsletter, though they have some reservations about readability. It was mentioned that there's plenty of material on South Africa available. Also it was raised that this publication is not likely to reach rank and file. Tatiana has found the publication useful. Denied.

14) Africa Resource Center (Oakland, CA) - \$600 toward purchase cost of a computer. Good recommendation. They make links with other organizations and issues. Approved. \$600.

15) Industrial Workers of the World/SW Ohio Branch (Lucasville) - NO GRANT. They had asked for money to purchase a copy machine, for paper for brochures for prisoners, and for purchase of books for their Prisoner Education Project. Recommender says they have not really worked with AFSC. They're small group; prison stuff is not really their priority. Recommender feels prison political organizing is not very hopeful (this last is confidential). It seems to be one-man organization. Denied.

16) Prisoners' Rights Advocacy Centers (San Antonio, TX) - \$200 (SOME) toward expenses of brochure mailing. References don't know much about them. Nancy M. sent them a letter for more information, and got no response. Tatiana thinks this is one mother of a prisoner trying to start a letter-writing campaign; this is valuable activity, and a beginning. Decision: "Some" \$200.

17) The Empowerment Project: Self Defense & Self Awareness (Albany, NY) -NO GRANT. They had requested \$400 for printing a brochure. Strong recommendation from Kitchen Table Press. Question was brought up about whole idea of self-defense, as well as the language of the brochure: The latter is not comprehensible to ordinary women. Is it true that if women always defend themselves they won't be battered anymore? Some thought it sounds like 4 friends wanted money to support themselves; the issue is important, but these do not seem to be people who can readily handle it. Denied.

18) Advocacy Center for Older Women Workers (Newton, MA) - NO GRANT. They had asked for \$450 to cover printing & mailing costs of two issues of their newsletter. Recommender says they're seriously trying to be multi-cultural, and thinks well of them. Question came up whether this is too much of a social



service organization. Grant denied: Letter should also bring up their not dealing with reproductive and sexual orientation issues; also that they should be making connections with Bay State Displaced Homemakers, and then might be eligible for state funding.

19) Women's World Banking/Miami Valley Affiliate (Yellow Springs, OH) - NO GRANT. They had requested \$500 for printing & mailing a brochure. Nancy M. was not able to find reference. In any case, this is not priority for us. Staff will advise them on funding sources.

20) ~~Coalition~~ <sup>Against</sup> Pesticides (Madison, WI) - \$600 for membership drive. Strong recommendation about their effectiveness and enthusiasm. Approved: They didn't tell us what the makeup of the group is; we'd still like to know. \$600.

21) Native Americans for a Clean Environment (Tahlequah, OK) - NO GRANT. They had requested \$598 for a camera, film, film processing, and a slide projector. Good recommendation from one source. People were bothered by their stand on abortion; it looks on women as baby machines. They've gotten substantial funding, and should be able to raise the money for this. Their newsletter does not seem very useful. Also, it does not really seem to be an organization. It does not seem that getting the equipment would allow them to do anything they're not doing now. Denied.

22) Comision Independiente 6 de Marzo (Alamosa, CO) - NO GRANT. They had asked for \$1,000 to cover costs of Freedom of Information Act material. At last meeting we decided to ask them some questions. Their letter did not really respond to the questions. Their letter was incomprehensible. We still aren't clear whether they would use the money for organizing purposes, or how the information they would get would be useful. Denied.

23) Palestine Panel Project/Lesbian Work Group (Seattle, WA) - \$210 for weatherstripping. Dan P. had not heard much of these people, but he knows some of them; he feels project might be useful; the people involved relate to solidarity network. It was said that their brochure is naive about the PLO. Question came up whether they really are open to non-lesbians; if they're not, they should be up front about this; when they go to schools, do they identify themselves as lesbians? \$210 for weatherproofing panels. Would Palestinian lesbians be embarrassed by the group's support? Is part of their work addressing homophobia? Letter will tell them we're giving them the \$210 for weatherproofing, but that we have some questions about which Tatiana will phone them. Decision: \$210 grant.

Cohen Grants: # 1 and 3 are being paid for out of Cohen Endowment.

#### BUSINESS/POLICY ITEMS

<u>Finances:</u> Cambridge Trust	\$ 18,285.34
Loan Fund	2,758.56
Working Assets cash	<u>107,238.47</u>
	128,828.77
Cohen Endowment	10,843.25
Resist Endowment	5,000

Grand Total 144,126.02



Outstanding loans: D&S \$1000 due 1/26/90  
 WI Coal. against Dom. Violence \$1000 due 2/6/90

Windfall gift - We decided to accept Zevin's recommendation to put \$50,000 into Calvert Bond Fund. Also not to use \$5000 for prospecting as Wechsler recommended. The board wants to express its appreciation of Nancy W's work on this.

Status of Board members - Memo written by Tess & Kate is reaffirmed: people can be either active or inactive board members. Meredith and Ken T. should be asked whether they want to be inactive members.

Board Outreach - Nancy M. will check with two Latina women to see if they are interested.

Newsletter - Tatiana wants ideas & suggestions of authors. People thought it's important to have progress reports in Newsletter. Board members are encouraged to write op-ed pieces.

Typewriters for Prisoners:

We've gotten offers of used typewriters from 17 people. The staff/board lunch proposal tht \$600 be set aside for fixing & shipping some typewriters was approved. The staff will work out details with help of Mike Riegle. Money will be taken from Windfall funds.

**\*\* Also a late news note - Congratulations to Paul Lauter on becoming a grandfather!!**

Next board meetings - January 21, 1990, Boston: Nancy Wechsler's house

March 4, 1990, Boston

P.S. Note to the Board from Nancy Wechsler: I just wanted to let everyone know that I was very glad I had the chance to attend Kim Klein's fundraising workshop up in Boston on December 3rd. She was great, and I came away from the day with renewed energy and some new ideas!