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Resist Board Meeting, Jan. 21, 1990

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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
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 Sverdlow
Ken Tangvik
Rene Valle
George Vickers
Nancy Wechsler
Fran White

Board Meeting - Jan. 21, 1990 - 11am
Nancy Wechsler's house
57 Moore Street
Somerville, MA 02144 / Tel (617) 776-9252

Dear board member,

We received fewer proposals for this meeting than usual: just sixteen. It might be that all those groups working for social change around the country were overly involved in the holiday season or, perhaps, were busy with strategy on what to do in light of recent events. Since we might have time at this board meeting, we could discuss the smaller number of proposals for the last two meetings or other matters on our collective minds.

As usual the business items are listed 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.

AGENDA

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

GRANT REQUESTS

Gay and Lesbian

- 1) Lambda Rights Network (Milwaukee, WI) - \$600 asked for costs of advertising and other expenses of their Gay Bash Hotline.
- 2) Southeastern Conference for Lesbians & Gay Men '90 (Raleigh, NC) - Request of \$600 for general expenses of their conference in March.

Community Organizing

- 3) ARISE, Inc. (Springfield, MA) - \$560 request for costs of their Hispanic outreach program.
- 4) Ocean State Citizen Education Fund (Cranston, RI) - \$600 asked for expenses of their Family Issues Project.

Women

5) Puerto Rican Women's Committee (Jamaica Plain, MA) - \$600 asked for purchase of resources about and for Latina women for the library of the Puerto Rican Organizing Resource Center.

6) Boston Women's Committee for International Women's Day (Jamaica Plain, MA) - Request of \$600 for initial costs of organizing the event.

7) Concord Feminist Health Center (NH) - \$600 asked for expenses of a two-day seminar to increase community awareness about oppression.

Peace/Anti-militarism

8) Westside SANE/FREEZE (Santa Monica, CA) - \$600 asked for production costs of 15,000 brochures advertising the planned demo at the Nevada Nuclear Test Site in March of 1990.

9) Campaign for Peace & Democracy/East & West (New York, NY) - They're asking for \$600 for expenses of a forum, "Upheaval in the Eastern Bloc: How Should the U.S. Respond?", on Jan. 16, 1990.

Central America

10) Guatemala News & Information Bureau (Oakland, CA) - \$585 requested for printing & mailing costs and for purchase of a mailing list for their subscription drive.

11) El Salvador Committee/CASA (Cambridge, MA) - Request of \$600 for paper, printing and postage for their El Salvador Task Force.

12) Committee of Refugees from El Salvador (Somerville, MA) - \$600 asked toward the purchase of a computer.

Miscellaneous

13) ACT UP/NYC (New York, NY) - \$600 request for printing of their bi-monthly newsletter. Copies of NL at meeting for review.

14) Illinois Coalition Against the Death Penalty (Chicago, IL) - \$500 requested for telephone expenses for a public opinion poll on the death penalty.

15) Campaign to End U.S. Intervention in the Philippines (New York, NY) - They're asking for \$500 for production of their Fact Sheets. I sent them an application form and when it is completed and returned to me I'll send you a copy.

16) Coalition for Human Dignity (Portland, OR) - Requesting a total of \$580: \$400 for printing of a poster and \$180 for an ad

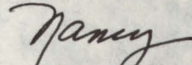
to promote their T-shirts. It's a large poster & will be at the board meeting for critique.

BUSINESS/POLICY ITEMS

- * Board Outreach - Report on results of outreach to prospective members.
- * Year end wrap-up and fund raising report by Nancy Wechsler
- * Report on issue of board status of Meredith Smith and Ken Tangvik
- * Newsletter
- * Office - Finances, the foundation resource booklet and other miscellaneous items.

I'll send any additional info received at the office on the proposals to you as per usual. I hope everyone had a good holiday season.

For peace and justice,


Nancy Moniz
Resist staff

Resist Board Meeting
 Sunday, January 21, 1989
 Nancy Wechsler's house

1990

Present: Paul Lauter, Nancy Wechsler, Oscar Hernandez, Fran White (minutes), Louis Kampf (minutes), Nancy Moniz, Pam Chamberlain, Tatiana Schreiber, proxy: Hans Koning.

Discussion of grants analysis: We looked over figures Nancy Moniz had put together for 1988 and 1989 on the geographic and sector distribution of our grants. We obviously need to continue doing outreach to various constituencies. Question was raised as to whether we had to worry that people don't know about Resist. Was the size of our grants beginning to effect whether or not groups apply to us? (particularly when it used to be under the maximum of \$600)?

Allen Hunter's letter: Nancy Moniz started to check if other foundations are looking at trends. Question was raised about whether or not progressive funders should set the agenda for the movement, or the movement set the agenda for progressive foundations. (More discussion at end of meeting.)

Priorities: We need to talk more about how we set priorities for funding. Is setting priorities still useful? Most groups don't really know they can come to us more than once a year. Should we continue to set priorities? We need to discuss this at an upcoming meeting.

GRANT REQUESTS We gave out a total of \$5545 to 11 groups.

1) Lambda Rights Network (Milwaukee, WI) - \$600 for costs of advertising and other expenses of their Gay Bash Hotline. NM had trouble getting in touch with references. Wisconsin Community Fund knew of them. They are leftists. Some people felt we should support them because they were leftists. Questions raised about their lack of working in coalition, and their narrow focus. Misses cultural focus of shift of attack from commies to gays. Should we err on the side of generosity, because we gave fewer grants to gay groups in 1989? It's hard to know what the local situation is in Milwaukee. This is important to support. We decided to give them a grant and raise concerns about the narrowness of their focus, and that they need some help doing grant proposals. Make sure they understand what questions are being asked of them.

2) Southeastern Conference for Lesbians & Gay Men '90 (Raleigh, NC) - \$600 for general expenses of their conference in March. Mandy Carter, WRL, says they need money because they've had deficits in past. This is an important year because Helms is up for reelection. They helped make the L&G community more political. Get an A for effort on outreach to people of color. Good on outreach to organizations organized around other issues. Discussion: We should support, but with a letter. Unhappy about narrowness of focus. Quality of life issues and little else. Issues of conflict around sexuality and cultural issues are going to come down on gays now. This should have been addressed more at the conference. Nancy M. passed around the more complete list of conference workshops. Questions raised about focus on military. Would it be only about gays getting into the military, or about the problems of militarism and US foreign policy, and how the military functions in this society? Some people believed the military debate will come up. Questions raised about the size of the budget. Decision: Yes to the grant, with a letter mentioning our concerns about military workshop. (Were we going to mention concerns about Helms' reelection campaign and cultural/sexual issues (art and censorship?)

3) ARISE, Inc. (Springfield, MA) - \$560 for costs of their Hispanic outreach program. Reference: Arthur Sarota knows of Arise. Difficult to access their effectiveness because of situation in Springfield. They are ground breakers. Do coalition work. Link issues like racism and housing. People of color in leadership. Grassroots organization with community people. General agreement we should fund. It is hard to do outreach to people who are not in an organization already, but worth the try.

4) Ocean State Citizen Education Fund (Cranston, RI) - NO GRANT. They had asked for \$600 for expenses of their Family Issues Project. Robert Chu at Haymarket says group takes initiative. Doesn't know of this project. Mark Tony of RI Haymarket board: tend to support Democrats, this is a coalition of individuals. No radical organization, tends to be liberal. More advocacy than organizing. Small grant from Resist wouldn't make much of an impact. Discussion: Democratic party stuff was distressing. Say No, with letter saying that a coalition of this variety should be supported by union groups and other groups within the coalition, that have more money than we do.

5) Puerto Rican Women's Committee (Jamaica Plain, MA) - \$600 for purchase of resources about and for Latina women for the library of the Puerto Rican Organizing Resource Center. Reference: Antoinetta Gimeno: one of the best grassroots groups around. Oscar: impression of people and group is very positive. Busy people trying to work in PR community. They have a difficult job. Very few groups work with women in the Latin American community. NM: They get a lot done. NW: They called press conference on Stuart case that focussed on wife-abuse aspect of case. Everyone feels good about this group.

6) Boston Women's Committee for International Women's Day (Jamaica Plain, MA) TOKEN GRANT \$100- towards initial costs of organizing the event. Reference was positive. Women of color had impact. Kate called in her proxy. Didn't want to support because they focus on women's oppression but not on power relations between genders. Discussion: They don't raise issues like day care, infant mortality, etc. 1988 was suppose to be very celebratory. Attended by many black women. Susan W. is hard worker who wants to link women around class and race rather than gender issues. NW proposes we say yes but that we see no indication that you will take up feminist issues like day care, health care, abortion, reproductive rights, infant mortality. These should be included in days events. We won't fund you again next year unless we see some evidence that these issues were incorporated into the IWD events. Questions raised about their relationship to the Alliance Against Women's Oppression, and their relationship to Line of March. Seems more like organizing activists than working in larger communities. Louis: proposes we say we're giving you some because we like internationalism, but this needs to be brought together with feminist issues. Pam (Decision): proposes a token with a letter saying we support event --include Louis' and Wechsler's comments.

7) Concord Feminist Health Center (NH) - POSTPONED. They had asked for \$600 for expenses to cover a two-day seminar on increasing community oppression awareness. NM asked for copy of budget, which is large. Reference: Ellen Gershun: used to work there for 6 years. The Center does good political work. Speak on issues of abortion and homophobia, internal workshops, difficult to find funding for political work. Questions raised about whether or not funding this, funds the Equity Institute. Questions raised about Equity Institute's approach, which is more focussed on personal stuff than institutional "isms." Decision to Postpone: We want to know more about what they plan to do. We want to support them because of what they are

trying to do in a hostile environment. We want a focus on more than individual "isms." Needs to deal with institutionalized "isms." Who is the target population? Disparity between learning about affirmative action and outreach.

8) Westside SANE/FREEZE (Santa Monica, CA) - \$600 for production of 15,000 brochures advertising the March, 1990 demo at the Nevada Nuclear Test Site. Reference: Dan P. at Pacific Peace Fund said their last proposal was too narrow. Margaret Collins from PDF in Amherst: the particular project they submitted to PDF was too narrow. Proposed strategy wouldn't get students involved. Liberty Hill said they do excellent HS work. Work with other groups on Central America and Affirmative Action. Resist funded them last year. We liked the project they submitted to us. We funded them last year for a similar action.

9) Campaign for Peace & Democracy/East & West (New York, NY) - SOME, \$200, toward "Upheaval in the Eastern Bloc: How Should the U.S. Respond?" forum, which was held on Jan. 16, 1990. Reference: Attempt to get funding from unions, tends to water down radical politics, but this is a minor criticism. NM: Event went very well, according to Joanne Landy. Cost more than expected because they did a lot of outreach. They need more money. Discussion: Big budget. Doesn't see purpose because it doesn't advance anything. Glad they put Barney Frank there to help legitimize him, but he's terrible on Israel. Why was event free? They could have charged. Disagreement of usefulness of forum. Questions raised about target audience. Decision: Send them some (\$200) with suggestion that in the future they charge or ask for a donation at the door.

10) Guatemala News & Information Bureau (Oakland, CA) - \$585 (as requested) for printing & mailing costs and for purchase of a mailing list for their subscription drive. Strong recommendation from reference. We agreed to put an ad in our Newsletter for them. We should ask them to send us one.

11) El Salvador Committee/CASA (Cambridge, MA) - \$600 for paper, printing and postage for their El Salvador Task Force. Recommenders say that the Committee is now a coalition. There is some confusion as to how Committee relates to El Salvador Task Force. Oscar is depressed by the profusion of groups relating to El Salvador, and is confused about who does what; the movement is hurt by the lack of unity.

People feel that the situation amongst support groups is upsetting, but the task force's work is important to support. Approved. Letter should say that we hope they don't lose regional perspective, & push for more unity.

12) Committee of Refugees from El Salvador (Somerville, MA) - \$600 toward the purchase of a computer. Strong recommendation.

13) ACT UP/NYC (New York, NY) - NO GRANT: They had requested \$600 for printing their bi-monthly newsletter. Peter Drucker (National Mobe) recommends them strongly, but says they have lots of money. They have large budget. It was said that \$600 for newsletter made little sense given their large budget (which is bigger than Resist's). Write them that we support their work, that AIDS activism is a priority for Resist, but their budget is over what we usually fund. We are hoping to fund AIDS activist groups in parts of the country with less access to money.

14) Illinois Coalition Against the Death Penalty (Chicago, IL) - NO GRANT. They had requested \$500 for telephone expenses for a public opinion poll on the death penalty. Good recommendation, though recommender says they're not organizationally sophisticated. People wondered about the usefulness of a poll about the death penalty: would a poll change anything or not? Should Resist fund a poll, rather than

have academics fund it. No Grant. Letter should say that we would welcome a proposal for an organizing project around the politics of the death penalty; also that they could get a local academic department to do poll for them. If they need suggestions on who to contact, Paul L. can give us names.

15) Campaign to End U.S. Intervention in the Philippines (New York, NY) - \$500 for production of their Fact Sheets. Good recommendation. People liked the fact sheets. People were bothered by their stand on reproductive rights being only a US issue.

16) Coalition for Human Dignity (Portland, OR) - NO GRANT. They had requested a total of \$580 for printing and advertising. Reference said this group is disorganized and split. Another reference had not heard of them. Other references had heard of them, but didn't know much about them. One reference had helped start the group, but left group; people left behind hadn't done much, though well-intentioned. We didn't like the posters, and wondered why an organization should publicize a city ordinance, rather than the city doing that itself.

BUSINESS/POLICY ITEMS

Haymarket Building Discussion: Susan Moir called during the meeting, on Tess' advice. Haymarket is moving into a building in JP that they are having renovated. It came to the attention of labor activists that Haymarket was about to sign a contract with non-union labor. Haymarket decided to go with women and people of color, and not focus on labor union issue. People got together with them on January 20th to discuss all this. Labor activists have written a letter, which they gave to Haymarket, discussing the process and making suggestions. They are looking for people and organizations to sign it. Susan said that they have accepted the Haymarket decision, and are not trying to change it. We need to see the letter before we can decide if we want to sign it.

Board Outreach: Aixa Borrero and Antonieta Gimeno were asked if they were interested in joining the board, but said they had no time. They will try to recommend other people to us. Tatiana volunteered to talk to Hispanic groups about Resist. Nancy M. will organize this. Pam agreed to do this with Tatiana. Nancy W. thinks we ought to think about possibly having someone on the board who's got some expertise on finances. We'll discuss it in the future.

Nancy M. talked and wrote to Meredith and Ken T. They like the idea of being non-active board members.

Finances:	Cambridge Trust Company	\$ 26,177.71
	Working Assets	\$113,478.47
	Loan Fund	<u>\$ 3,846.97</u>
	Sub Total:	\$143,503.15
	Calvert Bond Fund	\$ 48,049.08
	Resist Endowment (Calvert)	\$ 5,065.89
	Cohen Endowment	<u>\$ 10,129.33</u>
	Sub Total	\$ 63,244.30
	TOTAL:	\$206,747.45

Outstanding Loans: D&S \$1000 due 1/26/90

Mini-Fundraising report from Nancy W.: Our income for December, 1989 was up over last December's and our income in January is already past last January's. A number

of individual pledges have sent us additional money. Several people gave us a lot more money this year than ever before. Nancy W. appealed to board members to get their friends to donate to Resist. Our income is up \$96,239.38 over last year. That's an increase of \$21,239.38 above and beyond our one large windfall donation.

Tatiana would like the maximum grant level raised to \$800. Nancy W. said we had had that discussion and made a decision. We'll discuss the matter again in 6 months.

Nancy W. is checking into the possibility of accepting credit card donations. We can arrange this through our bank, if we decide we want to. People should think about the politics of this for a future discussion.

BONUS: Next board/staff lunch meeting will decide on staff bonus for 1989.

Elders for Survival, SF: They wrote us to explore possibility of leaving us property in their Wills, and with that money setting up a fund of some kind. They may or may not want to write guidelines for the money. They'd like to talk to someone from Resist after their own February 26th meeting. Nancy W. will pursue this. Pam will be in California March 14-18, and Tatiana will be there in early March as well. There might be serious money involved. Nancy will check with Haymarket and our lawyer on pitfalls to watch for in this kind of arrangement.

Donor Directed grant to Radical America: Should we charge them a percentage, or just pass along the whole amount? We agreed not to charge for occasional donor directed grants. Groups like the NWTRCC, for whom we are the regular fiscal sponsor, we will charge 5%.

Newsletter: Tatiana would like a full-scale discussion in the future. She asked whether a whole issue of newsletter should be devoted to Palestinian support work done by Jewish women and lesbians. Discomfort was expressed about having a whole issue on this. So, there will be others things in that newsletter.

At next meeting we should discuss Allen Hunter's proposal that we have state-of-the-movement articles in newsletter. Nancy W. suggested board should have a meeting where we discuss state-of-the-movement from our perspective as Resisters, and then have one or two of us write it up.

Other business: Foundation Resource Booklet and 1990 guidelines are coming along.

NEXT MEETING: March 4 in Boston. Meeting after that April 22nd (Perhaps in NYC; Nancy M. will check out April versus June NYC board meeting).

That's it. Nancy Wechsler

1/9//90

RESIST GRANT PROGRAM
ANALYSIS OF 1988 AND 1989

draft

	1988	1989
Number of meetings	8	8
Number of grants given (at meetings)	126 (15.8/mtg)	143 (17.9/mtg)
Number of rejections (at meetings)	80 (10/mtg)	68 (8.5/mtg)
Total number of proposals considered	206	211
Number of proposals considered/meeting	25.75	26.4
(Emergency grants	15	11)
Total money given in grants/year	\$53,225	\$63,177 ** (not incl. dd)
Grants given by sectors*	# (% of total)	# (% of total)
Central & Latin America	40 (28.4%)	41 (26.6%)
Peace/Anti-Draft/ Anti-Nuke	17 (12.1%)	25 (16.2%)
Community empower- ment/Anti-Racist	10 (7.1%)	21 (13.7%)
Africa/Asia/Internat.	6 (4.3%)	6 (3.9%)
Cultural & Media	3 (2.1%)	0 (0%)
Lesbian/Gay/	14 (9.9%)	11 (7.1%)
Native American	5 (3.5%)	4 (2.6%)
Health/AIDS	9 (6.4%)	8 (5.2%)
Middle East	13 (9.2%)	8 (5.2%)
Prisoners' Rights	4 (2.8%)	4 (2.6%)
Labor	6 (4.4%)	1 (0.7%)
Women	14 (9.9%)	18 (11.7%)
Miscellaneous	-----	4 (2.6%)
Human & Civil Rights	-----	3 (1.9%)
Geographically *		
Boston area	35 (24.6%)	32 (20.8%)
CA (state)	14 (9.9%)	27 (17.6%)
NY (state)	18 (12.7%)	13 (8.4%)
South	17 (12%)	13 (8.4%)
Midwest & Mt. states	23 (16.3%)	34 (22.1%)
OR, WA, HI, AK	9 (6.4%)	10 (6.5%)
New England (outside Boston)	9 (6.4%)	15 (9.7%)
DC, MD, PA, NJ	16 (11.3%)	10 (6.5%)

*includes emergency grants

Please add this to your Policy Decisions file.....

7/23/89 - Windfall Gift - An anonymous donor has offered to give Resist \$75,000 per year for three years. We gratefully accepted and made the following decisions:

- * For the present we will put the received funds into our Working Assets Investment Fund but will explore other high interest, low risk options such as the Calvert Fund.

- * We will not raise our maximum grant at this time but will raise our formula for funding to \$350 per proposal at a given meeting. This should allow us to give out full grants. Once we are at this point, we will be able to discuss a proposal that we might go over the maximum a few times at each meeting for groups that we feel that the extra money would really help.

- * We decided to take \$5,000 of the gift in its second year and add this to the prospecting mail fund of the Working Assets (or other) Investment Fund. We will also do the same in the third year.

- * We decided not to increase the Loan Fund but can re-evaluate this in the future.

- * It was decided to increase the hourly wage of Nancy Wechsler and of Tatiana Schreiber to that of Nancy Moniz. We also agreed to add one more paid week of vacation for all staff making a total of four weeks. In the case of Tatiana, since she is part-time, it was decided that, if she couldn't take the week in a given year and didn't want to roll it over to the next year, she could get paid for that week of untaken leave at the end of the year.

- * We decided to do a generic pamphlet of where to start looking for grants for groups. NM will do this and Resist will pay for printing costs.

- * It was decided not to make this major donation public at this time but to possibly do that in it's third year.

9/10/89 - Rose Endowment - A donor has offered \$5,000 but wants this to go into a Resist Endowment Fund (which doesn't exist as of now.) After much discussion it was decided to set up such a Fund. But in order to keep special track of gifts into this Fund and to name a grant given from a specific gift, the donation has to be at least \$10,000. Otherwise we will just distribute interest from this fund as an unnamed grant. It was also decided to distribute interest on this when it accumulates enough to give out a grant.

- Cohen Endowment Fund - We decided to distribute the interest as a grant or grants at the last meeting of the year.

- Resist Mailing List - A change of a previous policy on our active contributors list: to have both our "active" and "inactive" lists at our mailing house and to have Nancy Wechsler judge (with input from other staff) when are the best times and which are the best groups to trade and/or sell instead of coming to the board each time. We would only let other groups use our active list when they were groups whose list we also wanted to use. A group could still come to the Resist board and ask for a

one-time use of our list in lieu of a grant.

10/22/89 - Windfall Gift - We decided to switch some of our money market accounts from Working Assets to Calvert if that is what Bob Zevin suggests. A sub-committee was formed that would have the authority to help staff make decisions, if decisions needed to be made between board meetings.

12/3/89 - Windfall Gift (cont'd) - We decided to accept Bob Zevin's recommendation to put \$50,000 of this into the Calvert Bond Fund. We also decided to change a decision made on 7/23/89 and not use \$5,000 of the Windfall Gift second and third years' gifts for prospecting mailings.