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Resist Board Meeting, July 29, 1990

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A call to **RESIST** illegitimate authority

One Summer Street, Somerville, Massachusetts 02143

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Louis Kampf
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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 - July 29, 1990 - 11am
Louis Kampf's apartment
14 Glenwood Ave.
Cambridge, MA 02139 / Tel (617) 492-3468

Dear board member,

Rumor has it that, once upon a time before I started to work at Resist, there weren't board meetings in July and August. Times have changed. We have 22 proposals to discuss. Ah, for the summers of yore.

AGENDA

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

GRANT REQUESTS

Miscellaneous

- 1) Native American Prisoners Rehabilitation Center (Cincinnati, OH) - They're asking for \$585.37 for costs of production of their newsletter, "Iron House Drum." **Postponed from last board meeting. I couldn't get a reference at that time.**
- 2) Franklin County Progressive Network (Greenfield, MA) - \$600 asked for production costs of a complimentary mailing of their Netletter.
- 3) Public Information Research (Washington, DC) - Asking for a grant of \$600 to cover debts incurred in start up of group.
- 4) Open University of the Left (Chicago, IL) - Request of \$600 for expenses of a Midwest Radical Scholars' and Activists' Conference in October.
- 5) Mass. Campaign to Clean Up Hazardous Waste (Boston, MA) - \$500 requested for postcards & fact sheets for their campaign against corporations.

Peace

- 6) Women's International League for Peace & Freedom/Southeastern Region (Miami, FL) - Request of \$500 toward expenses of their SE Region's Biennial Meeting.
- 7) Richmond Peace Education Center (VA) - Requesting \$500 for printing & postage costs for their Rapid Response Network.
- 8) Mobilization for Survival (New York, NY) - \$600 request for design & printing of poster for their Fall speaking tour, "After the Cold War..."

Women

- 9) International Women's Day Video Festival (Boston, MA) - Request of \$600 for printing & postage for a mailing to producers of feminist programs/videos for the Festival in March, 1990.
- 10) Women of Color Task Force/National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (Washington, DC) - \$500 asked toward expenses of their one day training institute for Women of Color.
- 11) Feminist Health Center of Portsmouth (NH) - Request of \$600 for printing and mailing costs for their "Pledge-a-Picketer" project against anti-abortion demonstrators.
- 12) Women's Rape Crisis Center (Burlington, VT) - They're asking for \$600 for design & printing of two brochures, and for business cards to be used for outreach & fund raising.

Gay & Lesbian

- 13) Desert & Mountain States Lesbian & Gay Conference (Denver, CO) - \$600 requested toward expenses of a fund raising campaign for scholarships for gay & lesbian people of color to attend this annual leadership conference in June of 1991.
- 14) Colorado Gay & Lesbian Task Force (Denver, CO) - \$600 asked toward expenses of a state-wide conference on Sept. 21-23, 1990.
- 15) Lesbians & Gays Against Intervention (San Francisco, CA) - Request of \$600 for copying and postage for 6 issues of their newsletter, "Out!"
- 16) Ohio Human Interest Organization (Lorain, OH) - \$280 asked to enable their Volunteer Coordinator to attend the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force's 1990 Fund raising Institute.

Central America & the Caribbean

- 17) Central American Labor Defense Network (Oakland, CA) - They are asking for \$600 for the costs of re-printing their brochure and for a mailing to labor, union & solidarity groups.
- 18) Witness for Peace/Central Midwest Region (Chicago, IL) - A request of \$600 printing & mailing costs of their newsletter.
- 19) National Agenda for Peace in El Salvador (Washington, DC) - \$600 asked toward the purchase of a computer.

Community Organizing/Anti-Racism

- 20) Coalition for Human Dignity (Portland, OR) - \$600 requested for printed informational materials (?) and audio tapes for their outreach program.
- 21) Chelsea's Commission on Hispanic Affairs (Chelsea, MA) - \$600 asked for printing of a brochure, and for start-up costs of a newsletter.

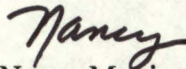
22) NY State Tenant & Neighborhood Coalition (Rochester, NY) - Request of \$600 for a copying machine.

BUSINESS/POLICY ITEMS

- * Report on joint Resist/Prison Book Program Typewriter Project
- * Newsletter
- * Office - Finances and other miscellaneous items.
- * Next board meeting - We'll need to set a date and place. We mentioned September 16th at the NYC meeting. Is this OK and where?

I'll send copies of any additional information sent by the groups with proposals on this agenda when I receive the info.

For peace and justice,



Nancy Moniz, Resist staff

Clip & send to office

The following are my choices for the board meeting in Boston:

Sept. 9 _____ Sept. 16 _____ Sept. 23 _____

Signature

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

1/21/90 - Staff Bonus for 1989 - The next board/staff lunch meeting will decide on the bonus for the staff.

3/4/90 - Staff Bonus Decision - At the board/staff lunch with Ken Hale it was decided to make a bonus of \$375 for each staffperson. Board agreed to that bonus.

3/21/90 (Board/staff lunch) - At the lunch with Louis Kampf, staff vacation time terms were discussed. It was agreed that the 4 weeks for each staff person would be from anniversary date to anniversary date (currently May 1st for all), but that it was all right to borrow one week from the following year. It was also OK to take a week without pay (subject to approval of other staff).

4/22/90 - Staff Salaries Raise for 1990 - The board agreed to give each staff person a 75 cent an hour anniversary raise.
- Newsletter Editor Hours - Board/staff lunch proposed that the newsletter editor position be increased to 14 hours/week. This will be used by the editor to do other Resist work to include attending staff meetings and consultation with staff. The Board agreed to this change.

6/17/90 - Resist/Prison Book Program Typewriter Project - The next staff/board lunch will decide whether to continue this project and to make another grant for expenses.

Resist Board Meeting
July 29, 1990
Boston, MA

Present: Louis Kampf, Pam Chamberlain (minutes), Fran White (chair), Tess Ewing, Nancy Moniz

Grant Requests: We gave out a total of \$7,885.37 to 15 groups.

Miscellaneous

- 1) Native American Prisoners Rehabilitation Center (Cincinnati, OH) - YES to a grant of \$585.37 for costs of production of their newsletter, "Iron House Drum." The board said that NM did a commendably thorough job of finding references, although it was tough to track down anyone who knew of this group. They seem out of touch with most prison projects. We said yes and Tess mentioned how moving this application was. NM will send them other prison project names to get in touch with.
- 2) Franklin County Progressive Network (Greenfield, MA) - YES to a grant for \$600 for production costs of a complementary mailing of their Netletter. NM had a good reference on them. Fran who lives in this county says she learned how important this group is since they took the lead on the gay & lesbian rights bill support in the area when conservatives tried to get it repealed.
- 3) Public Information Research (Washington, DC) - NO GRANT. They asked for \$600 to cover debts incurred in the start up of the organization. Good reference from Chip Berlet; left media find this invaluable. On disk so easy to use on inexpensive computers. TE: Why can't there be higher charges for mainstream media cf. to left media? LK: Is this a one person operation? PC: Not a Resist priority to fund a techie, possible profit making, even tho' political. Not an organizing project.
- 4) Open University of the Left (Chicago, IL) - NO GRANT. LK: Are they connected to any organizing efforts? TE: Should Resist be seen as a funder for conferences - all those people sitting still? NM: Reference from Crossroads Fund good. LK: Would prefer to fund an ongoing project. FW: Where are the activists in this scholars/activists conference? Not related to ongoing activism or, if it is, primarily academics. Use the academics for fund raising. Not a priority for Resist to pay towards high honoraria and/or travel for a group that may be able to pull speakers from its own ranks, especially if this is a regular conference, and especially if its purpose was ongoing work.
- 5) Mass. Campaign to Clean Up Hazardous Waste (Boston, MA) - YES to SOME (\$200) for postcards & fact sheets for their campaign against corporations. NM: Haymarket says that although they did fund them for less than they asked. They had some reservations as to the group's agenda and outreach to communities of color. LK: Board has a mix of liberals & radicals and that is good. General concern about a lack of involvement of people of color. FW: they say hazardous waste affects all people equally, but some communities do not have the capacity to organize. TE: They seem to have

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Fair Share politics. General comments: This is important work. Perhaps we should point out the contradictions in their application - empowerment of communities, especially they mention that women tend to be activists, but if this is so, who ends up on their Board, only 5 of 19 are women. Not enough community people or women. NM will suggest some people of color groups around the state for them to contact. They need more pro-active work with urban/poor/people of color, not just waiting to respond to such groups but to do outreach.

Peace

6) Women's International League for Peace & Freedom/Southeastern Region (Miami, FL) - YES to a grant of \$500 toward expenses of their SE Region's Biennial Meeting. Reference very good from the FL Coalition for Peace & Justice. LK: Is this just another conference? Reference said that the region needs these types of meetings for coordination. TE: Felt this is like social security, funding them now will help to assure they'll be there when we're all older.

7) Richmond Peace Education Center (VA) - YES to a grant of \$500 for printing & postage costs for their Rapid Response Network. Hank Rosemont reported that his contacts said they do good work, especially their black staff member. Other references were positive. LK: Glad to see continued work on the Middle East by this group. But what about abortion rights? FW: Why don't we make groups accountable for a position on abortion rights as the Catholic Church does? TE: If there is a group of leftists struggling inside a coalition, that is a more desirable group for us to fund since Resist's funds could be helpful to them. We should write them that we are disappointed that they cannot take an open stance for abortion rights since this issue is intimately tied to women's rights, women's liberation and issues of support to those important groups who contribute to peace work, namely women.

8) National Mobilization for Survival (NY, NY) - YES to a grant of \$600 for design & printing of a poster for their Fall speaking tour, "After the Cold War...." NM: North Star says they have organizational problems concerning direction, but NS also said that this still is an important organization for Resist to fund, especially considering work to be done about the peace dividend. TE: Biggest (?) budget of any of the groups that we fund, but we have supported them a long time. FW: They are \$50,000 in debt. LK: It's crucial to maintain national organizations, especially when they are in trouble. FW: What is our role? Moral support. Perhaps this is OK.

Women

9) International Women's Day Video Festival (Boston, MA) - NO GRANT. They asked for funds for printing & postage for a mailing to producers of feminist programs/videos for the Festival in March of 1990. We watched their 30 minute video sampling from 1990 festival. We found a wide range of quality, but see no real organizing, that is, no plugging into specific activist work. This is more passive receiving of messages, images, etc. But is a great idea & will get better as years go by. This project does not fit into Resist priorities.

10) Women of Color Task Force/National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (Washington, DC) - YES to a grant of \$500 toward expenses of their one day training institute for Women of Color. References OK. Renae S. is the staff person for the Conference so she said she had a conflict of interest. Expects 300 people to the Women of Color institute alone. This Task Force is not service oriented but very political. LK: Since we don't fund travel, the grant is for scholarships, that's OK. Consensus of board members is that this is necessary work.

11) Feminist Health Center of Portsmouth (NH) - YES to a grant of \$500 for printing & mailing costs for their "Pledge a Picketeer" project against anti-abortion demonstrators. Big budget group, good politics. Since funds raised from this project would go directly for abortions, would a Resist grant be funding a service? But this type of service is for poor women, isn't it? Strong support from board members for this Pledge a Picketeer technique as a fund raising effort, but we want to present this in our newsletter (if it appears there) and in other public announcements that that we are funding this request for the effort to bug the Right, and not to fund abortions. Otherwise, we might be seen as funding service work, which we don't do.

12) Women's Rape Crisis Center (Burlington, VT) - NO GRANT. They asked for \$600 for costs of printing brochures & cards to be used for outreach & fund raising. Reference from ex-board member of VT Haymarket and now staff of Green Mt. Fund was that they have good politics but they are mostly into service work. We should send them a nice letter: good work, important, but this particular request is for help with their service work. We might like to support some of their other projects, especially if they can't get funds to do that work. Reply in that case with another project.

Gay & Lesbian

13) Desert & Mountain States Lesbian & Gay Conference (Denver, CO) - YES to a grant of \$600 toward expenses of a fund raising campaign for scholarships for gay & lesbian people of color to attend this annual leadership conference in June of 1991. Good references. Part of this request is for travel. But the travel is really for transportation "for all." This is a fund raising project in response to consensus of organizers about people of color participation -- fits right into Resist guidelines.

14) Colorado Gay & Lesbian Conference (Denver, CO) - NO GRANT. They asked for \$600 toward expenses of a state-wide conference in September. References were good for coalition work with other groups on housing and repro rights issues. Person who wrote proposal ran for governor as a democrat in order to get access to the state convention to speak to delegates about gay & lesbian issues. Board members had a lukewarm response to their Congress because of its not so radical politics. We decided to invite them to send another request on more exciting activity.

15) Lesbians & Gays Against Intervention (San Francisco, CA) - YES to a grant of \$600 for copying & postage for 6 issues of their newsletter, "OUT!" Rebecca Gordon in SF gave a very positive reference for this group. They also have a Latina sister group. According to Rebecca LGAI is not

sectarian. TE: Sees this group as a throwback to the '60's. Is this wonderful and/or old fashioned? Despite the sectarian rhetoric in this application, there is a lot of energy in this group. Board members felt that their "wish list" was unrealistic, but then again we complain that some groups aren't radical enough... So Yes to their request.

16) Ohio Human Interest Organization (Lorain, OH) - NO GRANT. Request was for \$280 to enable their volunteer coordinator to attend the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force's 1990 fund raising institute. The reference from the Stonewall Union of Toledo was positive, but we don't fund travel expenses. Also nothing in their literature indicated a radical analysis (e.g. - uncritical story in their newsletter about gays being invited to the White House to meet Bush).

Central America

17) Central America Labor Defense Network (Oakland, CA) - YES to grant of \$600 for re-printing their brochure, and for a mailing to labor, union & solidarity groups. We received two good references, from Mike Prokasch (of NECAN) and Tess Ewing, especially for the computerized system for issuing rapid response telexes on labor and human rights violations. (Tess: unobjective but enthusiastic, endorses this organization.)

18) Witness for Peace/Central Midwest Region (Chicago, IL) - YES to a grant of \$600 for printing & mailing costs of their newsletter. Very good references from Sanctuary Alliance in Chicago, and Cmte. for World Peacemaking in Richmond, IN, especially on how they deal with rural/regional issues and how they won't waste the money granted. Problem: Do they do much to deal with domestic racism? We'll write them that we think they are doing important work but we're concerned about their answers to our questions #10a and #11. We'll ask them to respond on how they plan to deal with this issue.

19) National Agenda for Peace in El Salvador (Washington, DC) - NO GRANT. Request was for \$600 toward the purchase of a computer. Hank Rosemont says that this is a left-liberal lobbying group. OK, but if we're tight with funds then no grant. Mike P. of NECAN said that this was the CISPES lobbying arm. LK: Can get money from other sources.

Community Organizing/Anti-Racism

20) Coalition for Human Dignity (Portland, OR) - YES to a grant of \$600 for printed informational materials and audio tapes for their outreach program. Good reference from McKenzie River Gathering on their rural organizing work. TE: Good on class issues. LK: Overly ambitious agenda. Is this too much for a core group of 4 or 5? Important work, but we should include a cautionary note in our letter to them that it would be a good idea to be more realistic in their projects so as to avoid burn out.

21) Chelsea's Commission on Hispanic Affairs (Chelsea, MA) - YES to a grant of \$300 for the costs of printing their brochure, for which we had the text, (with the possibility of another \$300 for their newsletter when they can send us something concrete.) We hadn't funded their request in April since they didn't send text of the brochure at that time, this time

they did, but nothing on the newsletter. Wagner Rios of Centro Hispana de Chelsea said that they are doing more political work, not just electoral. Their chair is newly elected to the School Committee in Chelsea. They are more left that the community in general but aren't pushy in their tactics. This is a point in their favor, we felt. Also they sued Silber/B.U., which pushed Hispanic issues more to the surface. We decided to give them a \$300 grant for the brochure and say in the letter that they could apply for \$300 for the newsletter as soon as they have something to show us.

22) NY State Tenant & Neighborhood Coalition (Rochester, NY) - YES to a grant of \$600 for a copying machine. Good reference from a Resist contributor/activist who lives in Rochester. This is similar to other housing groups we have funded in the past. A good group.

Business/Policy Items

* Joint Resist/Prison Book Program Typewriters for Prisoners Project - It was decided at a board/staff lunch with Tess to make another \$600 grant to start another round of this project. There will be an article in the coming Resist newsletter about what's happened so far with the project which will also solicit more donations of typewriters. We'll also do advertising for more requests for typewriters. The Project has worked out well.

* Office - Finance Report	
Cambridge Trust account	\$ 11,778.47
Working Assets Money Fund	192,162.01
Working Assets Loan Fund	4,568.83
	<hr/>
	\$206,509.31
Calvert Bond Fund	\$ 49,251.43
Cohen Endowment	10,502.82
Resist Endowment	5,328.30
	<hr/>

\$271,591.86

* David Kennedy's Estate - The lawyer in San Francisco called to say that they received a tentative offer of \$150,000 for his condo. Louis, Pam and Nancy M. agreed to this offer. No word yet on this. The lawyer said that he expected that Resist would receive approximately \$50,000 (after taxes, mortgage, fees, etc.)

* Next board meeting is in Boston on September 16th, Sunday at a place yet to be determined.

That's it. I hope these minutes make some kind of sense since this is the first time in a long while that I've had to type them. Any questions, just call me. See you in September (if not before.)

Nancy
Nancy Moniz, Resist staff