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### Resist Board Meeting, Dec. 16, 1990

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  
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

Board Meeting - Dec. 16, 1990 - 11am  
Rena Scott's apartment  
116 Chestnut St.  
Cambridge, MA 02139/ Tel. (617)492-1085

Dear board member,

We'll have to keep in mind that we will have additional option(s) in funding requests this month. We can use the interest from the Cohen Memorial Endowment and the Resist Endowment Funds. I'll have the updated totals at the board meeting.

Since no one seemed to have an opinion about the new form of this letter (with the proxy as part of the agenda letter), I've continued with it for this meeting. As usual you'll find the business items of the meeting at the end of the grants agenda portion of this letter.

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.

## GRANT REQUESTS

### Prisoners

1) Amnesty International/Texas (Austin) -\$600 requested for costs of surveying Texas members of AI as part of the chapter's anti-death penalty project.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Maybe \_\_\_\_\_

2) Citizens United for Rehabilitation of Errants/Mississippi (Leakesville, MS) - Requesting \$500 to purchase a copier.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Maybe \_\_\_\_\_

3) Endeavor (Houston, TX) -They're asking for \$600 toward expenses of this newspaper by prisoners on Death Row.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Maybe \_\_\_\_\_



## Community Organizing

4) Laos, Inc. (Ocean Springs, MS) - They're asking for \$600 toward purchase of a maintenance & supplies contract for their copying machine.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Maybe \_\_\_\_\_

5) Texas Alliance for Human Needs (Austin, TX) - \$600 request for expenses (mailing and phone banking) of a fund raising campaign.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Maybe \_\_\_\_\_

## Central & Latin America

6) Science for Nicaragua (Berkeley, CA) - \$512 requested for production & mailing costs of their bi-monthly newsletter.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Maybe \_\_\_\_\_

7) Colombia Human Rights Committee/Boston (MA) - Request of \$600 for administrative costs for their project, "African- American Delegation to Colombia."

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Maybe \_\_\_\_\_

## Peace/Anti-militarism/Middle East

8) Midwest Committee for Military Counseling (Chicago, IL) - \$500 request toward increased general expenses resulting from deployment of US troops in the Middle East.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Maybe \_\_\_\_\_

9) Washington Peace Center (DC) - \$600 requested toward organizing expenses of the Washington Area Coalition to Stop US Intervention in the Middle East. (Please note that we gave them an emergency grant of \$150 in October, so would have to subtract that from their grant request.)

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Maybe \_\_\_\_\_



10) Cleveland Coalition for Peace in the Middle East (OH) -\$500 asked to offset costs of a newspaper ad about an "Appeal for Peace & Justice in the Middle East.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Maybe \_\_\_\_\_

11) Dorchester Women's Committee (MA) - \$600 asked for expenses of their neighborhood- based work on the Persian Gulf crisis.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Maybe \_\_\_\_\_

12) Four Corners Productions (NY, NY) - Request of \$600 for distribution costs for a video on resistance to deployment of US troops in the Middle East. More info to come on our application form. I'll send this to you with updated info package.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Maybe \_\_\_\_\_

13) Middle East Cultural & Information Center (San Diego, CA) - \$500 asked for production costs of a special issue of their newsletter.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Maybe \_\_\_\_\_

14) National Lawyers' Guild Military Law Task Force (San Diego, CA) - They're asking for \$500 for expenses of a joint project with other groups - an outreach effort to recruit activists to provide legal & political help to GI's concerned about the Persian Gulf crisis.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Maybe \_\_\_\_\_

#### Gay & Lesbian

15) Gay & Lesbian Resources of Ventura County (Camarillo, CA) - They're asking for \$300 toward purchase of a desktop photo copy machine.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Maybe \_\_\_\_\_

16) Gay & Lesbian Community Center of Colorado (Denver) - \$1,000 (?) requested for costs of outreach for their Anti-Violence Project.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Maybe \_\_\_\_\_



17) Aurora: A Northland Lesbian Center (Duluth, MN) - \$500 asked toward expenses of a Speakers' Bureau.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Maybe \_\_\_\_\_

#### Cultural Work

18) People's Music Network (Waltham, MA) - \$500 requested toward mailing costs for their semi-annual meeting in January of 1991.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Maybe \_\_\_\_\_

19) Hacienda Springs, Inc. (El Paso, TX) - \$600 asked for a computer (music) composing program, and for an interface.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Maybe \_\_\_\_\_

#### Miscellaneous

20) Farmworkers' Organizing Project of North Carolina (Raleigh) - \$500 requested to help complete a feasibility study for organizing & leadership development among migrant/seasonal workers in the state.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Maybe \_\_\_\_\_

21) Center for Popular Economics (Amherst, MA) - Request of \$600 for expenses (or scholarships) of a weekend Urban Institute for Popular Economics in June of 1991.

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Maybe \_\_\_\_\_

#### BUSINESS/POLICY ITEMS

\* A Call to Resist - From minutes of 11/4/90 meeting: "Grace brought up the suggestion that Resist should issue a new statement, a new "call to Resist.".... Can we issue new statement re-affirming support for resistance against war? Decision of board - next board/ staff lunch meeting would come up with a way to do this at the December board meeting. Maybe we can issue a one paragraph statement re-affirming our old Call, and saying that while we have grown and changed, we haven't forgotten our roots."

(Back at the office - We searched the files for past official Calls, drafts of statements & statements published in Resist newsletters. I'm including them in this packet for your information.) The B/S lunch group decided to ask Hank Rosemont to write a draft of a short statement re-affirming our opposition to war & war-like acts, and support of acts of resistance. We'll

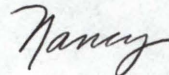


have Hank's draft for discussion at this board meeting. If it comes into the office in time, I'll send it out to everyone before the meeting.

- \* Board Search Committee - report.
- \* Office - Finances and other miscellaneous items.
- \* Next board meeting - We have to set a date and place for the next meeting.

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

CLIP AND SEND TO RESIST OFFICE

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I won't be able to attend the Dec. 16th meeting in the Boston area. My preference for a date for a following meeting in Boston is

\_\_\_\_\_ Jan. 27      \_\_\_\_\_ Feb. 3

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature



Resist Board Meeting - Dec. 16, 1990  
 Renae Scott's apartment  
 116 Chestnut St., Cambridge, MA

**Present:** Tess, Louis, Paul, Nancy M., Tatiana, Fran, Pam, Renae, Ken H., Wechsler (Minutes).

**The Call:** Since several people had to leave the meeting early, we decided to talk about the new Call at the beginning of the meeting. (This is by no means a complete summary of the discussion.) People agreed that Hank did just what we had asked him to do. Question was raised about whether or not we still needed to do this now that so many groups have put out statements/demands about the Gulf. Originally Grace had urged us to do this in part so that Refuse and Resist wouldn't seem the only group doing it and using our name. People who hadn't been at NY meeting raised questions about why we were thinking about doing this. People liked that this draft set things in historical context, and removed sexist language. Suggestion that we add something about women's liberation and women in the Gulf. Suggestion that statement needs broader casting. Suggestion we not use word "American" when we mean the United States. Discussion of usefulness of doing this at all. When we started and issued our first Call it was illegal and a political act. The second time we put out a new Call it was an effort to state something about a unified socialist movement from a non-sectarian perspective. Issuing a new statement focussed on Gulf takes eye away from what we've been doing lately, which is focussing more on issues of race and gender. We need to connect up domestic and foreign problems more. The world is very changed from what it was 20 years ago. It would be great if we could write something analyzing those changes and the world we are now in. Summary of discussion so far: add women's issues to gulf crisis, statement may be dated very soon because things are happening so fast and it isn't broad enough, it might not be useful politically to do this, it might be good in the newsletter.

It was brought up that Frank B. 1982 newsletter article "What kind of peace movement" was good and speaks to what people are saying. It might be good for people who give to Resist to know what we mean by Resistance.

Statement shouldn't go in now. If we are thinking of re-affirming stuff it needs more thought. There have been other crisis since the beginning of Reaganism that we haven't written editorials on or issued new Calls about. We don't want to narrow our focus. We need to show people how to Resist illegitimate authority. Maybe we need an editorial acknowledging crisis, but that isn't the total word on what the organization thinks. Could we fashion Hank's draft into an editorial?

Suggestion we print part of Cleveland Coalition for Peace position paper. It deals with Middle East and homefront. Tatiana reported at this point that the next newsletter is going to have various things in it about resistance to the Middle East crisis. It includes sections of statements and letters by groups and individuals. Perhaps this is enough for now? Suggestion was made (and agreed to) that we add part of Cleveland statement.

Discussion of writing an editorial: suggestion made to put out a statement that includes what demands we think the movement should be taking up, as well as some analysis/critique of the organizing that is happening. Why are there two national coalitions? What demands are being left out? What are the disagreements and tensions (the debates, in other words) in this organizing and what do we think about them? (Guardian Edit from last week was good, they talked about two coalitions.) Board/staff lunch or meeting with Tatiana, Louis, Nancy Wechsler, Nancy Moniz would discuss possibility of doing editorial.

Another suggestion was writing a broader piece on Resist's purpose as well as an analysis about how fundamentally different the world is now. No one felt they could write a piece on how changed the world is. Maybe Noam or Frank Brodhead?



We all expressed much appreciation for Hank for having written the draft. It helped us think through this whole thing and make some decisions.

**Newsletter:** Tatiana will be going to Mexico (to learn Spanish) Mid-March to Mid-May. We will be coming up with some schemes for doing the newsletter while she is gone. She will be taking time off without pay, once she has used up her vacation time.

**Pam Chamberlain announcement:** Cambridge Cares About AIDS is looking for Outreach Coordinator to coordinate outreach to Afro-American, Haitian, and Portuguese communities. They have people that do outreach to Haitian and Portuguese, need someone to coordinate overall effort. Looking for person of color.

**References:** People liked getting the references written out in advance. We decided to continue doing it that way if it is possible for Nancy Moniz.

### GRANT REQUESTS

(see separate sheets for references) We gave out a total of \$7750 to 18 groups. (That's \$400 over our formula amount of \$7350.)

### Prisoners

1) Amnesty International/Texas (Austin) -\$400 GRANT out of \$600 requested for costs of surveying Texas members of AI as part of the chapter's anti-death penalty project. Discussion: Questions raised about how AI overall deals with Palestinian issue. They have never taken on a Palestinian prisoner of conscience. Questions raised about survey approach. Is this a good way to go? Very narrow politics, but important to do death penalty work.

2) Citizens United for Rehabilitation of Errants/Mississippi (Leakesville, MS) - NO GRANT. They had requested \$500 to purchase a copier. Discussion: Seems like one person group. They should get in touch with LAOS. Not really a group yet. We should fund them later when they are a group. Write: As we set priorities we have not been able to fund groups to get started. Come back to us when you are a little further along, and have more people working with you. Also: just a small suggestion, it might make newsletter more readable to put it in upper and lower case instead of all caps.

3) Endeavor (Houston, TX) -SOME (\$200). They asked for \$600 for death row prisoner newspaper. Discussion: They received a lot of church funding. Reference was positive. Tatiana: It's amazing they could get this out. Questions raised about who reads this newsletter. People on death row nationally. Will this have any effect? What will it change? Initiated boycott of drug companies that produce death chemicals. How big a group is this? We decided to give them a SOME.

### Community Organizing

4) Laos, Inc. (Ocean Springs, MS) - \$600 GRANT toward purchase of a maintenance & supplies contract for their copying machine. (This grant is from the Arthur Cohen Memorial Endowment.) Discussion: They are scrambling around for money. Good group. Big budget. Recycling thing costs lots of money. They work on whole range of issues.

5) Texas Alliance for Human Needs (Austin, TX) - \$400 GRANT out of \$600 requested for expenses (mailing and phone banking) of a fund raising campaign. Discussion: Questions raised about political spectrum in Texas. This is a pretty wide coalition. Is it too broad for us? Not radical enough? Reference was positive.

### Central & Latin America

6) Science for Nicaragua (Berkeley, CA) - SOME (\$200) out of \$512 requested for



production & mailing costs of their bi-monthly newsletter. Discussion: Can they get money from other sources? Huge debt of Science for the People (for taxes) may have drained resources. Questions raised about usefulness of newsletter. Small type makes it hard to read. Newsletter seems designed for a very specific purpose. "In-reach" newsletter, not outreach. It's a real blow that Technica has folded. Questions raised about narrow political perspective. Is this work helpful for those doing Central America/Nicaragua solidarity work?

7) Colombia Human Rights Committee/Boston (MA) - \$600 GRANT for administrative costs for their project, "African- American Delegation to Colombia." Fran: liked idea of taking members of the Afro-American community over to Colombia, but what will impact be given reference said that this is not a very organized group? This will give them experience organizing in this country. Mel King is going to go. They talked to Free My People, but it didn't seem to work out to have a young person go on trip. They've done good networking. Maybe we can get an article when they come back.

#### Peace/Anti-militarism/Middle East

General comments that Jewish organizations don't seem to be joining coalitions working against war in the Middle East. Tatiana mentioned the possibility of starting a Jewish group here in Boston to work on this stuff. Louis said he was working on organizing a "Kikes on bikes" contingent for the next demo. (And for that comment, he won the "best joke of the day" award.)

8) Midwest Committee for Military Counseling (Chicago, IL) - \$500 GRANT to go toward covering increased general expenses resulting from deployment of US troops in the Middle East. Everyone positive about this group. Very little discussion.

9) Washington Peace Center (DC) - \$450 GRANT for organizing expenses of the Washington Area Coalition to Stop US Intervention in the Middle East. (Please note that we gave them an emergency grant of \$150 in October, so we subtracted that from their grant request.) Positive feelings about group. Very little discussion.

10) Cleveland Coalition for Peace in the Middle East (OH) - SOME (\$200) out of the \$500 they had requested to offset costs of a newspaper ad about an "Appeal for Peace & Justice in the Middle East." Discussion: Question raised about politics of ad--that it was ok to send US troops. Tess wasn't crazy about funding ads. They should be self-supporting. Not an organizing project. Should be less of a priority for us than other things we've funded. Group seemed middle of the road, not left. They do link Palestinian issue with Iraq. We liked a lot of the ad copy/statement. Proposal for SOME is agreed to.

11) Dorchester Women's Committee (MA) - \$600 GRANT for expenses of their neighborhood-based work on the Persian Gulf crisis. Discussion: Donna played a good mediating role in a difficult meeting that Tatiana went to.

12) Four Corners Productions (NY, NY) - \$400 GRANT out of \$600 requested for distribution costs for a video on resistance to deployment of US troops in the Middle East. This had initially come in and we thought it was for emergency grant. Most of us liked it. Then they asked it be considered for full grant at this meeting. Is this a one person thing or not? How much is he working with MADRE? Will they use the video? Good script. Madre said they would use it. Good organizing tool. Money is for distribution. Constituency they hope to reach is parents of people fighting the war. Military families support is not very radical. But Madre is radical. They might play a good role in radicalizing movement.



13) Middle East Cultural & Information Center (San Diego, CA) - \$500 GRANT for production costs of a special issue of their newsletter. Very little discussion. People know some of these people.

14) National Lawyers' Guild Military Law Task Force (San Diego, CA) - \$500 GRANT for expenses of a joint project with other groups - an outreach effort to recruit activists to provide legal & political help to GI's concerned about the Persian Gulf crisis. Very little discussion. People know some of these people.

### Gay & Lesbian

15) Gay & Lesbian Resources of Ventura County (Camarillo, CA) - TOKEN (\$100) out of the \$300 requested for purchase of a desktop photo copy machine. Discussion: This is a group, not just one person, but application still comes off as one person group. Questions raised about effectiveness. Questions raised about connections to animal rights group. How much does this one person control the group? We were very divided on what to do, so we agreed on a token.

16) Gay & Lesbian Community Center of Colorado (Denver) - \$500 GRANT out of \$1,000 requested for costs of outreach for their Anti-Violence Project. Discussion: There is more and more happening around hate crimes against gays/lesbians. We should suggest they form coalitions with other groups organizing against skinheads and hate crimes.

17) Aurora: A Northland Lesbian Center (Duluth, MN) - \$500 GRANT toward expenses of a Speakers' Bureau. Discussion: Project seems good. No work on peace and social justice issues. This is unusual for lesbian group. Narrow focus. Against anti-Semitism, but not anti-Arab racism. Urge them to make coalitions with peace and justice groups in their area. Talk about violence in a broader context. Say something like, "we usually fund gay/lesbian groups that have hooked up with social justice and feminist groups."

### Cultural Work

18) People's Music Network (Waltham, MA) - NO GRANT. They had requested \$500 toward mailing costs for their semi-annual meeting in January of 1991. Additional reference from Debby at D&S: group combines music and politics. Good diversity. Newsletter and director very good. Pam: comes out of folk tradition, not very multi-cultural, ingrown. rap music not represented. Can you cut across those lines? Recent demos needed more music. How do they strategize to make themselves part of movement? They should be pushing themselves into political spectrum. All Walks of Life event gets lots of different music. Greater cultural diversity. Write an encouraging letter, but we are not in a position to fund you. We would consider application that dealt more specifically with organizing--or making connections with groups not represented in the network already. We generally don't fund conferences, we might fund them to work with organizations (like AFSC) --workshops for political organizations on bringing music into demos, etc. Need to diversify their music.

19) Hacienda Springs, Inc. (El Paso, TX) - NO GRANT. They had requested \$600 for a computer (music) composing program, and for an interface. Not our thing. Maybe they should apply to the Barbara Demming Fund in NYC.

### Miscellaneous

20) Farmworkers' Organizing Project of North Carolina (Raleigh) - \$500 GRANT to help complete a feasibility study for organizing & leadership development among migrant/seasonal workers in the state. Discussion: This study needs to happen first, before people from outside go in.



21) Center for Popular Economics (Amherst, MA) - \$600 GRANT for expenses (or scholarships) of a weekend Urban Institute for Popular Economics in June of 1991. Discussion: Women's Fund positive about it being a weekend and being in the city. Was going to suggest their grant money be put aside for women of color. Concern about timing: one weekend in June is a workshop for women in unions by WILD (Women's Institute Leadership Development). They should coordinate the dates with them. Also gay/lesbian pride in Boston.

#### Emergency Grant Request:

Central America Refugee Center, Washington DC. Budget is very large. The project budget is almost \$200,000 and the organization budget is larger. It is an emergency because of new immigration bill. Problem interpreting the bill. They are trying to get information out quickly about the bill. Decision: NO GRANT. Too big a budget for us. We support their work. We hope and anticipate you will be able to raise the money.

#### BUSINESS/POLICY ITEMS

\* Cohen grant money should not be above and beyond the regular amount we have for the meeting. We don't necessarily need to spend the interest from our little "Resist Endowment" account. We can let it build up.

\* Board Search Committee - report.

\* Office - Finances: We have a total of \$256,383. Wechsler is about to spend a bunch (at least \$25,000) on this year's prospecting mailings. She expects to mail out about 100,000 pieces in January and February.

Cambridge Trust Co.	\$ 14,257.11
WA investment	\$118,095.99
WA Loan fund	\$ 4,210.18
Calvert Bond Fund	\$ 52,716.21

Resist Endowment Fund	\$ 5,530.53
Cohen Endowment Fund	\$ 10,823.25
<u>First Trade Union CD</u>	<u>\$ 50,753.55</u>
Total:	\$256,386.82

\* Next board meeting - February 3rd, BOSTON.



REFERENCES for the December 16, 1990 Resist Board Meeting

1) Amnesty International/Texas - Charlie MacMartin of Austin CISPES said that this is not necessarily an organizing type group. His experience is that they do advocacy & educational work. The folks involved tend to be social service types not grass roots organizers. As far as funding options for them, death penalty work might be more difficult to raise funds for than other projects in Texas. He said he'd check around more for us.

Ruth Powers of Austin AFSC felt that this group does good work, they meet weekly for letter writing & also do actions. They sponsored a Honduran refugee recently.

2) CURE/MS - Linda Thurston of AFSC/Phila. hadn't heard of the MS chapter of CURE but did know of CURE/National - they do training on organizing, lobbying, advocacy. Individual chapters have a choice of which of those to focus on. National organization is more liberal than progressive in politics at least on the surface which could be a tactic to get things done (example - they got a bill passed to fund WIC to women in prison that amazed everyone). Every local group is different & different in politics/constituency. National core leadership - grass roots folks, get incredible things done with small staff & means - good at networking with both grass roots and also can do very sophisticated logistical work.

I then talked with Barbara Whiteman of the Rural Organizing Center in Miss. who has not heard of this group. I next talked with Penny Penrose of LAOS (which does a lot of prison issue work in Miss.). She hadn't heard of this group either - she said it might be fairly new & small.

3) "Endeavor" - Linda Thurston again. Hadn't heard of newspaper but did know contact person - she had participated in a march on death penalty FL to GA. A committed person, somewhat flaky but not in a bad way, an "artiste"/poetess. Linda says that she really is in touch with people on Death Row but doesn't know how much they participate in paper.

Mike Riegle of Prison Book Program had heard about the newspaper - "decent if not exciting paper.... good that prisoners on Death Row would put out a paper, if they are able to get this to other Death Row people it would be exciting."

I also asked Charlie MacMartin about this. He hadn't heard of them but will check around.

4) LAOS, Inc. - Beverly Whiteman of the Rural Organizing & Cultural Center in Miss. knew of their work/ the only group like this on the Gulf Coast, has been involved in organizing in the community/ has taken on heavy stuff such as prison issues/ the re-cycling program is largest in state - they hire low income people & ex-prisoners to work - it's mostly run by black people in community. This group has a long history of addressing racial & justice issues. ROCC has worked with them in the past when they were in Wash.DC - an exchange program with LAOS to connect national & local issues = great success - great experience for children & parents who went from MS to DC as part of program. Laos is real good on team work & on processing internally on race, class issues. Great organizers - got parents & children in area, as well as church people & small business folk to a meeting to change a city decision on the re-cycling plant/ they lost a lot of money on the organizing. Great people -



strong on women in leadership positions - have a new project for day care for community people - strong on women's issues - has addressed issues of sexism, classism in churches. She highly recommends them. (PS - this group called me today - 12/5 - seem to really need funds.)

5) TAHN - I talked with Charlie MacMartin of Austin CISPES. He was familiar with them. Has worked in coalitions with TAHN, made connex between Central America & domestic human needs issues. Their work is real good - agitating around tax reform, education, housing etc./ actively confront elected officials when officials don't take a stand on issues. 50 low budget, grass roots organizations around the state are part of this - important formation in state. Everyone feels good about them. "No weird politics" in groups involved. He also worked with them in a coalition on the Middle East - had a speaker on human needs from TAHN - made connex with state issues & ME. He feels TARN is politically progressive. TAHN puts more time into lobbying than street action - member groups do this & rely on TAHN for other broader focus work. This is definitely not social service organization. They're real good on diversity - more Latinos than African Americans mostly because of demographics in TX but more so because African Americans are into their own focus & programs of self-empowerment. Very good organization - he highly recommends funding.

6) Science for Nicaragua - (please see later on)

7) Colombia Human Rights Committee/Boston - I first called Anne Wright of NECAN. She didn't know much about them but NECAN had used A. Galan as the Colombia resource person at their conference. She had heard of this and thought that it seemed an interesting project. I then talked with Lupe Tovaes of UUSC. She's known the group from its start/ feels that the group is not too well organized but that this project is good - they need this type of project to get more people involved - they need to do more outreach to increase the size of their group. She doesn't feel negative about this group, just thinks there's a lack of experience in organizing tactics for this country. Good people involved, they're also working with AFSC. She knows that good people will be going on the trip. I finally talked with Jane Guise of AFSC. She first met Alberto Galan when he was a student at Tufts and, after the assassination of his brother who was a presidential candidate in Colombia, helped him with starting the group. She does feel that he's a talented organizer; they've had a number of good projects especially this particular one. Group is working with a Jesuit Center in Colombia & will try to do a video there. There is a need for this sort of resource in the general Drug Wars work. She feels there are good folks going who are representative of the community: women, youth, drug rehab worker, community leader, etc.

8) NWCMC - Jackie Shaad of Crossroads Fund, when I asked about this group said, "Boy, are they necessary now." They are one of only two groups doing this type of work in the area (other is VVAW, CALC not anymore). She knows that they're getting lots of calls about help & info / basically it's a struggling group as far as size but with a good, small, dedicated core group. She says they're responsible & committed.

9) Washington Peace Center - We've funded this group in the past - they've always received excellent references (from National Mobe, C.A. solidarity



networks). Hank Rosemont is checking on them for us this time. No word from him yet. (Please see this later on)

10) Cleve. Coalition for Peace in M.E. - I called Harold Barton of Cleve. CALC. CALC is part of this. Recently they had a meeting with SANE/Freeze to join coalition - they've also gotten the national United Churches of Christ, hq'd in Cleve., to put out a statement on Persian Gulf situation/ B'Nai B'rith & Jewish Council in Cleve. sent letter of protest but CALC has been in dialogue with the Jewish Federation on the issue/ Coal. has had a number of responses to ad already: people wanting to add their names to the Appeal and to send in small donations.

11) Dorchester Women's Cmttee. - Elba Crespo of the Puerto Rican Women's Comtee. said that her group has worked with them on Inter. Wm's Day and other projects/ this is one of the groups they work closely with/ more recently the Dorch group has initiated a series of meeting to pull the grass roots women's movement together in a network/ doing an event on 12/2 with PR wm's cmttee. Elba feels that the level of activity of the Dorch. group has increased a lot in the past year or so. Their Middle East work has been good - ME event was co-sponsored by PR Women's Cmttee. She highly recommends this group.

Renae Scott didn't know too much of this group's recent work but did know they have had several networking meetings (see above). Her sense was that participation hasn't been great yet/ she does know that they've done extensive outreach. Renae felt that she couldn't evaluate yet the lowish participation of other groups in the networking meetings, maybe time problems, etc.

12) Four Corners Productions - Vivian Stronberg of MADRE said they're working with this/ Madre will definitely be using the video/ they really need this type of video to help talk with people about the issue. Madre has a 2 year plan to work on issues of Palestinian & So. African women and children - they've already started to respond to situation in the Gulf. Madre will help to distribute this costs are not in their budget, they are also trying to funds. She feels the need is urgent. This issue is a good organizing opening - the op ed article in the NY Times got a tremendous response - from this Mulnar organized the Military Families Support Network. She feels the video maker is very good - did a video for Madre in past.

13) Middle East Cultural & Info. Center - I talked with Rick Jahnkow of Project YANO & COMD in San Diego. He knows the people & feels the group is doing good quality work. It was one of the driving forces in organizing the local Coalition for Peace in the M.E. - without them it would have been difficult to pull the Coal. together. Kathy Gilbherd & Terry Christian part of this as well as angle & middle eastern people. Rick's found the Center to be very supportive of other groups/issues in the area.

14) NLG Military Law Task Force - Rick Jahnkow again - "excellent work... doing a lot of counseling." His Committee On Military & the Draft recently did outreach for counseling training & NLG helped them/ NLG real instrumental in COMD work - when Project YANO run into youth that they can't help, they refer to the Task Force (legal issues). This group & Guild work with a broad range of groups in area - one of most valuable organizations in area. Rick has heard recently that NLG is short on funds. He says that the



area is very conservative - bases are shutting down in other places in US but increasing in San Diego which adds to conservative plurality (they just lost their only liberal Congressperson - now whole delegation is Republ.) Rick feels that their constituency for funding is the general progressive community, not so much well-heeled lawyers (who tend to be conservative). Progress. cmtty. small & over-committed financially.

15) Gay & Lesbian Resources of Ventura County - Sheryl Mendoza of G & L Services Center of Los Angeles said that this group's contact person, Claire Connelly, is well known in the g & l community as a long-time activist dating back to Civil Rights movement/ "good politics, a dynamo, done miracles in starting the Center in Ventura County." She said that this is definitely not just one person, but a group of long time activists.

16) Gay & Lesbian Cmty. Center of Colorado - Chris Takagi of the Chinook Fund in Denver said that, of people involved in the Center, some have left politics, some are apolitical, but he feels the group is moving left/ at first they had trouble fund raising but doing better now/ they were involved in the effort to pass equal protection statute (it did pass & this surprised everyone). Most of the work of the Center is in the service/social area - the political side is the Speakers' Bureau, which is a small component of total work done at Center. This project's contact person has good international, class and race perspective = a good sign for Anti-violence Project. Center's done well on diversity = Denver is pretty segregated - a lot of groups have problems becoming diverse. He feels that this is a most promising project for the gay & lesbian community. They seem to be developing in a good direction.

17) Aurora - I called Women Against Military Madness (didn't know them) who suggested I talk with MN Peace & Justice Coalition in Minn, MN. Staff person there had met some of the Aurora group at a f.r. seminar but didn't know much else. They referred me to their St.Cloud organizer who didn't know much either. She suggested that I call Shirley Oberg of Silkwings in Duluth (a battered women's action group). Shirley knew them well and said they're "marvelous". Silkwings works in alliances with them, it's definitely a social change organization, they've participated in Silk. actions/ work in raising community consciousness/ do work in coalitions with other issues groups/ work in broad based coalition in Duluth - women's economic development, recently Middle East coalition work (participate in vigils, demos, teach-in). She recommends the group.

18) People's Music Network - Judy Branfmann of Alliance for Cultural Democracy thinks highly of this/ unique, nothing else like it/ people involved in political, left music. Network is very diverse in class, race, culture, etc. She felt this project is definitely worth funding because conference important to work, networking.

19) Hacienda Springs - I talked with Delia Gomez of Las Americas Refugee Project. She hadn't heard of the group, but did know Susan Beehler, on of the people mentioned in the proposal. Delia said she has a high regard for her - a progressive in the church, mostly working in church and women's issues. Delia felt that any group she'd be working with would be good politically. That's about it for my contacts down there. Does anyone know any other contacts in El Paso? Sorry, but I don't.



20) Farmworkers Organizing Project/NC - Christina Davis McCoy of NC Against Racist & Rel. Violence knows of the work and is supportive of effort. She said that as of 1986 North Carolina was still being charged with slavery especially in the case of farmworkers - quality of life, living arrangements, below av. wages, company store policies = abysmal!. She feels it is commendable that the Project is starting - much needed in state. As far as the feasibility study: seems above is a good starting place- to analyze conditions. She would, though, have preferred a request for funding to be for more of a community organizing & public education project, but maybe this type of work will develop later on.

21) Center for Popular Economics - Renae Scott knows of their work/ Haymarket has funded their Summer Institutes in the past. Sum. Inst. has brought together a really diverse group of people from around the US. It provides a forum for radical economic/political analysis. Diverse participation in institutes & forums. She feels that is hard for them to raise funds for their work. They'll probably start doing publicity about the Urban Institute once they have funding.

#### MORE REFERENCES:

1) Amnesty International/Texas - Charlie MacMartin checked further on them. They're a good group, only group in Texas doing Death Penalty work state-wide. At this point in time, they primarily do grass-roots lobbying. He feels that they have options for resources for their other work, but maybe not as much for Death Penalty work. (also see reference of 12/7/90)

3) "Endeavor" - Again Charlie MacMartin: checked around. This definitely is by and for prisoners. He feels this is a good effort and recommends. (also please see references above)

6) Science for Nicaragua - I tried to get in touch with Martin Diskin on their board but he's out of the country. I also tried to talk with Rebecca Gordon, who was in Technica - no luck. Finally I talked with Shelly Sherman of Barricada International who had worked in Technica before it more or less folded. She said this is a good group doing good work over the years. When she was in Nica, she met some of the folks working there. They work at placing professors from here at the University in Nica. Technica did more or less short term placements (people doing seminars, technical assistance), whereas this group does longer term placements. It's mostly volunteer, committed, knowledgeable people. She feels it's important for this to continue, especially since cut-back of Technica.

9) Washington Peace Center - Hank Rosemont checked with his contacts. This is a very good group, his contacts think highly of their work. As far as the Middle East work: Peace Center is devoting almost full time to resistance in the Gulf crisis. Last weekend's regional demo was good. The Center is working with WRL, Pledge and other national groups as well as local ones. Hank strongly recommends that we give them the additional \$450.

Nancy Moniz, Resist staff



A call to **RESIST** illegitimate authority

38 Union Square, Somerville, Massachusetts 02143

Frank Brodhead  
Pam Chamberlain  
Bell Chevigny  
Noam Chomsky  
Amanda Claiborne  
Kate Cloud  
Margery Davies  
Norm Fruchter  
Mitchell Goodman  
Kenneth Hale  
Hilde Hein  
Florence Howe  
Frank Joyce  
Louis Kampf  
Hans Koning  
Paul Lauter  
Richard Ohmann  
Wayne O'Neil  
Carlos Otero  
Grace Paley  
Henry Rosemont  
Meredith Smith  
Amy Swerdlow  
George Vickers

A CALL TO RESIST ILLEGITIMATE AUTHORITY

(Copy of 1st call, 4th December, 1967)

To the young men of America, to the whole of the American people, and to all men of good will everywhere:

1. An ever growing number of young American men are finding that the American war in Vietnam so outrages their deepest moral and religious sense that they cannot contribute to it in any way. We share their moral outrage.
2. We further believe that the war is unconstitutional and illegal. Congress has not declared a war as required by the constitution. Moreover, under the Constitution, treaties signed by the President and ratified by the Senate have the same force as the Constitution itself. The Charter of the United Nations is such a treaty. The Charter specifically obligates the United States to refrain from force or the threat of force in international relations. It requires member states to exhaust every peaceful means of settling disputes and to submit disputes which cannot be settled peacefully to the Security Council. The United States has systematically violated all of these Charter provisions for thirteen years.
3. Moreover, this war violates international agreements, treaties and principles of law which the United States Government has solemnly endorsed. The combat role of the United States troops in Vietnam violates the Geneva Accords of 1954 which our government pledged to support but has since subverted. The destruction of rice, crops and livestock; the burning and bulldozing of entire villages consisting exclusively of civilian structures; the interning of civilian non-combatants in concentration camps; the summary executions of civilians in captured villages who could not produce satisfactory evidence of their loyalties or did not wish to be removed to concentration camps; the slaughter of peasants who dared to stand up in their fields and shake their fists at American helicopters; -- these are all actions of the kind which the United States and the other victorious powers of World War II declared to be crimes against humanity for which individuals were to be held personally responsible even when acting under the orders of their governments and for which Germans were sentenced at Nuremberg to long prison terms and death. The prohibition of such acts as war crimes was incorporated in treaty law by the Geneva Conventions of 1949, ratified by the United States. These are commitments to other countries and to Mankind(sic), and they would claim our allegiance even if Congress should declare war.
4. We also believe it is an unconstitutional denial of religious liberty and equal protection of the laws to withhold draft exemptions from men whose religious or profound philosophical beliefs are opposed to what in the Western religious tradition have been long known as unjust wars.



5. Therefore, we believe on all these grounds that every free man(sic) has a legal right and a moral duty to exert every effort to end this war, to avoid collusion with it, and to encourage others to do the same. Young men in the armed forces or threatened with the draft face the most excruciating choices. For them various forms of resistance risk separation from their families and their country, destruction of their careers, loss of these freedoms and loss of their lives. Each must choose the course of resistance dictated by his conscience and circumstances. Among those already in the armed forces some are refusing to obey specific illegal and immoral orders, some are attempting to educate their fellow servicemen on the murderous and barbarous nature of the war, some are absenting themselves without official leave. Among those not in the armed forces some are applying for status as conscientious objectors to American aggression in Vietnam, some are refusing to be inducted. Among both groups some are resisting openly and paying a heavy penalty, some are organizing more resistance within the United States and some have sought sanctuary in other countries.

6. We believe that each of these forms of resistance against illegitimate authority is courageous and justified. Many of us believe that open resistance to the war and the draft is the course of action most likely to strengthen the moral resolve with which all of us can oppose the war and most likely to bring an end to the war.

7. We will continue to lend our support to those who undertake resistance to this war. We will raise funds to organize draft resistance unions, to supply legal defense and bail, to support families and otherwise aid resistance to the war in whatever ways may seem appropriate.

8. We firmly believe that our statement is the sort of speech that under the First Amendment must be free, and that the actions we will undertake are as legal as is the war resistance of the young men themselves. But we recognize that the courts may find otherwise, and that if so we might all be liable to prosecution and severe punishment. In any case, we feel that we cannot shrink from fulfilling our responsibilities to the youth whom many of us teach, to the country whose freedom we cherish, and to the ancient traditions of religion and philosophy which we strive to preserve in this generation.

9. We call upon all men(sic) of good will to join us in this confrontation with immoral authority. Especially we call upon the universities to fulfill their mission of enlightenment and religious organizations to honor their heritage of brotherhood. Now is the time to resist.



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## A NEW CALL TO RESIST ILLEGITIMATE AUTHORITY

Opponents of the Vietnam War have worked to end it in many ways, some through conventional politics, some by supporting draft resistance or attacking university complicity in militarism. Others have carried resistance further, destroying draft files and developing opposition within the armed forces.

We believe that resistance to many forms of illegitimate authority is necessary to bring health to this country and make it a constructive force instead of a terror in the politics of nations.

Therefore, we support those who resist by

- refusing to register for the draft or submit to induction
- impeding the operations of draft boards and induction centers
- expressing anti-war views while in the armed forces, or refusing to obey illegal or immoral orders, or absenting themselves without leave
- conducting rent and workers' strikes, boycotts, and similar direct actions aimed at ending exploitation in the fields, in factories, in housing
- organizing against harassment by police, by the FBI, by the courts, and by Congress
- organizing sit-ins, strikes, and any principled actions at schools and universities, to end racist practices and direct complicity with militarism

SEPTEMBER  
1969

The Vietnam War has reminded us that major decisions can be made in the United States in cynical disregard of the clearly expressed will of the people and with little concern for those most affected, at home and abroad. The war has also illustrated the readiness of the U.S. to use violence to impose the social arrangements of its choice and to destroy those who attempt to achieve popular control over their affairs. Closely linked to the government, providing its top personnel and shaping its policies, are the centers of private power, the great corporations that control the economic life of the nation and, increasingly, of the world. They are governed not by popular will but by corporate interests as determined by a narrow autocratic elite. The government's resort to force to impose decisions of a ruling elite is one sign of failing democratic institutions and thus of the illegitimacy of the state. Both the use of police and the military and the absence of democratic control over major institutions underscore the illegitimacy of the authority that sets public policy in the U.S. and establishes the framework for social life. **But it is not enough to decry the exercise of illegitimate authority; if it is illegitimate, it must be resisted.**

Resistance to the war and the draft has brought peace groups into conflict with police, courts, and universities. This is not surprising, for the war has its roots deep in our society and to oppose it seriously is to attack a wide range of evils and the institutions that sponsor them. A brief review of five areas of illegitimate authority follows.

1. The war on Vietnam is neither a unique folly nor an error in judgment. Since the end of the last century, U.S. power has been used for economic, political and cultural exploitation of smaller and poorer nations. The "accelerated pacification," the most ferocious non-nuclear bombing in history, and

the deceitful maneuvering in Paris are recent manifestations of a global strategy aimed at building an integrated world system dominated by the U.S. Thus seen, Vietnam is one of a long series of interventions in the affairs of many nations: Greece, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Iran, Laos, Thailand, the Congo, the Philippines, and others. Motivated by a mixture of private interests and misplaced convictions, the Pax Americana continues to inflict suffering and subservience on much of the third world.

2. The Vietnam War has also brought the human and economic costs of the garrison state at home. It has allowed an insatiable military organization to claim over half of the federal budget, directly and indirectly. (A tenth is allocated to health, education, and welfare.) Beyond that, President Nixon has promoted the MIRV and the ABM, both bellicose gestures towards China and the Soviet Union as well as extravagant subsidies of aerospace industries. The Pentagon has insisted recently that military expenditures, even "after Vietnam," will remain at current levels, in order to "resupply and modernize" the armed forces. And in states and cities, a martial mood prevails as police and national guardsmen arm themselves with new weapons, gas the Berkeley campus from helicopters and, there and elsewhere, shoot at citizens, particularly the poor and the young. Dissidents in the army face heavy sentences; and for young men generally, the draft remains the prime symbol of social obligation. In brief, the violence of the state has come increasingly to threaten or control the lives of U.S. citizens.
3. This triumph of illegitimate force has continued to enrich the rich. Cost-plus defense and space contracts have guaranteed affluence to a handful of corporations and subsidized their



growth, while the real wages of workers, after inflation and spiraling taxes, have diminished. The non-unionized and the unemployed are, obviously, the worst victims: welfare programs, ill-conceived to begin with, have been cut back or left languishing, more an insult than an aid. Real welfare programs have been reserved for the wealthy: tax loopholes, the oil depletion allowance, airline subsidies, farm subsidies, highway projects, urban renewal, subsidies to elite universities, and so on. In the past government policy has characteristically preserved or increased the distance between rich and poor. The policy of permanent preparation for war is no exception.

4. Like wealth, control over institutions has been unequally distributed and irresponsibly used. The mistreatment by police of the people they supposedly serve has been only the most blatant example. Schools have failed to educate the children of poor and working class families, thus guaranteeing their impotence in a technological society: in most inner cities, fewer than half the students who enter high school graduate; in New York City, where blacks and Puerto Ricans make up about half of the student population, only a fifth of the graduates of academic (i.e., college-oriented) high schools are black or Puerto Rican — and only a fifth of those graduates go on to college. Yet attempts by parents to improve the schools through community control have been fought bitterly by New York's educational bureaucracy. Or to take a rather different instance, heavily subsidized highways have displaced families and foreclosed possibilities for mass transport systems that might serve all — hardly a surprise, given the dependence of the nation's largest corporations on the automobile. Industrial wastes, oil leakages, and municipal sewage rob citizens of beaches and streams and, with the fouling of the atmosphere, literally threaten the

continuation of life. In short, most people have little control over the conditions of their work, their education, their protection, their means of transport — indeed, the air they breathe and the water they drink.

5. The most powerless have been people of color. U.S. history has included the systematic conquest and slaughter of American Indians, the enslavement, degradation, and murder of Afro-Americans, the callous exploitation of Chicanos, the detention and robbery of Japanese-Americans, and the use of atomic weapons, napalm, gas, and crop-destroying chemicals against people of the third world. Consequently, U.S. citizens inherit a nation in which white privilege and white power are part of the "natural" order and structure of society. People of color die at a disproportionate rate in warfare or "peace." They are unemployed disproportionately, receive inferior education disproportionately, are humiliated disproportionately. Despite the recent recognition of some mystical, undefined "racism" by official government commissions, the living conditions of non-whites have remained intolerable. Every effort by non-whites to gain power, even in their own communities, has been met by violent opposition; militant blacks, determined to bring about the promised changes, are harassed, jailed, killed, or forced into exile. In many ghettos, there is virtual war between blacks and predominantly white police.

Two years ago, the first Call to Resist Illegitimate Authority focused on the war and the draft. **But we cannot oppose the war without opposing the institutions that support and maintain it.** Imperialism, militarism, economic exploitation, undemocratic power, racism: though the words may seem stale, they describe the exercise of illegitimate authority in the United States today. Again, we call upon all to join us in the struggle against illegitimate authority. **Now is the time to resist.**

*In reversing the convictions of the Boston Four, the First Circuit Court of Appeals left open the possibility that signing the original Call to Resist or this New Call could, in conjunction with other acts, be viewed as illegal. We believe it is the government's actions, not ours, which are illegal. However, signers and contributors should be aware that their actions might be found illegal.*

send to: RESIST/Room 4/763 Mass. Ave./Cambridge, Mass. 01239

- ☐ Add my name to the list of signers of the "New Call"; you may make my endorsement public.
- ☐ I enclose a contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to support the work of RESIST. (Please make checks payable to RESIST.)
- ☐ I pledge \$\_\_\_\_\_ monthly to support the work of RESIST.
- ☐ I am interested in organizing or joining a group in my community.

Please Print

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## Complicity Statement--Draft

More than half a million young men have declined to register with the Selective Service System. One hundred sixty, who refused openly, have received letters threatening prosecution. Three have already been indicted.

WE SUPPORT THE ACTIONS OF ALL THESE MEN.  
WE DECLARE OUR COMPLICITY IN THEIR REFUSAL.  
WE WISH TO JOIN IN THE RISK THEY TAKE.

Who can believe that there will be mandatory registration ~~and~~ <sup>but</sup> no draft, for the first time in U.S. history? Bills to restore the draft have been introduced in both houses of Congress, and we hear many voices proclaiming that the so-called volunteer army is inadequate to our defense needs. Even as it carries forward the biggest weapons build-up ever, the government is preparing people for this further militarization of U.S. society. We must resist it now.

In opposing registration and a draft, however, we do not imply support of the military status quo. The "volunteer" army is a hoax. Twenty percent unemployment among teenagers, part of the severe and worsening inequality in our society, makes the idea of voluntary service a mockery. We call for a sharp reduction of the armed forces, of arms spending, and of all the government's policies which distort and regiment our society. We see in these policies no conceivable "defense" of a decent life, but only a cementing of illegitimate power, a heightening of inequality, an increasing danger of nuclear war, and a guarantee of bloody military intervention wherever popular resistance threatens the interests of U.S. corporations and the rule of "friendly" dictators and juntas.

Non-registration is an important mode of resistance to these policies, dramatizing the way the needs of the powerful cancel the rights of those with least power. But it is not a privileged form of resistance: we call for, and support, every principled action against the military, and against the ruthless grab for corporate and governmental power.

Fifteen years ago, RESIST put out the first "Call to Resist Illegitimate Authority." The mass movement of which that call was a part won some victories: most notably, it set limits to the use of arbitrary power, and established our willingness and ability to say no. We urgently need to reassert that ability now.

Here is our NO to registration, NO to the draft, NO to military power. Here is our solidarity with those who resist.



October 25, 1982

Dear Dick:

I'm writing as I promised about the New Call. Since you never saw the minutes from the August board meeting I am typing them up verbatim below and then I'll tell you what we came up with at the October meeting.

The New Call (from August minutes)

We discussed the first draft of the New Call which Dick Ohmann wrote. We felt that it succeeded in covering a lot of ground, and that it met the main requirements of being both short and substantive, and a complicity and a political statement. Specific criticisms were : in talking about the All Volunteer Army it should deal with the racism of the status quo; it should address the connections between draft resistance and other kinds of resistance (the resistance of everyday life?) in a more substantive way; it should be snappier and more poetic. Louis pointed out that the first Call took a year and a half to write, so we all felt relieved. The plans for this are as follows: 1) locate a copy of the first call to provide some political and stylistic continuity; 2) pass on our suggestions to Dick directly; 3) ask all of you to write your own drafts or make changes/comments/suggestions on the enclosed draft and send it directly to Dick. We really need the involvement of as many of you as possible if we are to produce a good statement.

As of the October meeting we decided to ask Hans Koning (per his suggestion in his letter to you ) to write a second draft. The question is, to you want to correspond with Hans directly or should I write to him from here? Where do you want to go with this? If you would like to rewrite your first draft considering the above criticisms that would be a good possibility too. Let me know what you think.

Thanks for your work on this.

Best from here,



# RESIST

*a call to resist  
illegitimate authority*

August, 1976 - 720 Massachusetts Avenue, Room 4, Cambridge, Massachusetts #106

What follows is a draft of the new version of RESIST's Call to resist illegitimate authority. It is an attempt to define the political perspective which guides our allocation of grants. This draft emerged from long discussions held by RESIST people. We need responses-many of them- if this Call is to have any political significance. How do people feel about the content? And how should we use it? Should we publish it for an audience wider than the present RESIST constituency? Should we encourage people to publicly sign it as they did the original Call? Or should it be used strictly for internal political discussion? Please let us hear from you!

Resist was formed in 1967 to oppose the Indochina war and the draft. The first Call to Resist Illegitimate Authority focussed on the issues of imperialism abroad and repression at home. Resist concentrated much of its energy on college and university campuses, which were an important source of the resistance movement at that time.

The war was not, however, a basic cause of the sickness of the United States: it was just its most obvious symptom, one that followed from a system built on imperialism, repression, and exploitation, one in which the victims of racism and sexism suffered the most cruelly. Resist then issued a revised Call in 1971, increasing its support for groups not only working to end the war but also for those working against many other forms of illegitimate authority.

We believe that now the major thrust of resistance to illegitimate authority must be to build toward socialism in the United States because the essential source of illegitimate authority in the United States today is capitalism. Successful opposition to capitalism must be rooted in the rich traditions and broad interests of working-class people, for socialism is essentially an expression of those traditions and interests.

But what, concretely, does it mean "to build toward socialism"? And just how are the methods of direct resistance to illegitimate authority to be brought to bear in this effort? Our work to support movements for change over the past nine years has led us to believe that we must shape our actions and our policies in light of the following points:

1. Attacking the roots of illegitimate authority must mean ending the system of private ownership and private profit.

Ending private ownership of steel mills and oil resources does not - history has made obvious - guarantee an end to the exercise of illegitimate authority. But we believe that in the United States today, the private ownership of the means of production and of distribution stands

as the main bar to real progress toward a healthy, egalitarian society.

The private profit system determines why the children of the poor are destined to remain poor; why so many people have no work and so few have work that they value and wish to do; why subways rust as the air fills up with fumes. This obsession with private profit determines that each person in the United States shall be forced to contribute over \$500 every year to making or preparing for war, while paying even more for wars past. For the price of just one B-1 bomber nine community colleges, each serving 10,000 students, could operate for a year. For the cost of the whole fleet, housing could be built for six million people.

To change any, much less all, of these realities in our lives means changing the central and overwhelming fact of American life today: the dominance of corporate capitalism. We do not intend this as any new insight; our intention is simply to write large what must be the fundamental goal of us all.

2. From its beginning Resist has strongly supported groups struggling for power and control in communities, institutions, workplaces, as well as in Southeast Asia and elsewhere in the world. The vision of socialist institutions we hold demands that people be able to participate fully in the decisions affecting them. Substituting another hierarchical structure such as state capitalism for private capitalism does not make for meaningful change.

Socialism, then, does not imply for us simply the nationalization of major enterprises, the substitution of the State for the Board. It is, rather, the development of different goals for and means of production and distribution. For workers need to make the decisions that establish critical matters like how much is produced, what is produced, for whose use and benefit. In their fullest sense, power and control mean the elimination of the masters who stand over the workers: those who do the work must be its masters. We agree with the slogan of the Shanghai dock workers: "Be the masters of the dock, not the slaves of the tonnage."

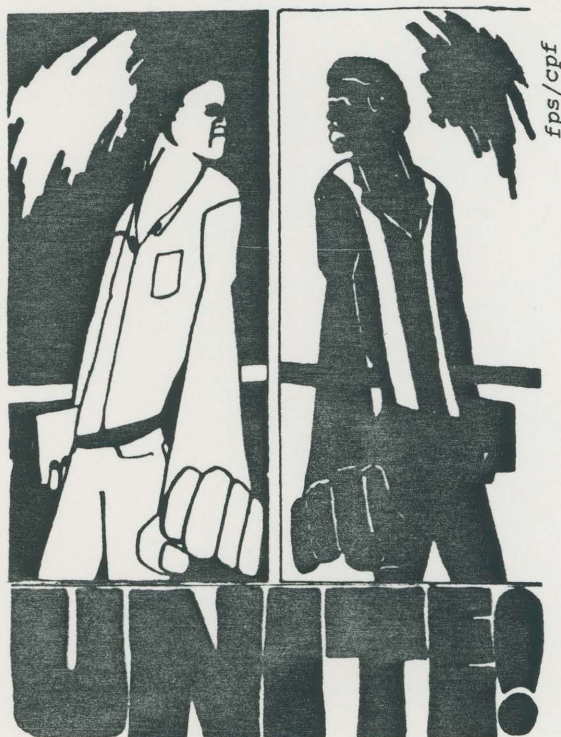
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3. The ideas and institutions of national chauvinism, white supremacy, and patriarchy are among the most obvious and ancient manifestations of illegitimate authority that affect us all. In a sense, as all whites gain in some measure from white supremacy, so all males gain in some measure from patriarchy and all of its citizens gain in some measure from U. S. chauvinism. These facts are not the occasion for expressions of guilt but for recognizing that racism and sexism and national chauvinism will persist as long as some groups in a society continue to gain advantage through them. A strategy for liberation must therefore be directed towards changing the institutions which sustain and apologize such privilege - institutions like schools, courts, real estate and banking industries, employment agencies, the media, the institutions of culture.

While any fundamental change in the society entails radical alteration of the economic system, that change will not come about - nor will racism, sexism, and national chauvinism be eliminated - without building a culture of equity and solidarity. Such a culture will encourage and support the distinctive values, aspirations, and achievements of all people, and it will help us to learn how to work together against our common oppressors.

In significant ways, therefore, the struggle against racism, sexism, and national chauvinism must be directed not only toward the oppressive institutions and attitudes of this society, but also toward the organizations and consciousness created by movements for change. This is, we believe, a healthy, a necessary process, one that will continue to be necessary after a socialist reconstruction of society.



4. We live in a period of great stress for capitalism and because we do, we can expect a period of more or less intense conflict and misery here in the United States, with continued high levels of unemployment; efforts to push more and more work onto ever fewer workers - whether in the mine or in the classroom; the wiping out of steps toward equal employment and pay made by minorities and women; higher prices for the things ordinary people need and use; deteriorating hospitals, decaying parks, dilapidated schools; the undermining of human services in the central cities; and the proliferation of government agencies and actions designed to produce cynicism, hopelessness, and division among people who might otherwise attack the private profit system. We see no reason to think that in the stormy period ahead the repressive activities of the vast intelligence and police network, so recently exposed, will not continue and indeed become more subtle and pervasive. Behind a major crisis for capitalism there always lies the danger of fascism.

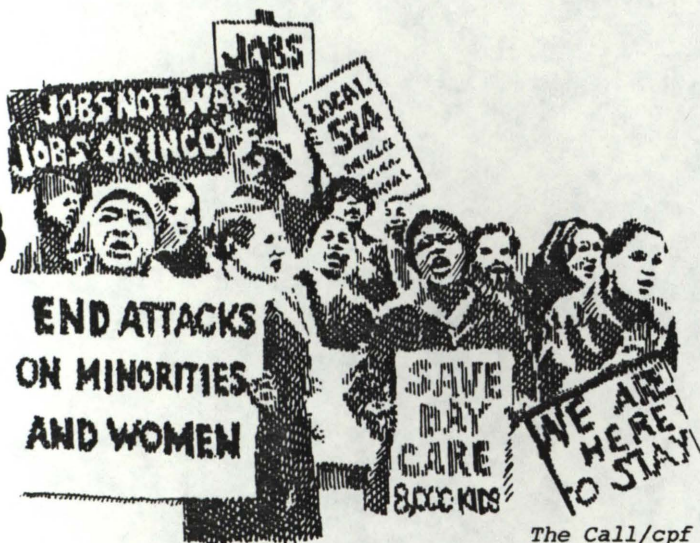
But such a period presents opportunities for those of us working for change. The defeat of imperialism in Southeast Asia not only helped produce the conditions requiring capital to reorganize, but it also provided an inspiration to people everywhere to oppose imperialism. The problems of the domestic economy cannot now so easily be solved by widening foreign markets and it has become increasingly difficult to ease the burden on American workers by degrading workers overseas. Slowly, the control that U.S. corporate interests have exercised over economies and governments in the "third world" and in Europe is challenged and erodes - from Laos to Angola to Italy. The American empire continues, of course; but one meaning of the \$114 billion budget and of the greatly increased sale of U.S. arms to repressive regimes abroad is that it becomes everyday more difficult to hold. For the interests of the majority of Americans and of billions of poor and oppressed people overseas are rapidly converging in one demand: an end to American imperialism.

Whether we wish it or not, we and our children face a future of struggle. We should welcome it and prepare ourselves for it. Every institution in this society - the factories, schools, fields, media, the unions, churches, the neighborhoods and communities that we live in - all are arenas for that struggle. In them, the ideas and aspirations of socialism will contest the illegitimate authority of a decaying capitalism. Resist intends, so far as it can, to support these institutional struggles and to urge people to carry them out in the light of the points enumerated in this Call. The support of sustained organizing efforts in workplaces and communities has always had the highest priority for us. These efforts can now be strengthened, we believe, by the explicit advocacy of socialism as we have talked of it here.

(Continued next page)



Further we will continue to support direct actions which attack or expose the impositions of illegitimate authority - like boycotts against spiraling mass transit fares; sit-ins against shortened school days, the closing of daycare centers, and tuition hikes; strikes for both decent working conditions and better patient care; tax withholdings to dramatize the voraciousness of military budgets; traffic disruptions to insist that business cannot continue as usual while peoples' lives and futures are being destroyed or denied. Such actions have all occurred within the year. And we need more actions of this sort in order for the movement to be visible, to teach, to learn from practice, and to show how vulnerable the enemy really is. Just as we have supported resistance to the draft, to the military, to repressive grand juries and to the prisons, as we have supported raids on FBI files and on the Dow Chemical Company computer, Resist will continue to support the creative disruption of the institutions of capitalism.



Thank you!

In the newsletter before this one, we informed people that the summer slowdown in contributions had kept us from funding a number of groups who needed money badly. We asked for special contributions. The response has been generous and heartening. As a result we shall be able to fund a substantial number of groups at our August meeting.

Please keep the contributions coming. Better yet, if you're not already a pledge, become one. Many thanks!

## J O B S

Clergy and Laity Concerned  
235 E. 49th St. New York, N.Y. 10017

CALC is an action oriented, national interfaith network of people working on peace and social justice issues. CALC seeks to empower Americans to become "reflective and responsible sovereigns over the use of American power and resources". Their primary focus is on U.S. domestic and foreign policies, with special emphasis on the way in which those policies affect the lives of people at home and in the third world. There are two full time staff openings which are available immediately for a Newsletter Editor / Membership coordinator, and a Hunger Program Coordinator.

The NEWSLETTER EDITOR/ MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR would work on production of their monthly 16 page newsletter, CALC Report, which serves as a program update a resource directory of CALC's members, chapters and supporters. They would also be coordinating and developing CALC's membership program, which involves list maintenance, monthly renewals, outreach and development.

The HUNGER PROGRAM COORDINATOR would develop and coordinate CALC's agribusiness campaign, which was specified as the focus of the developing campaign for the world hunger program at the CALC national network conference in June 1976. CALC's hunger program "seeks to bring to the religious community an understanding of the political and economic factors which contribute to the perpetuation of hunger and poverty, and an action program which can change these factors".

Insofar as it is possible, the national CALC office strives toward collective decision-making and responsibility sharing. The hours are long, the pay is subsistence (according to need), but the reward of working with a network of socially concerned activists is great.

SEND RESUME AND INQUIRES to Rick Boardman.

The Alternative School  
3950 Rainbow Blvd. Kansas City, Kansas 66103

The alternative School serves 20-30 junior and senior high age youth who have dropped out of, been suspended from, or who have chronic truancy problems at the public school. They are working to create a supportive, non-threatening educational environment emphasizing the mastery of basic skills essential for self directed learning, and provide courses directed towards student interests. They are looking for a full time Math Instructor and Counselor. Both positions are open in late August 1976, and salaries are around 5000, and negotiated according to need.

Interested people should contact Arlene Hernon.



July - August 1980

## A Statement by *Resist* on Registration and the Draft

Ten years ago and more, resistance to the draft formed a vital part of a broad movement to turn the U.S. away from being a terror among nations. Many of us were among those who then supported young men resisting the draft—or ourselves were draft resisters. We helped organize the “Call to Resist Illegitimate Authority”, draft card turn-ins at the Justice Department and at selective service offices, networks to provide counselling and to support resistance. In the years between we have continued to support hundreds of efforts to achieve fundamental social change in the United States, and genuine human rights and equal opportunity around the world.

Then the U.S. government was engaged in an illegal, immoral, and ultimately futile war on Vietnam. Today, in a new decade, much has changed. But one thing remains absolutely clear: *the power to conscript IS the power to make war.*

Whether one talks of the U.S. invasion of Cambodia or the Chinese invasion of Vietnam, intervention in Afghanistan or in the Dominican Republic, or myriad other examples one could cite, history makes clear that, whatever the system of government, providing an army is encouraging its use. Many of us who are not pacifists can conceive circumstances, as during World War II, when a war seemed necessary; but we understand the particular dangers conscription presents, especially to a democracy. Indeed, it is likely that when a government cannot persuade the people that a war is worth fighting, it isn't.

In the United States (about which, as American citizens, we must primarily speak), peacetime conscription has invariably contributed to heightening social conflict and undermining democratic processes at home and to encouraging military adventures abroad. The reasons are not hard to find. To justify the anti-democratic practice of conscription, policy-makers have had to exaggerate fears of a real or potential enemy; they have had to try silencing domestic opposition by characterizing it as duplicitous or disloyal. They have invented specious rationalizations for taking over the lives of youth—like the assertion that two or three years of control by a rigid military bureaucracy is “good for” young people.

And once control over a conscript military was achieved, an executive could proceed to use it essentially free from Congressional or, for long periods of time, even popular opposition.

We see such a process beginning today. President Carter, wildly exaggerating the reprehensible Soviet invasion of Afghanistan as the “greatest crisis since World War II,” proposes reinstituting conscription as one response. In turn, he links renewed draft registration (which is only a first step to conscription) to a new Carter Doctrine, describing the vast expanse of the Middle East as an American preserve and threatening to send American troops to counter any interference with what he defines as U.S. interests in the area. And predictably, certain of his advisers are already questioning the patriotism of those who oppose such militarization of U.S. policy.

Many Americans, frustrated by Iranian seizure of U.S. hostages, angry over obscene oil company profits, and fearful about losing fuel needed to heat their homes and run their cars, may well be inclined to sign the blank war check a renewed draft represents. Such a response is encouraged by those who say we must now “overcome the trauma of Vietnam” and reassert American military power in the world—as if we could simply turn the clock back to the days of Dwight Eisenhower, or perhaps Teddy Roosevelt, pretend that the world has itself not changed, and that sabre rattling and gunboat diplomacy will actually solve the problems that trouble us all.

The following principles seem to us clear and compelling:

—American military power should not be used to shore up hated dictatorships in client states; people around the world have come to see that they have as much right to “life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness” as we, and they will oppose the U.S. so long as we stand in the way of such goals.

—Given the resources of a registered population, an American President will be tempted to pursue foreign military adventures.

—Excessive concentration of resources and energy on overseas adventures immediately diverts attention and money from the achievement of equality and stability at home, whether one is talking about ending inflation, providing opportunities for equal education and jobs for *all* Americans, or so changing the economy that young people, especially from poor and working class families, are no longer forced into the military as the only alternative to permanent unemployment.



We are committed to acting on these principles. We will work against the renewal of draft registration and the conscription which would inevitably follow. But should peacetime conscription be reestablished, we will renew our Call to Resist Illegitimate Authority, once again supporting young men and women who refuse conscription. We will help in reestablishing anti-draft groups and centers. We will encourage efforts to disrupt whatever "selective" service mechanisms may be set up. In short, we will aid and abet direct and unequivocal resistance to registration, conscription, the militarization of American society, and the waste of a new generation of American youth.

We hope that such actions will not be needed, and that the social disruption an effort to reinstitute the draft will inevitably produce will be prevented—by dropping the idea. But if the administration presses forward with its plans to conscript the youth of America, we will not blink at the consequences of an absolute opposition to that effort.

#### STATEMENT SUPPORTERS

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Thelma C. DuVinage	Burton Lane	Carlos Otero	Thomas E. Weisskopf
Phyllis Ewen	Lynn Lane	Michelle C. Otto	Howard Zinn

*Resist asks your help in publicizing this statement and supporting the growing anti-draft, anti-war movement. If you would like to add your name to this statement, please fill out the coupon below and mail it to Resist, 38 Union Square, Somerville, MA 02143.*

-----  
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Resist may use my name in publicizing this statement.



# RESIST

July-August, 1980 — 38 Union Square, Somerville, Mass. 02143 — Newsletter #133

*a call to resist illegitimate authority*

## A TIME TO RESIST

The renewal of draft registration is a clear indication that the United States government is gearing up its military machine. This preliminary step toward mobilizing a fighting force could bring back the draft as early as this November.

In response to the government's war obsession, a national anti-draft campaign has been sparked into action. The anti-draft movement has also revived the work for which Resist was originally founded. Resist was established in 1967 to oppose the war in Vietnam and the draft. Since its inception, Resist has focussed on the issues of imperialism abroad and repression at home. The issues remain the same; the need for resistance is even stronger. Now that anti-draft organizations are appearing all over the country, Resist is anxious to respond to their widespread efforts. Several of these groups have appealed to us already. Community organizations have committed themselves to local educational projects, and joined in city-wide actions. Many individuals and groups have become involved in counseling. Parents and veterans are forming their own organizations and their numbers are growing.

We are calling on you to continue your support of Resist and to help strengthen the anti-draft movement. We not only need to encourage young people to make a choice about military servitude; we must also put a stop to Carter's war hysteria and defeat militarism. The threat of nuclear destruction makes our response more urgent than ever before. If you have not sent a contribution this year, we encourage you to do it now. Or support Resist by becoming a monthly pledge, support that we can count on so that anti-war organizations can continue to count on us. We need your help.

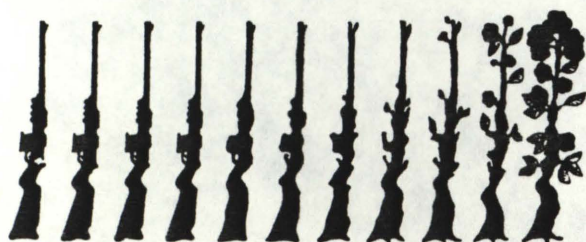
## What Next for the Anti-Draft Movement?

It was Saturday morning, and in Cambridge the anti-draft movement felt they had won. In a demonstration capping two weeks of intensive picketting, sitting-in, and leafletting at post offices—the site picked by the government in an attempt to give a non-military appearance to draft registration—the demonstrators had succeeded in completely blocking access to the Cambridge post office. When local police refused to interfere, federal officials were forced to concede the struggle by locking the post office themselves. Meanwhile, demonstrators did a brisk business selling stamps; and after the final moments of the official draft registration period were counted down, a victory parade marched through Harvard Square.

It will be several weeks before it is possible to measure the success or failure of the government's draft registration measures, but preliminary indications are that the government did not come close to its announced goal of 98% registration. In Greater Boston, for example, only 32,600, or 65% of the approximately 50,000 19- and 20-year old men in the area registered. Preliminary reports from other cities indicate a similar trend: Atlanta, 56%; Chicago, 68%; Seattle, 66%; and Phoenix, 80%. Of the four million men required to register for the draft, perhaps a million did not.

The government's plan to bring back draft registration, and eventually the draft, now confronts some difficulties; and what started as a move intended to signal U.S. resolve to the Soviet Union in the aftermath of the invasion of Afghanistan has instead become an effective rallying point for the anti-war forces in this country. For example, nearly a million young men are now in violation of the draft registration law. Except for those resisters who publicly announced their intention to refuse to register, none of these quiet refusers can be prosecuted until November, for that is the earliest that the time-consuming process of computerizing the registration records and mailing receipts to registrants can be completed. Moreover, the government faces the strong possibility that the full Supreme Court will uphold the Philadelphia court's finding that the Selective Service law is itself unconstitutional because it excludes women from its scope. Though the Court is expected to hear arguments on this issue in the fall, it is likely to be sev-

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# RESIST

February-March 1982 — 38 Union Square, Somerville, Mass, 02143 — Newsletter #146

*a call to resist illegitimate authority*

## WHAT KIND OF PEACE MOVEMENT?

Since its beginnings in 1967, Resist has been primarily an anti-war organization. And our funding has reflected this: in 1981, for example, 38 out of 72 grants went to peace or anti-draft organizations.

Yet we have always been conscious of the need to give strong support to organizations working in other areas: civil liberties, social justice, labor, feminism, and anti-racism. This reflects the view that not only are such movements important in themselves, but that our efforts to build the peace movement can not be successful unless we are also successful in creating a broad movement against "illegitimate authority" in all aspects of life.

The growing danger of war, and the consequent annihilation of our civilization raises the question of whether it is wise to continue to spread our resources across much of the spectrum of our movement's work, rather than to concentrate our energy and funds on anti-war work alone. It certainly can be argued, and is being argued, that the issue of survival is fundamental, and that all of our political hopes will be ended if the arms race is not brought quickly into check. Shouldn't we concentrate our forces, creating the largest possible coalition for nuclear disarmament? Aren't other issues diversions, or sources of disunity that should be temporarily put on the shelf until survival is assured?

These questions do not allow for a simple answer, and yet Resist must address them in a practical way each time we decide how to allocate our grant money. Our present understanding is that the peace movement has no choice but to see itself as part of a **broad progressive movement** if it is to achieve its goals. The sources of violence and potential nuclear destruction are deep, and do not depend on a particular set of leaders who occupy positions of power. For peace to be assured we must make substantial progress in limiting the concentration of power in the hands of the rich, in dismantling hierarchies of domination and exploitation, and in combating ideologies of inequality, white supremacy, and anti-semitism. Failing to address these issues will tend to limit anti-war activity to those for whom they are of little importance, and prevent us from becoming a majority in this country.

## THE SPECIAL SESSION ON DISARMAMENT

FRANK BROADHEAD

The organizers of the demonstrations scheduled next June to coincide with the UN Special Session on Disarmament recently made an important decision. Faced with proposals to include issues of US intervention prominently in the demonstrations, the organizers voted these proposals down. The focus of the demonstrations will continue to be on the danger of the nuclear arms race and the enormous drain on human resources it causes.

While these are obviously important — life and death — issues, the decision raises some important questions. First, can the issues really be separated? What is the linkage in the real world between nuclear war and conventional war, whether intervention into Third World conflicts or a "conventional" war between nuclear powers? And second, does this emphasis on nuclear weapons alone really help build, and not divide, the peace movement? For it is argued that a focus on nuclear weapons is not only appropriate because of their danger, but that including other issues such as US intervention would be divisive within the consensus that is emerging about the threat of nuclear war. And hanging over this discussion is the dramatic growth of the peace movement in Europe, where a single focus — no nuclear weapons, East or West — has organized massive demonstrations against war. Wouldn't a similar focus create a mass movement here as well?

In the first place, this is not Europe, and it makes no sense whatsoever to derive the goals of the US peace movement from the experience of the peace movement in Britain or the Netherlands. We live in the heartland of not only *the* nuclear weapons power, but *the* imperial gendarme as well. It is *our* nation that has inflicted so much suffering on countries of the Middle East, South-east Asia, and now Central America, and we have a moral obligation to do what we can to stop it. It is all very well to be mobilized for peace when *our* cities are threatened with destruction, and ourselves and our friends threatened with instant or lingering death. But death and destruction are no less real when they are inflicted by our armies or those of our surrogates on the

(continued on page 2)



## Resist Board Search/Community Building Project

Current Speakers: 12/90

Tatiana Schreiber 522-7720

Tess Ewing 661-2064

Oscar Hernandez 522-5697

Ken Hale 861-8164

Pam Chamberlain 864-2992

### Notes for Speaking Engagements

We will expect to talk for 5 - 10 minutes (Tess says no more than 5); then open up for questions for 15 - 20 minutes or however long we are allowed.

Bring to the meeting: brochures, guidelines for board members, issues of the newsletter (perhaps one each of past 12 months), xeroxed copies of newsletter grant reports illustrating a range of types of grants, pledge letters + pledge form, grant guides.

1. First introduce ourselves and purpose of our visit. There are four purposes:

- a. To let communities we don't already fund know we exist, give them info about our priorities, help them determine if projects they are involved with meet our guidelines.
- b. To learn about issues/political struggles in some of the communities we fund, or those we would like to fund.
- c. To increase (over time) board representation from communities we fund - i.e. Latino, Central American solidarity, Community Organizing...
- d. To increase (over time) board representation from communities we don't often fund, but would like to - i.e. Haitian/Caribbean, Asian-American, etc.

2. After introducing ourselves and purpose of our visit, quickly explain format for meeting. I.E. We will speak for five minutes, we will open up for questions, then we would like to hear from you about issues/political struggles/fundraising problems/specific projects you are involved with. Ask if this is OK. If not, would they like to speak first?

3. The following is a "crib sheet" for what we will say and how we will respond to questions. This does not all have to be said during our five minute intro. It can come out in the question/answer period.

Tess  
will  
make



Who are we? Brief history. Ken said he'd talk to some long-time Resisters for stories about origin. Basically we recall that our roots are anti-militarist, but we're flexible and can look to the needs that now exist in our communities. We're able to respond very quickly to needs as they come up. EX. Gulf crisis organizing.

Talk about our pledge system, and the fact that most of our supporters are activists themselves. Resist sees itself as a political organization rather than an traditional philanthropic one. Resist sprang from an impulse of responding to foreign policy matters and how they affect communities at home. This is still what we do.

Explain our grant giving capacity (small) and our politicaal orientation. Talk about the kinds of projects we fund/kind of groups we support.

## PROJECTS

Give examples of things we've supported from different categories, emphasizing radical nature of project. Also give examples of things we haven't funded and why. Say something about the kind of proposal we would not be interested in - those that can get funding elsewhere. We like to see money put to use in ways that can increase money, such as fundraising, subscription drives, membership drives.

Explain that we fund people organizing here in the U.S. against intervention, but we don't support projects in other countries.

Explain that we fund organizing projects, not social service. We may give grants that appear to be service, but have organizing affect or potential (give examples.) We may fund economic development projects if the organizers see the project as having potential for social change, community organizing.

GROUPS. We don't fund individuals.

Explain that we are non-sectarian. While not explicitly ruling out grants to sectarian groups, we judge the project and what we think it's affect will be. We tend not to fund projects that are being done by one particular party, because we favor coalition work. We don't want to support projects that have one stated purpose but which have a hidden agenda. We don't believe there is a vanguard party, so we do not fund parties or groups that think they are the vanguard. We look at whether the group can work in coalition. We seek the advice of people who know about the group and its work in the community.



Highlight some specific areas that may be controversial. We don't fund groups that are anti-choice. We don't fund groups that are homophobic.

We tend to favor groups that have a multi-issue perspective. Project can be single-issue, but we want to know that the group has a broad-based awareness of social justice issues. (Question 10) Give examples of groups we wouldn't fund for this reason, such as a group of white men doing peace education work, who had not thought about "the war at home."

#### BOARD SEARCH

We look for groups and projects across the country, but most of our board members are on the East Coast. Therefore, we rely on extensive network of contacts. We're interested in board members who have own network of contacts and do work with other groups around the country (and internationally)

Explain board responsibilities, commitment, rewards

If anyone is interested in talking with us further about the board, they can talk to us after or feel free to think about it and call later. Explain procedure for applying to board - i.e. that we will send them info about Resist and board requirements and then they'll send letter of interest with personal and political background. Then we set up a meeting with a couple board members, after which recommendation goes to full board and a decision is made.

#### COMMUNITY BUILDING

Once questions about Resist have been answered, move on to discussion of the group and their work. What are the important political issues they are facing in their community? What specific projects are they working on? Who makes up their membership? Do they have leaflets describing their work for us to take? What kind of problems have they faced fundraising? What kinds of problems do they have organizing locally, nationally? Specific problems working in coalition with specific other groups? (What until things have warmed up and some rapport established before asking such a thing!)

Do they have suggestions for who else we should talk to? We specifically want to talk to Latino/Caribbean groups.