9-13-1992

Resist Board Meeting, Sept. 13, 1992

Resist

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Dear board member,

Here are the agenda and proposals for the next meeting. As usual, the business items for the meeting are 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

Health/AIDS/Disability

1) Chittenden County Self Advocacy & Support Group (Burlington, VT) - Request of $800 for accessibility expenses.
   Yes ___ No ___ Maybe ___

2) Greater New Bedford AIDS Awareness Day Committee (New Bedford, MA) - $800 asked for the expenses of the day-long event on August 15.
   Yes ___ No ___ Maybe ___

3) Project Survival (Detroit, MI) - Request of $600 for expenses of their Mobilizing for Action Project to mobilize people of color communities about the Ryan White AIDS Emergency Act.
   Yes ___ No ___ Maybe ___
4) Arise (Springfield, MA) - $800 requested for the expenses of members attending this group's AIDS Advocacy meetings.
   Yes ___  No ___  Maybe ___

Native Americans/Resistance 500

5) Cape Codders Against Racism (East Dennis, MA) - Request of $600 toward the non-travel expenses of a September 26 - 27th public program on Native American history and issues.
   Yes ___  No ___  Maybe ___

6) Future Leaders Network (Brooklyn, NY) - $800 request for non-travel expenses and for prizes for their essay contest for young people on the theme "The Truth About Columbus."
   Yes ___  No ___  Maybe ___

7) Adelante! Street Theatre Project (New York, NY) - $600 request toward expenses of their performance, "Master of the Universe," a parody concerning the Quincentennial.
   Yes ___  No ___  Maybe ___

8) Austin Peace & Justice Coalition Education Fund (TX) - A request of $800 to produce an expanded edition of their newsletter which would focus on the events and issues of "500 Years of Resistance."
   Yes ___  No ___  Maybe ___

9) Leonard Peltier Support Group (San Francisco, CA) - Requesting $800 to produce a pamphlet "1992 - 500 Years of Resistance."
   Yes ___  No ___  Maybe ___
10) Thomas Morton Alliance (Stoneham, MA) - $800 requested for the production of pamphlets and copying of a video, and for costs of mailing for this 500th Alternative resource project. Since the pamphlets are quite long, and the video is 105 minutes in length, I’ll ask a board member to review them and report to the board meeting.

Yes ____ No ____ Maybe ____

Women

11) Reproductive Rights Network (Boston, MA) - A request of $800 to produce a special edition of their newsletter focusing on the declining availability of abortion services in the state.

Yes ____ No ____ Maybe ____

12) Women’s Ordination Conference (Fairfax, VA) - Asking for $800 toward the expenses of their follow-up report after their trip to Czechoslovakia.

Yes ____ No ____ Maybe ____

Gay and Lesbian

13) Abortion Rights Fund of Western Mass. (Hadley, MA) - A request of $800 for two projects: $600 for translation into Spanish and for printing their fact sheets; and $200 for printing bus ad cards for a media campaign.

Yes ____ No ____ Maybe ____

14) Cambridge Lavender Alliance (MA) - $800 requested: $300 for the past expenses of Gay Pride 1992, and $500 for future operating expenses.

Yes ____ No ____ Maybe ____

15) Gay & Lesbian Resource Center (Des Moines, IA) - $600 request to pay for ads in high school newspapers about their youth program.

Yes ____ No ____ Maybe ____
Central/Latin America and the Caribbean

16) Network in Solidarity with the People of Guatemala (Washington, DC) - Request of $800 for the non-travel expenses of organizing and promoting speaking tours of Guatemalan popular movement leaders.

Yes  ____  No  ____  Maybe  ____

17) Videoteca del Sur (New York, NY) - Asking for $600 to defray advertising and telephone costs for a series of seminars about Latin American film and video.

Yes  ____  No  ____  Maybe  ____

18) Bay Area Pledge of Resistance (Oakland, CA) - Request of $800 toward the expenses of their work focused on Haiti.

Yes  ____  No  ____  Maybe  ____

19) New England Central America Network (Jamaica Plain, MA) - Requesting $800 for a mailing to get people involved with the NECAN Regional Nicaragua Committee.

Yes  ____  No  ____  Maybe  ____

20) Haiti Focus (Cambridge, MA) - They're asking for $800 toward the expenses of this weekly local radio program.

Yes  ____  No  ____  Maybe  ____

21) Center for Information/Documentation & Research on Haiti (Hyde Park, MA) - Request of $800 toward the expenses of producing their newsletter.

Yes  ____  No  ____  Maybe  ____
Peace/Anti-militarism

22) Grand Rapids Area Faith & Resistance (MI) - They're asking for $600 for a new flyer, postage and other expenses for their Pledge of Resistance to War Project.
Yes ___ No ___ Maybe ___

23) Alternatives to the Military (Lincoln, NE) - Request of $500 for literature and flyers for use in the high schools, and for flyers for their art-against-war project.
Yes ___ No ___ Maybe ___

24) Committee Opposed to Militarism and the Draft (San Diego, CA) - Asking for $700 for the expenses of a special mailing to inactive past supporters.
Yes ___ No ___ Maybe ___

25) Thomas Merton Center (Pittsburgh, PA) - Request of $800 for the purchase of a laser printer.
Yes ___ No ___ Maybe ___

26) Houston Committee for Youth & Nonmilitary Opportunities (Bellaire, TX) - Requesting $250 for the cost of literature for high school counselors and librarians.
Yes ___ No ___ Maybe ___

27) Pax Christi Metro DC (Washington, DC) - They're asking for $800 for the purchase of a fax machine.
Yes ___ No ___ Maybe ___
Environment

28) People for Community Recovery (Chicago, IL) - Request of $800 toward the expenses of producing a newsletter.
   Yes ___  No ___  Maybe ___

29) Citizens Against Pesticides (Madison, WI) - Asking for $600 for production and mailing costs of their newsletter and for literature and other expenses.
   Yes ___  No ___  Maybe ___

Prisoners

30) Prisoners' Legal News (Lake Worth, FL) - They're are asking for $800 toward the expenses of a mailing to libraries and legal organizations.
   Yes ___  No ___  Maybe ___

31) Citizens for Penal Reform (Salt Lake City, UT) - Request of $800 toward production and mailing costs of their newsletter, and for expenses of a conference and a petition drive.
   Yes ___  No ___  Maybe ___

32) Virginia Coalition on Jails and Prisons (Richmond) - Requesting $500 for their public education and legislative visit program.
   Yes ___  No ___  Maybe ___

Community/Anti-racism

33) Chelsea's Commission on Hispanic Affairs (MA) - $800 requested toward the purchase of fax and copying machines.
   Yes ___  No ___  Maybe ___
34) The Welcome Project (Somerville, MA) - Requesting $800 for rent and insurance for their new office.
   Yes ____ No ____ Maybe _____

Burma Review Committee (Rego Park, NY) - They're asking for $800 toward the expenses of producing their newsletter. Since it's 20 pages long, I'll ask a board member to review and report to the board meeting.
   Yes ____ No ____ Maybe _____

Asia Resource Center (Washington, DC) - Request of $800 toward the expenses of a two day Leadership Training and Network Building workshop for social change in Thailand.
   Yes ____ No ____ Maybe _____

BUSINESS/POLICY ITEMS

* Resist's 25th Anniversary - Report from Yana and discussion.

* Typewriters for Prisoners Project - On the following pages, you'll find a progress report of this Project so far, and a request for additional funding.

* Office - Staff, finances and other miscellaneous items.

* The next board meeting will be in the Boston area and on October 25, 1992. We'll need someone to host that meeting.

I'll send you references and additional material before the board meeting. I hope to see you at the meeting.

For peace and justice,

Nancy Moniz, Resist staff
7 August 1992

Resist
One Summer Street
Somerville, MA 02143

Dear Resist:

Here's a long overdue report on the Typewriters for Prisoners project, our use of the last Resist grant(s), and a request for another.

I started working on the project in June 1991, and unfortunately I can't say too much about the details of the finances up to that time. Since then, however, we have sent out 14 typewriters, all of which were donated to us. We have spent $650 on repairing and shipping the typewriters, which is done by the Cambridge Typewriter Co. for a flat rate of $50 per machine; we still owe them $50, for which they haven't yet sent us a bill. We have also spent $51.56 on photocopying, stamps, and mailing labels for corresponding with prisoners. It looks to me like we had a total of $800 in grants from Resist to spend during this period, so we are $1.56 over budget.

We get a lot of requests for typewriters whenever we put out the word that we're ready to send out some more (the 14 we sent were chosen from over 150 requests received), and the great majority of them are from individuals who need them for legal work, for themselves and others. These people certainly have a legitimate (often serious) need for a typewriter, but since we have pretty limited resources, we've tried to focus on sending them to prisoners' groups that are doing organizing and/or educational work, or at least to individual prisoners such as jailhouse lawyers who can use them to help a large number of others, or in a way that involves others, or will have an impact on others. Here are some of the groups we have sent typewriters to:

Nuestra Familia Program, MCI Norfolk
Norfolk Resident Council, MCI Norfolk
Native American Prisoners' Rehabilitation Research Project
Incarcerated Veterans' Association, Waupun, Wisconsin
Lancaster Opportunity Support Services (women's program at Lancaster, Mass.)

Families and Friends of Prisoners, Menard, Ill.
We have also sent typewriters to prisoners working on AIDS issues, civil rights, literacy programs, and support for gay men and transsexuals. I think there is still a great deal of need out there. It has sometimes been difficult, in the midst of all the requests from individuals, to find and contact the groups that are doing organizing, but the word has gotten around, and we have found some new networks through which we can advertise.

So, we would like to ask the board for a new grant of $800, which will enable us to send out 14 or 15 typewriters over the coming year. Thanks very much for your support. If you have any questions, please call me at 524-0553.

In solidarity,

Larry Goldsmith
RESIST BOARD MEETING MINUTES
September 13, 1992
Renae Scott's, Cambridge


25th Anniversary: Tatiana went over the written report that was included with the board packet. She reported that the actual planning committee for the event has dwindled to 4, plus her. She needs more volunteer help from people. Nancy Moniz said she will start coming to meetings. Meeting schedule: the next meeting is October 8th, Thursday, 7pm at Louis' house; then October 21, Wednesday; and November 4th, Wednesday. There will be one more a week before the event (which is November 14th).

Help is needed for day of event-- putting up panel displays, dealing with t-shirts, banners. Tatiana estimates needing help from about 12 on that day. We will need food for people who volunteer for that day. We will need someone to pick up Yolanda from the airport, and some places to put people up.

The art group is very active and planning something for the spring.

Press issue: Tatiana has found a person to do press work-- Rick Schwartz. He's done a lot of work for Haymarket. He gave two hours of free consultation time, and charges $40/hour. Tatiana talked to him about public relations/ press for the organization for the whole year, not just the event. Do we want press strategy for the whole year? He suggested having a press conference about groups we give money to, and other ideas. For $750 he would do a lot of what we felt was essential to do (about 20 hours).

Decision: We agreed to hire him for $750. We support idea of having a year long strategy. Will consult with Wechsler about advertising strategy. If it looks like we need more money, Tatiana will come back to board for approval.

Red Sun Press poster: Tatiana is meeting with someone on Tuesday. They are donating the poster. Discussion of what is purpose of poster, and what we want it to be. It would be commemorative, not advertising for the event. We might just do a flyer advertising for the event.

T-shirts/ sweatshirt design: We are working with Nick's design. Some people wanted to change it a bit to make it less individualistic. We will print some to have at the event. Don't print too many (chose one color t-shirt).

Speakers: Jean-Claude Martineaux and Yolanda Huet-Vaughn have been confirmed as speakers. Grace has a conflict but is trying to rearrange things. At end of speakers there will be a few solidarity greetings from people in groups we've funded. Committee is also checking out possibility of having a youth group perform. Band-- discussion of three different possible bands. Decision made to go with cheapest, dance-able and good to listen to, which is Macondo ($1100). Suggestion that the music in between sets be a mixture (rock and roll and soul, etc)-- maybe representing 25 years of music....

Child Care: Is this a priority to arrange for the event? There is no space for on-site child care we would have to find another site. Decision: We would not provide child care for this event.

Signers: Is it a priority to have signers at the event? The group "Adult Children
of Heterosexuals" has a man we could consult with about feasibility and cost. Can we afford it? People thought it would be important to have signers—though maybe just for the beginning program, and not the youth group or band. (Just the speeches, and the like.)

Food: Is anyone interested in coordinating getting donations of food from restaurants? Right now a few grantees have agreed to make food, and an Ethiopian women’s group will cater event. Tatiana should ask Pam and Tess if they are willing to help with this. Pam did a lot for last anniversary party. If there was a board member who could start the process, Nancy Moniz could work on it, too.

Tatiana’s hours: Decision: Staff/Board lunch will decide on Tatiana’s hours after the November 14th event.

Bar: provided by Villa Victoria. They get 25% of take.
Security: Villa Victoria provides security.

Tatiana needs more help calling back grantees and discussing their participation in the event—any volunteers? Kate Gyllensvard is working on this, as are some committee members. Nancy Moniz said she would help.

Grants: We gave out a total of 17,700 ($600 over the $17,100 allocated for the meeting) to 27 groups. In addition, we gave $800 to the Typewriters for Prisoners’ Project (see below). **(Please see note at bottom of minutes re: recent emergency grants.) We started each discussion with a report from Nancy of any additional information, and by reading Pam’s proxy.

1. Chittenden County Self Advocacy and Support Group (Burlington, Vt) YES to a grant of $800 for accessibility expenses. Pam, by proxy: truly grassroots, touched by impulse and can see this might be great, but is this a priority? (Pam said "Maybe"). Ken discussed his positive feelings about this group as someone who has a slightly mentally retarded son. He supported funding them.

2. Greater New Bedford AIDS Awareness Day Committee (New Bedford, MA) NO GRANT. They have requested $800 the August 15 day-long event.

   They didn’t give us an update and say how the event was. Pam: "No political perspective." Concern was raised about wording of who they say is effected by HIV in New Bedford. Are they trying to distance themselves from gay men? Decision: NO, but come back to us when you have further developed your perspective on AIDS. Ask them to clarify what they mean by statement on back, "It is critical that our community understand that the Greater New Bedford AIDS profile is vastly different from other communities. The majority of the cases of our epidemic are from IV drug users, not gay and bi-sexual men. The people who are particularly being infected are young women of child bearing age and the Black and Latino population...."

3. Project Survival (Detroit, MI) NO GRANT. They had requested $600 for their Mobilizing for Action Project to mobilize people of color communities about the Ryan White AIDS Emergency Act. Pam: Not our AIDS priority, where is the organizing? For this project, pushing the state to do what it should have. Ryan White Act is not Resist priority. Can receive money from other sources. I like their question #10.

   Criticisms were raised of their flyer. They imply that you only have to have safe sex if you’ve tested HIV positive, and that isn’t true. We should suggest to them that they look at other groups’ leaflets. Larry will go over their flyer and make some
comments, and we will send it to them.

4. Arise (Springfield, MA) $800 grant, as requested, for the expenses of members attending this group’s AIDS Advocacy meetings. Pam says yes. Very little discussion. Several people asked their friends in W. Mass, and everyone was positive.

5. Cape Codders Against Racism (East Dennis, MA) Yes to a grant of $600, as requested, toward the non-travel expenses of a September 26-27 public program on Native American history and issues. Pam: important group and project.

They are making connections. Seems like grassroots community organizing on a level we don’t always get to see. What did they mean when they used the term "colonies" in question #11?

6. Future Leaders Network (Brooklyn, NY) $600 out of $800 requested for non-travel expenses and for prizes for their essay contest for young people on the theme "The Truth About Columbus." Pam says yes. Question raised at meeting about what is the organizing component of this work? How do we look at these kinds of literary contests as organizing? Who is audience, where will this go? Focus more on getting kids to do stuff-- actually think. What will happen to results of this? Any follow-up? We have funded things like this in the past. We can ask, in future, about follow-up, and how winning essay will be used.

7. Adelante! Street Theatre Project (NY, NY) $600 as requested toward expenses of their performance, "Master of the Universe," a parody concerning the Quincentennial. Pam says yes. Nancy M.: North Star funded them, thought they were good group. People thought it looked good.

8. Austin Peace & Justice Coalition Education Fund (TX) $800 to produce an expanded edition of their newsletter which would focus on the events and issues of "500 Years of Resistance." Pam says yes. No discussion, people thought it was good. People were pleased that there is lots of good work going on around the Quincentennial.

9. Leonard Peltier Support Group (SF, CA) $600 out of $800 requested to produce a pamphlet "1992 - 500 Years of Resistance." Pam: will this help organize? Discussion: Our grant would be a drop in the bucket compared to what R. Redford could donate. Question raised re: split mentioned by reference Rebecca Gordon. We should base this grant decision on the actual proposal, and then consider IITC request when it comes to us. It wouldn’t be a big deal to fund both. There are probably reasonable people on both sides. Brochure draft seems skimpy. It seems like it is about Peltier, and just tacking on the 500 years issue. Not enough work done on making connections between Peltier and organizing. People who have heard of him will make the connections, people who haven’t won’t make it so easily.

Decision: We should suggest they add paragraph making more of a connection-- it feels like they are tacking on Peltier to 500 years. If you are trying to reach new people, this would be important.

10. Thomas Morton Alliance (Stoneham, MA) NO GRANT. They had requested $800 for the production of pamphlets and copying of a video, and for costs of mailing for this 500th Alternative resource project. Ken reviewed the video and pamphlets. Pamphlets are like film, but harder to read than film was to watch. Technically the film was awful--jumps from one thing to another with a jerk. Narrative has a rush of sound-- sounds like he’s standing next to waterfall. Long film. Subject matter very rich. Needs re-editing, and breaking up into three sections. Contradictions are left in film. To be used for
libraries and museums—good film for education. So imperfect, but full of information. Too long for one class, needs to be in three parts. Would stir a lot of discussion with good facilitator.

Pamphlet is very difficult to read. Like proposal it jumps around a lot. People felt proposal was incoherent, romanticized spirituality. The pamphlet is a book. Our money could be used better elsewhere, this doesn’t seem like it will be effective. Letter: We don’t see it’s use in direct organizing, too long, etc, but there is a lot of good material, needs to be made into three short films.

11. Reproductive Rights Network (Boston, MA) $800 grant, as requested, to produce a special edition of their newsletter focusing on the declining availability of abortion services in the state. Pam: Yes. Twelve people reach many through this newsletter. People thought the newsletter was excellent.

12. Women’s Ordination Conference (Fairfax, VA) $700 out of $800 requested toward the expenses of their follow-up report after trip to Czechoslovakia. Pam: No. Cheryl talked about importance of this group—not a fundable group from within the Church, but maybe from outside. Crucial time in church. These people define the progressive part of the Church. Question raised whether we should fund this particular project—the ordination of women. Would feel better funding them if it was a specific issue like abortion or homophobia. Tatiana reported on press packet—very feminist. They do want to change the church in dramatic ways. But why is there such a need for secrecy? Press packet didn’t make this clear. They briefly mentioned issues of racism in church, and attitude toward the gypsies, but didn’t mention anti-Semitism. (LK noted that Czech was not where the church was particularly anti-Semitic.)

Long discussion on this one. Some people felt this was key issue that could really change the church. Covers a spectrum of issues. Question raised as to whether or not a more mainstream women’s organization fund this? What happens if they can’t get information out? Mobilize support for people in Czech? We should fund them when these people are ready to speak. This whole thing is similar to issue of gays in the military. But gays are not challenging mission of military, whereas these women are trying to change institution of the church. We decided to give them a grant, after this long discussion.

13. Abortion Rights Fund of Western Mass. (Hadley, MA) $800 for two projects: $600 for translation into Spanish and for printing their fact sheets; and $200 for printing bus ad cards for a media campaign. Very little discussion. Quick agreement to give them grant.

14. Cambridge Lavender Alliance (MA) a grant of $300 out of $800 requested, for the past expenses of Gay Pride 1992. (They had also requested $500 for future operating expenses.) Pam: This group should be able to raise money in Cambridge. Would fail a direct mail campaign, but not past or future operating expenses. Wechsler said she had talked to person writing grant a number of times while Nancy M. was on vacation, and said to her that Resist sometimes will fund things that have already happened, and does give money for general operating expenses. She didn’t think to suggest asking for money for direct mail or fundraising. Decision: While originally voting to turn down this project, board agreed to fund the $300 for past Pride expenses and tell the group they could come back within the year with a specific future organizing project, educational forum, or direct mail fundraising project. Tell them we prefer not to fund general operating expenses. If they do come back to us for membership mailing expenses, we need more information about those mailings. We should encourage them to do more fundraising—direct mail and other grants. Encourage them to come to us for direct mail fundraising costs. It was suggested at the meeting that they try to get the GCN Cambridge sub list.
15. Gay and Lesbian Resource Center (Des Moines, IA) $600 as requested to pay for ads in high school newspapers about their youth program. Pam: yes or maybe—good group, important project, but they can afford a full time equivalent coordinator and their total budget is $80+. People like this group, we agreed to fund without a lot of discussion.

16. Network in Solidarity with the People of Guatemala (Washington, DC) $800 for the non-travel expenses of organizing and promoting speaking tours of Guatemalan popular movement leaders. Pam: yes. Discussion— they do a lot with their money. We all like them. Question raised about use of language in application, in regards to them writing about "the rights and concerns of Hispanic people." Seems odd to use Hispanic for Guatemala.

17. Videoteca del Sur (NY, NY) $500 out of $600 requested to defray advertising and telephone costs for a series of seminars about Latin American film and video. Pam—yes. Question raised as to what is political work here, seems cultural. Can’t they get money elsewhere? They see themselves as doing work to support organizing. They are bringing two Cuban filmmakers who did work on AIDS and gays. Should be interesting. Tatiana reports that government position is changing.

18. Bay Area Pledge of Resistance (Oakland, CA) $800 toward the expenses of their work focused on Haiti. Pam—did this put Haitians on the boat in any legal danger? (Funny she should ask. The Haitians were in fact arrested, but released when it became clear of their immigration status.) Criticism made that it should have been clearer that this was a symbolic gesture. The group didn’t make it clear on application if they were working in coalition, but how else would have they have gotten so much support from the Haitian community?

19. New England Central America Network (Jamaica Plain, MA) $800 for a mailing to get people involved with the NECAN Regional Nicaragua Committee. Pam: Mailing money is a "good investment" for groups like NECAN. We discussed the question of the relationship between NECAN and CISPES and splits. People felt NECAN was essential and does good work.

20. Haiti Focus (Cambridge, MA) $800 toward the expenses of this weekly local radio program. Pam—I don’t agree to fund if it is only in English. This could be useful politically to Haitians. How about asking someone to listen and tell us how political? Tatiana happened to hear one of the radio shows—women’s night focussed on battering and women’s rights for protection from battering. Very good, very political. Questions raised by reference of importance of having programs in English, not just Creole. Questions raised re: its relationship to organizing. Even if these programs are political, is it valuable to do this if it is in Creole and not organizing a larger audience?

21. Center for Information/Documentation & Research on Haiti (Hyde Park, MA) $800 toward the expenses of producing their newsletter. Pam—sounds a little better than #20. Question: Why are they paying $600/ year for renting a computer, why don’t they buy one? Have we ever given out a grant in sections? Some now, and some when they make some progress on a project? They say they aren’t sure why they stopped publishing—whether it was volunteers or money or what. There is no guarantee our grant will ensure that they continue publishing. Where is the yearly budget for the organization? They should see about getting a donated computer.

22. Grand Rapids Area Faith & Resistance (MI) NO GRANT. They had requested $600 for a new
flyer, postage and other expenses for their Pledge of Resistance to War Project. Pam, no. Decision: No. We would prefer they came to us with something more concrete, organizing around a specific project. This is not a Resist type project.

23. Alternatives to the Military (Lincoln, NE) $500, as requested, for literature and flyers for use in the high schools, and for flyers for their art-against-war project. Pam- yes, maybe fund them next time for fundraising. Nice literature. Not much discussion. Important to work in high schools. Good group.

24. Committee Opposed to Militarism and the Draft (San Diego, CA) $700, as requested, for the expenses of a special mailing to inactive past supporters. Pam- yes, good plan.

25. Thomas Merton Center (Pittsburgh, PA) NO GRANT. They had requested $800 to purchase a laser printer. Pam- too big. Discussion: They have a large budget and more staff than we do. Tess looked over newsletter, well done, wide range of topics, professionally done. Has a high literacy level. She said they had printed an ad for people to get together who seemed pro-life. Their policy is to be neutral. Decision: No, their budget is too large. They have more resources than most of the groups we support.

26. Houston Committee for Youth and Nonmilitary Opportunities (Bellaire, TX) $250, as requested, for the cost of literature for high school counselors and librarians. Pam- yes. Nancy M.- didn't notice anything on gay youth. Question raised as to whether or not this was really an emergency grant request, as mentioned in letter. No, it is a regular grant request. This is a new group. Suggest they get CCCO pamphlet on gays.

27. Pax Christi Metro DC (Washington, DC) $275 (SOME) out of $800 requested for the purchase of a fax machine. Someone proposed we give them SOME, and that they should be able to get a fax for that. People agreed.

28. People for Community Recovery (Chicago, IL) $800 toward the expenses of producing a newsletter. Pam- maybe. All that foundation support? Discussion: question raised about other money they got and can get. They probably can’t get money from their constituency, so foundation money is the way to go. They have gotten about $30,000. Important issue, important sector. Looks like good group. Tatiana would like to do an article on them for newsletter.

29. Citizens Against Pesticides (Madison, WI) NO GRANT. They had asked for $600 for production and mailing costs of their newsletter and for literature and other expenses. Pam- not a Resist priority. Discussion: People felt the group was too tightly focussed on this issue. We gave them money when they were just starting up. They don’t connect work enough to other environmental issues. Don’t connect with other groups. Newsletter is very detailed and technical. Seems very university oriented.

30. Prisoners’ Legal News (Lake Worth, FL) NO GRANT. They had asked for $800 toward the expenses of a mailing to libraries and legal organizations. Discussion of their printing article on Peru by editor, and his response to what someone wrote in. Also people wondered why other prison rights activists didn’t know him. Decision: No. We were concerned about article and editorial response on Peru and the Shining Path. We were concerned about whether or not you were tied into the RCP (Revolutionary Communist Party). We were also concerned about the sectarian (to us) nature of some of your suggested reading material. We were also wondering why the other prison groups and prisoner rights activists haven’t hear of your work. While we support the general legal info you are
putting out, we did have these concerns.

31. Citizens for Penal Reform (Salt Lake City, UT) $275 (SOME) out of $800 requested toward production and mailing costs of their newsletter, and for expenses of a conference and a petition drive. Pam—pretty mainstream. Discussion: This is Utah. Newsletter pretty informative, but nothing on gays/lesbians and reproductive rights. Nothing in application, either. Question raised about using a quote from Smith— the founder of the Mormon Church. It was argued that if you want to do anything in Utah, you have to do things like that. People would like to see a few more women involved with this group in the future. Maybe there isn’t a women’s prison in Utah, we don’t know. Group doesn’t have a clear analysis of people in prison. We agreed to give them a SOME. The work is important, but we had questions re: extent of analysis of prison issues.

32. Virginia Coalition on Jails and Prisons (Richmond) NO GRANT. They had requested $500 for their public education and legislative visit program. Pam—too monotopic (narrow). Reference was positive. They have a large budget, but $45,000 is in case costs. They say they don’t work on behalf of lesbian and gay concerns. Question raised re: their relationship with African-American groups. SOME: we understand that working on the death penalty issue is very important, but your budget is larger than most we fund. We also have a concern about your not working on gay/lesbian issues or with gay/lesbian prisoners.

33. Chelsea’s Commission on Hispanic Affairs (MA) $800 toward the purchase of a fax and copying machine. Positive reference. They got money from the Boston Foundation and Lotus, but it was restricted to particular projects.

34. The Welcome Project (Somerville, MA) $800 for rent and insurance for their new office. Pam—yes. Renae has met them and thinks they are very good. Important that they are in the development. Discussion about the fact that they received lots of funding. Question about whether or not they work around AIDS. Nancy M. pointed out that they were asking for special moving expenses just this time. Decision: Yes, but ordinarily, given the funding they get, we wouldn’t fund them. But since this is a special circumstance, and it isn’t allocated in their budget, we agreed to the grant.// In your organizing around women and reproductive rights issues we noticed that you haven’t been dealing with AIDS and we hope you will look at ways to deal with this issue in the future.

35. Burma Review Committee (Rego Park, NY) NO GRANT. They had asked for $800 toward the expenses of producing their newsletter. Louis gave a report on their newsletter. Some excellent articles, informative, but not terrific. Lacking analysis in regards to international context. Louis wasn’t sure how to judge, as he isn’t a Burma expert. He felt it had a propagandistic tone. Question raised about viability of group— they have a big deficit. Nancy M. said it had been hard to get info from them. She pointed out that there are other publications on Burma. Burma has been covered a lot lately, because of the woman who won Nobel prize. Would we consider them if they filled out application more fully? Decision: NO grant. Didn’t have sufficient information, didn’t adequately answer the questions. Goals don’t seem to be organizing goals— too general. We have questions re: organizing component of newsletter.

36. Asia Resource Center (Washington, DC) $800 toward the expenses of a two day Leadership Training and Network Building workshop for social change in Thailand. Pam—yes, but budget may be big. An excellent group, I like this project. Discussion: Tour travel costs really inflates budget, otherwise it would be more like $100,000. What do we think of this project? They received two sizeable grants ($20,000 each).
Total money for the board meeting: At this point Wechsler pointed out that if we gave all the YES’s what they asked for, then we had gone over our allocated amount by $1200. We decided that this was too much to go over, and we decided to cut $600 from groups. Above grant figures include that $600 cut.

Question raised as to whether groups were getting better, or we are getting more lenient? Question raised about our financial position and whether or not we needed to keep having a certain amount set aside for each meeting. It was suggested that we seem to be accumulating money and we should make sure we are giving it out. Wechsler pointed out that this will be the first year in three years that we do not know of any really large donation coming our way; and that she says we can expect our income for the year to be about $70,000 less than last year. At the same time we have raised our grant ceiling and are giving out more money. It’s a good time to stick to our formula and see how the year goes. It was also pointed out that we are spending additional funds on our anniversary this year.

Question was raised about whether we need a policy meeting sometime after the Anniversary. One topic raised was whether or not we are penalizing groups once they become successful enough to get large foundation money.

**Typewriters for Prisoners Project:** We agreed to give another $800, which is not a part of the above totals. Question for Larry, can you keep doing it for the year.

**Spanish Guidelines:** Translator fell through. One of our contributors volunteered to help us with this. He didn’t feel like a non-native speaker could do this. He could find someone for $100- $200. Fran from Prison book might know someone. Women in Spanish faculty at MIT who has volunteered to help Resist in past might be able to do this. Wayne will check. Otherwise, we approved $200 so Nancy could get this done.

**Finances:**

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**Next Board Meeting:** October 25 in Boston.

**Please note:** We forgot to mention this at the meeting, but wanted to report that since our last board meeting, we gave out one emergency grant. It went to the GCN Prisoner Project for xeroxing and mailings ($150).
References for the September 13, 1992 Resist board meeting:

1) Chittenden County Self Advocacy & Support Group - Anne Lippsett of the Green Mt. Fund said she has met with the contact person. Anne said that Paula is "mentally retarded, so we needed to go on faith, since they don't quite get the grant process and questions... high powered person... group trying to give space for empowerment of people with disabilities... group active, does meet, has had 3 or 4 meetings with 8 regular members. They do need funds for transportation to meetings... All members of the group are mentally retarded and some are very limited." Green Mt. Fund gave them a grant of $2,000 out of a request for $10,000, as an experimental grant. Anne recommends funding.

2) Greater New Bedford AIDS Awareness Day Committee - First, they recently changed their request to $500 for the rental of a p.a. system for the event. Second, I asked them to send a report on how the day went: have they? I called Ed Allard of the GNB Affordable Housing Coalition for a reference. He said that he knows the contact person and went to the event. They had the Quilt, speakers, performers, literature. He felt that it was a good event with a good turnout on a rainy day. Good spirit, lots of people of color involved, a good cross-section of the community. The event stressed that everyone should be involved with the issue. Recommended.

3) Project: Survival - The Michigan Committee on Central American Human Rights didn't know of this group, but suggested that I talk with Catherine Daligga of the AIDS Legal Referral Service. She said that this group seems to be doing useful work and have clients not reached by other social service agencies, those primarily in the African American gay and lesbian community. She also said that the group does more direct service work to get people through the bureaucracy, rather than organizing work.

4) Arise - Arthur Serrada, a Springfield grass roots and people of color activist, said that the group breaks new ground on issues other groups don't, work on a gras roots level. This is an advocacy and activist group. There work is good, work in coalitions, progressive politics, make links between racism and housing issues, people of color in the leadership, office is located in the heart of the black and Latino community. These are community people, not outside organizers, and well respected. Recommended.

5) Cape Codders Against Racism - Sarah Thatcher of FOR/Cape Cod said that she knows the people involved, although she's not a member of this group. She said that they "will put their hearts and souls into the event.... good at getting the word out... long-time activists... On the Cape, racism is not as apparent as in some urban areas, but by speaking to people, they've found a tremendous amount of racism in schools, hospitals, etc... Lily white community... This group has helped to surface the issue and problems." She highly recommends funding.

6) Future Leaders Network - Betty Kapatanakis of North Star said that this is a good group. It's connected with NCIPA. They have summer camps for kids (about 50 to 75) in some way connected with NCIPA chapters around the US. North Star has funded them and gives them an "excellent rating." NSF really liked the fact that this group came with some of the young people to their interview for a grant. Betty said that the camp does good political/educational work. The group is also doing year-round work, such as the Quincentenary project. She said that they are
consciously trying to develop youth as leaders, youth is primarily African American and are also part of the board for planning the programs. Betty recommends them.

7) Adelante! Street Theatre Project - Betty Kapatanakis of the North Star Fund said that they'd funded this group during the Gulf War. The group did a lot around that issue. Betty feels they're "doing good things... committed people doing ongoing street work... good politics, good people, worked at demonstrations, etc.... initially not very diverse, but very committed to that... They work on a lot of different issues." She recommends funding them.

8) Austin Peace & Justice Coalition Education Fund - Jude Filler of TX Alliance for Human Needs said that this group is "terrific... work with TAHN... the leading group in the city that brings together Central America, environmental, anti-war and other groups... done the most work on many different issues... working on the issue of the Peace Dividend among other issues... all this work with one part-time staff person, volunteers and a low budget... very, very good newsletter... good project request to Resist.... excellent group." She highly recommends funding them.

9) Leonard Peltier Support Group/SF Chapter - Linda Lucero of Vanguard Fund said that they had funded the national office in Kansas City in the past, but not this group yet. She said that she's heard that it is a viable group, the contact person used to work with the International Indian Treaty Council. The group now has an office with the American Indian Movement and other groups and there's a lot of activity going on with that grouping. She didn't know much else. I then talked with Rebecca Gordon who said she didn't know much about this group but did know that there had been a big split in the Native American community in the Bay Area over which group/s would direct activities around the 500th... split between AIM and IITC. She said that she is staying out of this, since both IITC and AIM have done good work in the area. She said it's really sad to see this split happen. This group works with AIM. Rebecca said that all the native groups are doing work on Leonard Peltier. I also called Bill Hoffman of PSC who knew of the contact person and of the split in the NA movement but didn't know anything much about this group.

10) Thomas Morton Alliance - I called Hayyim Feldman of the New Jewish Alliance who had worked with this group in the 500 Years coalition. He said that they are consistent and dedicated people who had a major input into the planning and execution of actions in the coalition. They seemed good politically in a range of issues. With their specific focus, their intention is to break through the official voice of the Quincentenary and encourage people to re-think official history. They have a good handle on how to reach out to people and know how to work in coalition with other people with different views. I also talked with Tommi Harris of Haymarket People's Fund. She didn't know of this group since HPF had funded the 500 Years Coalition and not this specific group.

Ken Hale is reviewing the booklet and the video and will make a report about them at the board meeting.

11) R2N2 - I talked with Milagros Padilla of the Women of Color for Reproductive Freedom. She thinks very highly of this group and said that "it is the only reproductive rights group in the state sensitive to women of color." She respects them and thinks their request is an important project. Highly recommended.

12) Women's Ordination Conference - Hank Rosemont said that his contacts give this group "high marks... They've done a lot of good work... the Check. trip important wedge against reactionary politics of the Vatican... really good women, good
politics, active, multi-cultural, good and also active on gay and lesbian rights....
farther out on pro-choice that most groups in churches and certainly than others in
the Catholic Church... I have reservations about their big budget, but when all is
said and done, I would give them a grant despite their big budget."

13) Abortion Rights Fund of Western Mass. - For their request in 1990 I talked
with Margaret Cerrulo who said that said that the contact person, Marlene Fried, is
a brilliant organizer and she trusts her in politics and in tactics. The group has
meetings, events, very active, visible presence. Recommended.
This time I talked with Fran White who thinks the group is very good and will
give further information at the board meeting.

14) Cambridge Lavender Alliance - Marla Erlien, who is not a member of this group,
does know of them and said that it's "a fine organization... quite new and has done
forums, done investigations around different issues, done work on the domestic
partnership issue. Marla said that this is a progressive, grass roots group which
is doing good work on issues and on challenging homophobia. Recommended.

15) Gay & Lesbian Resource Center - For the last time they came to us for a grant
I talked with Karen Higgins of the Iowa Citizen Action Network. She said that they
do excellent work, had worked well with ICAN and other groups, had an excellent
board, many of whom, as well as the membership, had been involved in other local and
international issues. This is the focal organization for work on gay and lesbian
issues in the state. Their youth project drew a lot of both controversy and support
in the area. It seemed to be doing well.
For this request I called Kay Whitlock of AFSC/Des Moines who said that they
"created themselves from nothing and are filling a need no other group fills in the
whole of central Iowa. There board is now taking itself seriously (in the last 6
months) which is a very good sign: previously there were enthusiastic folks on the
board but mostly left things to the staff... AFSC is working with the Center, NARAL,
criminal justice and farm organizing groups to form an alternative fund to the
United Way... GLRC has played an absolutely key role in advocating for gay and
lesbian youth and AFSC is working with them on a curriculum for the schools... a
good organization at a critical point in its growth but I feel that this is
positive... They have an interfaith group of churches in support of them....
extremely impressed with the progress of the group in their work and their
structure... They mobilize a diverse gay and lesbian population and have high
credibility... GLRC helped in almost getting through a state law on gay & lesbian
rights. Definitely do a lot of political work." She highly recommends funding.

16) NISGUA - They’ve come to us in the past and I’ve always received the highest
of recommendations. This time I talked with Logan Patrick of NECAN. He said that
they work with NISGUA on regional tours and campaigns, such as the current
Maquiladora Campaign and a tour of NE coming up in November. Also work on Emergency
Response Networks about which he said that NISGUA has very timely info. He finds
that NISGUA is "a very good outfit... Also the most reasonably priced tours of any
of the national organizations... good information, updates, very thorough, do a good
job about analysis of the news as well as the facts... good organization to work
with... doing a really good job around the maquiladora issue, have really seized
this... hot issue but not easy to deal with, many issues involved (labor, human
rights, economics, etc.). NISGUA is very good at clarifying the issues for local
and regional groups." Highly recommended.

17) Videoteca del Sur - Last time they applied, I called Norm Fruchter. He
checked with Margie Fein of North Star which had funded this group. She said this is a good group. Good diversity, good resource library, terrific dissemination of resources in the Latino community. It was highly recommended.

I called Norm again on this and he's checking. I also called North Star. Betty K. said that locally the group is really providing a lot of films and videos and also encouraging groups to do their own. They are used as a resource for organizing, fill an important need, have good politics, have community video screenings, and had a video festival last Fall on the Quincentenary. They are a small budget, volunteer effort and act as a conduit for Latin American video artists to get information about their countries to the US public. Solid people with good links in the progressive media and community networks. Recommended.

18) Bay Area Pledge of Resistance - I called Rebecca Gordon who said that these are "great folks, terrific... been solid, really great during the Simi Valley verdict time... They've never lost their focus on Central America but also work on local and national issues... did a lot of work around the problems with the police in the Mission and with the SF police chief... really glad they are focusing on Haiti because there's been almost no response here in the area other than this group on the issue... absolutely dependable in street demo situations, in terms of safety and non-violence... excellent staff. I have a lot of respect for this group."

19) NECAN - We've funded them many times in the past. This time I asked Wayne O'Neil to check on them. He'll have information at the board meeting. I called Ash Eames of the NH C.A. Network who said that NECAN "continues to do good work which is totally essential to the work in NH... They're totally supportive... grass roots now has more input (into the direction of NECAN) than ever which is very good. Recently, more organizing on Nicaragua, one of NECAN's staff is partially funded by the National Nica Network... NECAN is very important to the work in NH... great relationship." Ash said that, until about a year ago, CISPES had funded a NECAN staff person also. Because of internal and external reasons (I couldn't get specifics, maybe Wayne will), CISPES has separated from NECAN and has its own regional staff. Ash said that it was an amicable separation and he works also with CISPES. (NECAN also does El Salvador work.) He doesn't find this new relationship at all detrimental to the work.

20) Haiti Focus - Earl LaFontaine of the Haiti Communications Project knows the contact person of this group, but not the radio program. Earl said that there are lots of other radio programs locally (about 50), on at least 3 main stations every night of the week and on weekends. He said that it would be good to fund them only if they're doing educational work in English for English speaking US and Caribbean people, this would make it different since there are only two programs in English. Earl said that if the program's in Creole or French, it would be like the other 49 programs. I asked the contact person for the group about this. He said that the programs are in Creole.

21) SEDRA - Again, Earl LaFontaine who said that he knows these people. They recently sponsored an event with local people and several from Miami to talk about the situation in Haiti. He said this is a very active group, left analysis, grass roots. Most of their literature is in Creole, some in English. An excellent group doing very good work. Earl recommends funding them.

22) Grand Rapids Area Faith & Resistance - MI Cmtee. on CA Human Rights in Detroit didn't know of this group, but suggested I talk with Rev. Bill Kellerman, a Methodist minister. He said he did know of the group. It does CD around the issue
of nuclear weapons at SAC bases and has worked on the Quincentenary. They do both CD and educational projects. The core group is about 8 to 10 people and have a mailing list for volunteers. He said it's a good group.

23) Alternatives to the Military - We've funded this group in the past. Louis K. knows of the contact person. I received a very positive reference last time from John Taylor of NE CLU and the Coalition of Gays and Lesbians. He thought they did "absolutely effective work... There's a heavy military presence in the area... important to fund this group because otherwise there is no alternative presence in the schools... Group is very good on gay & lesbian issues... Please fund this work!"

This time I talked with Bobby Kirstead of the Nebraskans for Peace. She said this is a small group around for a while. The contact person is excellent. Older membership working to draw younger people into the group. Good politics, serious, well intentioned people. They meet on a monthly basis and have done projects like placing alternatives literature at high schools, current project for junior high school students - art/writing contest on peace issues. They also do leafleting when military recruiters visit high schools. Bobby recommends funding.

24) COMD - Kathy Gilbherd of NLG/San Diego said that this is an excellent group and continues to do good and valuable work. "one of the stronger groups around the country... good folks consistently doing good work.... One of the mover groups in the Demilitarizing Schools project which got the project to become a national campaign." Kathy thought the project for which they're requesting a grant is very good idea and they will follow-through. Highly recommended.

25) Thomas Merton Center - Leonard Tolbert of the Pittsburg Jobs with Peace said that they do a lot of joint events with the Center, "They're doing a great job.. we need more groups like them... just recently had a seminar on racism and its effects... a diverse group themselves... I can't say enough about them." Recommended.

26) Houston Cmtee. for Youth & Non-Military Opportunities - Jude Filler knew of the contact person who is a teacher in a Houston high school and a leader with Houston Non Violent Action for the last few years. She didn't know much about the group other than she thought is was an informal project. I then called Alvaro Luna of the National Movement of La Raza in Houston. He said the La Raza has done work with this group and thinks it is "a very good group with very clear objectives... providing an alternative vehicle to the military for high school students... I think highly of them.... very needed in Houston area... diverse group: Blacks, Chicanos, Latinos... impressed with work and structure... Highly recommende

27) Pax Christi/Metro DC - When this group applied for a different project a few months ago, I asked Hank Rosemont to get a reference. Hank checked around and his contacts said that this is a relatively new chapter, "fledgling but not flaky... an OK group."

28) People for Community Recovery - I called Lucy Smith of the Crossroads Fund which had funded the group in the past. Lucy said that "it's a constant struggle for them... doing environmental organizing in a low-income project... wonderful group... good politics... very visible in the media... Group has developed leadership and input from the community... work with other low-income community groups... wonderful in mobilizing folks... A newsletter would be helpful for them to do outreach... They make connections with other issues, network with the issues, resources and groups in other areas of the city." Highly recommended.
29) Citizens Against Pesticides - Steve Stark of the Wisconsin Community Fund has seen their materials about chemical spraying in Madison as well as brochures. He said they seemed to have been very active for a while, then less so, but seem to have reactivated recently. "Fairly well known people involved in the group, well respected in the area... focus on Madison."

30) Prisoners Legal News - For the last request from this group, I talked with Mike Riegle who knew of this and thought it was "a great publication... very good information... lefty politics... do some articles on prison life an attitudes.... Paul Wright is very good, very progressive thinker... the News is connected with a lot of different groups." It's connected with a couple of families of prisoners groups and is trying to get other groups organized to watch-dog the systems in their areas. Mike felt they were very deserving of funding.

I'm striking out all over the US for a reference for this request. So far none of the following people, who should know about them, don't: Jackie Walker (ACLU National Prison Project), Linda Thurston (National AFSC Criminal Justice Program), Eleana Natalizia (AFSC/NE), Jana Schroeder (AFSC/Ohio Criminal Justice Program). Larry Goldsmith and Fran of Prison Book Program had seen the newsletter, don't know much about it, but do have questions about perceived sectarianism in some of the material, particularly an article on the Shining Path of Peru. You'll find a xeroxed copy of that article with the updated material, as well as a letter the group published which criticizes the article. I'll keep trying for a reference.

31) Citizens for Penal Reform - I talked with Laura Magnani of the AFSC Criminal Justice Program in Oakland, CA who had been a speaker at a conference the group organized last November. Laura said that it was an excellent event, an in-depth look at the criminal justice system with a good attendance, good press coverage, and national in scope. This is a low budget group with quite a few people organizing for the conference. Laura said that the group is "a little more reform oriented than AFSC, but their perspective is pretty fitting for the work in Utah... for Utah they are quite far out." She recommends funding the group.

32) VA Coalition on Jails and Prisons - I also asked Hank Rosemont to check on this group. Hank R. said that he "struck out on this one... contacts away... no info." I then talked with Paula Powderhouse of the Richmond Peace Education Center who said that this is "a wonderful group... one of their people won a human rights award recently... excellent work... do work against the death penalty... very difficult work in VA, many executions in the state... do vigils, protests at the prisons.. work with churches, too... There'll be a protest at the state capital on 9/15... also work with and visit people on death row... were successful last year in stopping the execution of one person and helped to bring international attention to that... had a great demo about this at the capital... really dedicated people."

33) Chelsea’s Commission on Hispanic Affairs - Molly Baldwin of the Dorchester Women’s Committee lives in Chelsea, knows of this group, and said that they are doing a lot of work including door-to-door organizing to find out the issues that people in the community want to see worked on. They’ve also done a lot of voter registration work, networking with Latino businesses, INS education and organizing, political empowerment, and coalitions with other local groups. She said that this is "a crucial and important group and movement in the city... very political group and on the mark for Resist’s priorities." Molly recommends funding them.
34) Welcome Project - Kate Cloud said that this group has done very good things in the past. Kate worked with the former staff person in the Somerville Coalition for Racial Justice. Kate read the proposal. She said that this is "not social servicey at all, more of an organizing project... Their board seem to be mostly tenants which is very good... impressed that they’ve been able to organize groups of women in the project, Vietnamese and Haitian women’s group organized. Respond has connected with the Haitian women’s group (recently) and the Vietnamese women’s group participated in the Somerville Domestic Violence demo... astounded at the fact that they’ve gotten big foundations funding. I think this is great. (Kate said that most of big funders grants are restricted to a specific project and not administrative expenses.) ...fact that they’re doing work with Haitians is very important... heard that lots of Haitians are coming to the area (and the projects)... The League of Haitian Families and CHAMA have folded.... hardly any groups for Haitians in the area now... This says that this group has its priorities straight... In general, I have a really good impression of the project... They’re focusing on the right populations, those most in need." Kate recommends funding.

35) Burma Review - When I checked on this group last year, it was (almost) impossible to get a reference for. I called Frank Brodhead, National AFSC, the Asia Resource Center, Walden Bello at Food First. No one had ever heard of them. I then talked with the group, asking them for organizations they’d worked with. All that they could come up with was Greenpeace and Congressional aides. Finally I talked with Gene Stoltzus of Synapses. He didn’t know too much except that the Review is an attempt to summarize the news; the Burma question is ignored but important. He thought that they did fairly good work, important contribution. He said that the human rights abuses in Burma are enormous. He was supportive of this.

This time I talked with Roger Rumm of the Asia Resource Center who knew of the publication. He said that it seems to put out good information and has good politics. The group is trying to inform the US public on the issue as well as get information to Burmese people living here. It’s the only one that does articles in Burmese as well as English. Roger said that there are several other publications on Burma, including one from the Asia Resource Center. He said the the Review reprints articles from other sources, whereas the Center publishes original information from sources in Burma. He did say that this group is fairly active and was positive about it.

36) Asia Resource Center - In the past, Frank Brodhead and George Vickers have been positive about these folks. I’ve asked Hank Rosemont to check on recent work.

Again, Hank Rosemont who gave this group high marks also. They’ve done good work for a long time. Hank’s particularly excited about the work on Thailand because it hasn’t been attended to and is also difficult to get going. Hank said that although he had reservations about their big budget, he would vote to give them a grant.

For peace and justice,

Nancy Moniz, Resist staff
Resist 25th Anniversary

Report to board meeting, Sept. 13th, 1992

Tatiana Schreiber

1. Hours, etc. I am still working an average of 10 hours/week on 25th anniversary projects, with an occasional 15 hour week. I assume I will work some additional 15 hour weeks in the next two months. Things are generally going smoothly despite small panic attacks...

2. Press packet/PR. This has been the most difficult. As of this writing, Leigh Peake and I have produced the basic materials for a press packet but I am still working on finding a person/persons to do the press outreach. This may be resolved by the meeting. The difficulty has been finding a person with adequate contacts and experience for a reasonable price. Following is a rough estimate of costs associated with PR.

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This figure is based on all design work donated by Leigh Peake, and all writing done by myself (paid) and Leigh (volunteer). The $750.00 is to pay EITHER one local person to do local press work, plus some additional hired national PR, OR to hire a national (New York based) progressive media person to do both local and national. [The national people who do this charge much more than that but I am in the process of negotiating what we could get for that amount]

The timeline is such that the work must begin immediately.

2. Poster. Red Sun Press working on a poster for us. (possible reductions for ty post cards)

3. Brochure. Comments all in; Cindy B and Nick T. working on 2nd draft.

4. T-shirts/sweatshirts. We have stats of new Nick T. design to use on limited edition T-shirt. [If design not acceptable as is, we'll have it modified]

   *Plan for permanent redesign of logo has been shelved due to lack of consensus.*

5. Invitations. In process, will go out Oct. 6th. Nancy W. and I have to develop list to send invitations to.

6. Advertising. Many ads have gone out; you should be seeing them soon.
7. Art Show. The art group is meeting regularly and work is coalescing. The group has about nine active members. We are sending out a call to artists in the New England area [I’ll bring a draft to the meeting]; submitting proposals to galleries for a show in May/June of next year; looking into fundraising for additional support beyond the approx $1500 that was approved by the board earlier. As I reported earlier, folks seem enthusiastic about this and think it can be pulled off. However, its obviously a project outside of Resist’s prior experience. Therefore, I have called in lots of artists. All the members of the planning group other than myself and Lee Cranberg (Resist donor who has worked on the event as well) are artists of some kind. We need to decide how many, if any, of my own staff hours will be available to this project following our November event. I want to remind folks that when I was hired for this position, it was assumed it would continue for a year and half (I started last January) to include projects that would take place during our anniversary year. Those projects include a year-long special focus on our history in the newsletter. I would just like to clarify the anticipated work load in the period after the event, and talk about a potential ending date. The art group needs to know at what point no staff hours would be available and therefore holding the show after that date would be unlikely if not impossible.

8. THE EVENT!!!!!

a) Speakers/performers. Things still feel a bit in limbo, but beginning to shape up. Current speakers/performers are: Poets - Kate Rushin (need final confirmation); Grace Paley (has a conflict, need to discuss with her again); Kim Tall Bear (local, Native American poet); Jean-Claude Martineaux (Haitian poet/activist). Speakers: Yolanda Huet-Vaughn (Gulf war resister); Michael Delaney (Wobanacki, VT Tribal Judge); Michealann Bewsee (Springfield housing and Central America activist); Arielle Adrienne (brief solidarity greeting from Assoc. for Haitian Women); Paul Lauter (brief Resist comments). We will also be looking for brief solidarity greeting from Latina women activist from a group we have funded).

b) Youth performance. Steffi Wright (planning committee member from Prison Book) is looking into this. (3? Romantic Boys' Girls Club? Exposed Plans Please?]

c) Hosts. Madge Kaplan, Frank Brodhead, Renae Scott are hosts.

d) Dorchester Women’s Committee may present short video.

e) Band. At this moment, still in limbo. Leaning toward Macondo, Latin American multi-national band with woman singer. They cannot do it for less than $1100. Other bands were in similar range or much more. More details by time of meeting. Between sets we will have dance tape. Jeremy Grainger (art group) is willing to arrange this, needs suggestions for kind of music.

f) Food. Current plan is to have several groups make the food (Assoc of Haitian Women, Dorchester Women’s Committee) and have some of it catered. Looking into Ethiopian women’s catering business to do this. We will pay for the materials the group5 need, and the catering at approx. $5.00/person. We could also try to get some food donated but we need a volunteer to do the work for this.
g) Grantee participation. We have sent letters to 150 groups asking their participation in some way. Response has been good. We will have displays of work of some of our grantees (about 20) on the walls, plus banners, etc. However, we need help getting back to groups to talk to them about this. If a board member would like to help with this project, call me.

h) Other things? Still up in the air are: program book, how elaborate?; stage manager, do we need one?; press person at the event, do we need one?; admission plan has been to charge $3.00 - is it too little considering the food will be free? Planning group has strongly wanted to keep costs low so we could just celebrate, and encourage donations by having Resist return envelope in the program book, and a collection can on the Resist table. I just wanted to confirm this, ask board if this is OK.

9. Resist history project. Kate G., myself, Wayne, and Fran met a couple of times to look over old newsletters. We have come up with many topics that lend themselves to reprinting articles and generating forward-looking articles. We will probably meet again after the event to further plan the newsletter for the rest of the year.

10. Newsletter. You'll find some design changes in the next issue. Let me know your comments. We'll be incorporating the changes that people like over the next couple issues. Next issue will begin the anniversary year with Resist history article written by Wayne with help from Louis, myself and earlier anniversary articles.

11. Child Care: Can't be on site. Decision: no, not usually needed.

12. Signing: You to consult & sign about this, consensus is positive for this
War reverberates for those who refused call

BY KIMBERLY J. MCLARIN
Knight-Ridder Newspapers

These days, former Army Capt. Yolanda Huet-Vaughn, M.D., spends her time pasting pockets into library books in a prison at Ft. Leavenworth, Kan.

She is serving 15 months for publicly refusing to participate in the Persian Gulf War. Her sentence was reduced from 2 ½ years.

Her letters are screened, her visitors restricted. Interviews with reporters are forbidden. She sees her three children only on weekends and always under the gaze of a guard.

Her medical license is in jeopardy. Her husband has become bitter and "personally fixated on getting Yolanda out."

One year ago Thursday, the first bombs fell on Baghdad. Most public meditation on the Persian Gulf War has drifted away like sand in the wind.

But the repercussions are still there for Yolanda Huet-Vaughn and the thousands of other military personnel who refused to take part.

More than 8,000 military personnel were declared absent without leave from October 1990 to March 1991, says the Pentagon. At least 7,300 were still missing as of March, according to the Army Times.

Peace groups say some of those were conscientious objectors who left their posts after their conscientious objector applications were rejected. Only a fraction of the 2,500 applications filed were granted, reports the War Resisters League.

"This is vindictive and illogical."

DAVID HUET-VAUGHN, husband of jailed doctor

Defense Department officials will not say how many remain out of the military's reach. Most who were caught or who voluntarily returned were charged with being AWOL or deserting, kicked out of the military and made to forfeit their pay.

At least 75 were court-martialed and sentenced to prison terms ranging from a few months to six years. One of those court-martialed was a Grayling man. Sgt. George Morse, then 25, served seven months in the stockade for not joining the 1st Infantry Division when it shipped out to the Persian Gulf.

"I am not saying that the military has an unlimited right to suppress the Bill of Rights."

Yolanda Huet-Vaughn was born in Mexico City, the daughter of a physician and a schoolteacher. When Yolanda was 5, the family moved to Topeka, Kan., where her father undertook a residency in psychiatry.

After high school, she married David, attended a local college for two years and transferred to Vanderbilt University, from which she graduated in 1974.

After spending a year working with migrant farm workers, Huet-Vaughn enrolled in medical school in Nashville. To make extra money to help pay for medical school, she joined the Army National Guard.

Huet-Vaughn has said she agreed to serve seven years in the Guard in exchange for being commissioned as an officer. She served five of those years, first in the Guard and later in Army Reserve units in New York City and Kansas City.

But after resigning from the Reserve in 1982 to work with the U.S. Public Health Service, Huet-Vaughn concentrated on establishing her medical practice and raising her three children.

In the summer of 1990, Huet-Vaughn decided to rejoin the Reserve — a strange decision for a social activist who spent hours working for Physicians for Social Responsibility, a group that long has opposed nuclear proliferation.

David Huet-Vaughn said his wife thought she owed the Army another year. The Army had not sought her out.

Two months after Yolanda Huet-Vaughn rejoined the Army, Saddam Hussein invaded Kuwait.

When her unit was called to active duty in December 1990, Huet-Vaughn reported to Ft. Riley, Kan. But on Dec. 30, she checked out of the base and did not return.

While her unit, the 410th Evacuation Hospital, went to Saudi Arabia, Huet-Vaughn fled to the East Coast and began a whirlwind tour of speeches, rallies and appearances decrying the coming war.

Huet-Vaughn did not file for conscientious objector status until after she turned herself in on Feb. 2. When the issue was raised at her court-martial, she said she first thought she was only opposed to this war, but later realized she was opposed to all war.

Huet-Vaughn was convicted of desertion and sentenced to 30 months at Ft. Leavenworth. After months of lobbying from friends and supporters, Huet-Vaughn's sentence was reduced to 15 months. Her husband hopes she can be released by the end of this month.

But even then her battles will not be over. In October, the Kansas Board of Healing Arts passed a petition to revoke Huet-Vaughn's medical license. The final decision for revocation, however, has not been made.
Dear Board Member,

Oy vey, what are we going to do about the logo? We asked Bonnie Acker to work on a new design for the Resist logo for our T-shirts, etc., partly because it is our 25th anniversary, and partly in response to some people’s suggestion that the old design felt too constrained: we were resisting, but we were still awfully boxed in, maybe even trapped...

Anyway, Bonnie worked on a new design with some of the hands breaking out. We showed it around to the staff and people working on the 25th event. There were lots of suggestions for improvement for a second version. It went back to Bonnie. Unfortunately she then declined to do more work because she’s too busy with her 3 yr old and other work. Next I sent Bonnie’s first version to another designer, Linda R. Her variation on the theme is enclosed. Several people, including the designer, have expressed problems with it, but she is willing to keep working on it and make changes per our suggestions.

Meanwhile, a 3rd designer, Nick T., came up with a logo based on the number 25, for use on our new brochure. All of us at the office liked this design as a potential limited edition T-shirt, and for use on our envelopes, etc., during the 25th year. We might take off the words, or use just the “Resist” but not the “Remember” on the T-shirts.

But that still leaves us with the old design when we go into our 26th year. Nancy Wechsler feels that the old design has recognition value that is important to our fundraising, and others like the old design and don’t want to change it much.

So, what do you think???? Should we just do a limited edition 25th year T-shirt, etc. with the number logo, and keep the old design after that? Should we work with Linda’s version but make some changes? Should we call in another designer? Keep in mind, that as much as we might want her to, Bonnie Acker really doesn’t have time to do any more work on a new design, so that option is out.

Please call in with your thoughts, or write a letter, but do it soon! If we are going to make changes in time to herald in our anniversary (October) we need to have the design in hand soon.

Thanks,

Tatiana
Dear Friends, Relatives or Co-workers, September 7, 1992

As I write this letter, I am on the seventh day of a planned 42-day, water-only fast. This fast was initiated by six people, S. Brian Wilson, Jack Ryan, Karen Fogliatti, Scott Rutherford, Teresa Fitzgibbon, and Dan Cunningham. In their words, "the People's Fast for Justice and Peace in the Americas, which will end on October 12th, 'Columbus Day', will be a penitential reflection to mark the end of the first 500 years of the Columbus Enterprise--500 years of domination, exploitation, genocide, and, as importantly, 500 years of indomitable resistance by those it would destroy."

As of this writing, four other people have joined in on this action--Marie Dennis, Dave Dellinger, Vic Senturi, and myself. Most of these ten are fasting on the steps of the Capitol in Washington, D.C., although I am not. I am writing to explain to those people who know me why I have decided to undertake this effort, and what you might do in solidarity or to support it.

For close to 25 years I have believed that the economic, social, and political system in the United States is fundamentally unjust and corrupt, imperialistic, militaristic, racist, sexist, exploitative, environmentally destructive--in short, a system that needed more than just a change of faces in high places but instead, wide-ranging, deep-seated revolutionary change. In those 25 years I have taken actions and lived my life so as to make the maximum contribution that I could towards that essential, urgently-needed change.

At times this has meant fairly dramatic actions. But most of that time over those 25 years has been spent doing a lot of knitty-gritty organizing and organization-building, on both local (mainly Brooklyn) and national levels (for the last nine years, mainly with the National Committee for Independent Political Action). I am continuing and will continue to do that work; I am convinced that to see the changes needed we need a national, independent, progressive political party bringing together people of color, working people, women, and all those negatively impacted by this system (almost everybody) and conscious of the need for change. This party can only be successful if it is firmly grounded in local communities and workplaces all over the country, representing everyday people aligned with grassroots activists, leaders and popular organizations. That party must have as its ultimate objective the winning of political, social, and economic power, defeating the Democratic and Republican parties and the super-rich, overwhelmingly white and male, corporate and financial ruling class which manipulates and controls those parties. Only then can we construct a society based on justice, equality, cooperation, genuine political democracy as well as economic
democracy, a crash program of environmental clean-up and restructuring of the economy towards sustainable, environmentally friendly development, a foreign policy based on non-intervention, and an end to the insane waste of essential resources and encouragement of deadly wars caused by the huge weapons industry.

I believe in fasting in general as a political/personal tactic. I believe it is one way, a potentially powerful way, to express one's beliefs and to reach large numbers of people. It is also, in the words of Mahatma Gandhi, "the sincerest form of prayer." I think this particular fast, this cry for justice after 500 years of so much injustice, human misery and resistance to oppression, is timely and sound and can help to deepen and broaden the kind of movement we need in the U.S. There will be only one Columbus Quincentennial observance, only one period of time when people throughout the Americas, including U.S. Americans, are thinking and talking about what those 500 years of "encounters" (!!!) between the "Old" and "New" Worlds have meant. And to counter all of the lies, the hoopla, the official celebrations with their legitimation of all the destruction wrought over that period of time, strong, loving, and outreaching action must be taken.

We cannot go on the way we are for much longer. More than a few people, scientists, environmentalists, a handful of politicians, other "experts", and just plain folks believe that unless we can reverse direction morally, politically, economically, socially, and environmentally, and do so rapidly, life on earth as we know it may be in serious jeopardy by the middle of the 21st century, just 50 years from now. I believe that. I believe that unless we turn from the Columbus way--the way of gold-seeking, domination, oppression and killing for profit, dog-eat-dog competition no matter who or what gets hurt, whether people or the environment--we stand no chance to bequeath to our children and grandchildren an earth worthy of being called home.

Indeed, for so many hundreds of millions of people in Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean, Asia and the Pacific Islands, conditions are already desperate and are getting worse. It is not just the famines that continue to recur in Africa--Africa, that continent ravaged by the slave trade and divided up for theft and looting by the European powers over the last 500 years. It is the debt slavery imposed over the past two decades by the transnational giant corporations and banks on top of economies already cruelly distorted by neo-colonial, big business domination enforced by bloated and brutal militaries. These tremendous burdens make the possibility of people-oriented development seem like a wicked joke for countries throughout Latin America and elsewhere, and they are the root cause of the massive human misery found in the countries of the world's South, the so-called "Third World".

These conditions must be reversed! This fast can play an important role in reminding and/or educating large numbers of the
U.S. American people about the source of their, and much of the
world's, problems. It can underline the need for an open and
positive response to the on-going efforts of the peoples of the
South and all the different peoples of color within the United
States to achieve liberation, justice, and equality. It can
encourage action and organization to overcome the corrupt and
destructive powers-that-be.

But for it to play that role, I am asking that you help, in
whatever ways you can. Some possible actions include:

- writing Letters to the Editors of local newspapers about the
  reality and reasons behind this Fast;

- making contacts with local reporters or others working
  within the mass media to urge them to publicize the Fast;

- joining in with and helping to build massive local actions
  on the Columbus Day weekend. Many are already being planned
  throughout the country;

- sending a contribution to one of the three groups I
  personally believe are doing very important work: the National
  Committee for Independent Political Action, P.O. Box 170610,
  Brooklyn, N.Y. 11217; the National People's Progressive Network, a
  newly-formed, broad-based effort bringing together a potentially
  powerful combination of organizations and movements committed to
  independent, multi-racial, grass-roots politics; their address is:
  c/o National African American Network, 5113 Georgia Ave., NW,
  Washington, D.C. 20011; or the Peoples Fast for Justice and Peace
  in the Americas, P.O. Box 77235, Washington, D.C. 20013.

Or, you may decide to undertake a fast of your own in
solidarity. If you decide to do so, please contact me so I can
pass on that information to the Peoples Fast national office in
Washington.

Three days ago, in explaining again to my wife and eight year
old son why I was not eating, I said that eating is something you
can always do, but there is only one 500th anniversary of Columbus
coming to the Americas. This is an historic occasion. Let's
respond accordingly--with renewed activism, outreach, and a
deepened commitment to utilizing the best within each of us to
help build the movement which can turn this country around.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Ted