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Resist Board Meeting Minutes

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### Resist Board Meeting, Oct. 24, 1993

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  
Larry Goldsmith  
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  
Cheryl Smith  
Meredith Smith  
Amy Swerdlow  
Ken Tangvik  
Rene Valle  
George Vickers  
Nancy Wechsler  
White

Board Meeting - October 24, 1993 - 11am  
George Vickers' apartment  
205 West 19th St.  
New York, NY 10016\ Tel. (212) 741-0545

Dear board member,

Although George is now working in Washington, he said that he could host this meeting at his NYC apartment. We'll have \$15,000 to give out (\$500 x 30 proposals) at this meeting, plus we have \$5,983 left over from previous board meetings, giving us a grand total of \$20,983 to give out.

I'll send you updated info for the requests two weeks before the board meeting, as well as any references I have at the time.

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. A report on any emergency grants given since the last board meeting.

## GRANT REQUESTS

### Community/Anti-racism

1) H.O.P.E. Alive! (Pueblo, CO) - Request of \$489 for a fax machine.  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Maybe \_\_\_\_\_

2) Committee of Refugees from El Salvador (Somerville, MA) - Requesting \$800 toward the costs of organizing Salvadoran and Central American residents of Somerville to create a Salvadoran Credit Union.  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Maybe \_\_\_\_\_



### Native Americans

3) Honor Our Neighbors Origins & Rights (Milwaukee, WI) - \$800 requested for a fax machine.

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

4) Cape Codders Against Racism (E. Dennis, MA) - Requesting \$800 for the expenses of their project in support of community organizing in the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe.

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

### Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual

5) International Gay & Lesbian Human Rights Commission (San Francisco, CA) - \$800 requested toward the costs of printing and distributing "Action Alerts."

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

6) esto no tiene nombre (this has no name) (Miami, FL) - Asking for \$800 toward the cost of producing an issue of this magazine which will focus on Latina lesbian activism. Magazine will be reviewed by a board member for a report to the meeting.

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

### Environmental

7) All Peoples Coalition and Citizens for Alternatives to Radioactive Dumping (Albuquerque, NM) - \$800 request for the expenses of a door-to-door canvas of communities of color.

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

8) Gateway Greens Alliance (St. Louis, MO) - \$800 requested to help cover costs of their Orange Ribbon Project (to Stop the Planned Times Beach Dioxin Incinerator.)

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



Central and Latin America and the Caribbean

9) Committee on US/Latin American Relations (CUSLAR) (Ithaca, NY) - A request of \$750 for printing and mailing the Fall edition of their newsletter.

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

10) Videoteca del Sur (New York, NY) - Requesting \$800 to help defray the advertising and telephone costs of organizing a series of seminars on Latin America and video.

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

11) Network in Solidarity with the People of Guatemala (Washington, DC) - They are asking for \$800 for the non-travel expenses of organizing speaking tours of Guatemalan popular movement leaders.

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

12) El Salvador Peace Accords Coalition (Cambridge, MA) - Asking for \$740 toward the costs of printing and mailing the Coalition newsletter.

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

13) Centrovision (Cambridge, MA) - They're asking for \$600 to purchase a used computer and modem in order to access PeaceNet for information on Central America. Video tapes of their programs will be reviewed by board members for a report to the board meeting.

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

14) Haiti In Development (New York, NY) - Requesting \$800 for a fund raising mailing and for a foundations directory.

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



## Prisoners

15) American Friends Service Committee/Criminal Justice Program (Cambridge, MA) - They're asking for \$800 to underwrite part of the costs of accepting collect telephone calls from prisoners in Massachusetts.

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

16) Leonard Peltier Defense Committee (Lawrence, KS) - Asking for \$600 toward the (non-travel) expenses of organizing for a demonstration in Washington, DC in November.

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

17) Greystone Newsletter (Baltimore, MD) - Request of \$650 for a word processor and supplies.

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

18) CURE-NH (Nashua, NH) - They're asking for \$800 to produce donor envelopes for a fund raising program.

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

19) League of Lesbian & Gay Prisoners (Seattle, WA) - Asking for \$600 for a consultant and for expenses of their bi-monthly newsletter.

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

## Health/Disability/AIDS

20) Vermont AIDS Council (Montpelier) - Requesting \$759 to upgrade their computer system, which would include a new printer, modem and an upgrade of their computer's memory.

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



21) A.C.E.-OUT (New York, NY) - Asking for \$800 toward one month's expenses of their buddy program for formerly incarcerated women who are HIV-positive.

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

22) Working Classroom (Albuquerque, NM) - \$800 requested for the expenses (fee and expenses for a consultant, rent and office expenses) of a pre-production editing workshop for a bi-lingual play about AIDS.

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

### Labor

23) Farmworkers Democracy Education Center (Granger, WA) - A request of \$800 toward the expenses of a Labor Issues Seminar in October.

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

24) Black Workers for Justice (Rocky Mount, NC) - \$800 requested for general support. (Please note: they're also asking for a loan, see #31 below)

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

### Miscellaneous

25) Peace Offerings (Albany, NY) - Asking for \$800 toward the purchase of a computerized point of sales and inventory system. Postponed from last meeting for more information.

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

26) Chico Peace & Justice Center (Chico, CA) - \$800 requested for prizes and to cover mailing, printing and other costs of their annual "Peace Essay Contest" for high school students.

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



27) St. Louis Fair Trade Committee (MO) - \$800 requested for the expenses (stipends for trainer and translator, and for lunch) of their week-long dialogue of women from Nicaragua and from Missouri on women and community-based economic development. Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Maybe \_\_\_\_\_

28) Irlanda Libre (Albuquerque, NM) - \$800 request toward expenses of fund raising efforts, prison solidarity work, and an Irish lesbian and gay event next Spring. Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Maybe \_\_\_\_\_

29) Midwest Institute for Social Transformation (Minneapolis, MN) - Asking for \$800 for printing a brochure about their speakers' and performers' bureau to send to colleges across the US. Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Maybe \_\_\_\_\_

30) World Solutions Exhibit (Oakland, CA) - \$700 requested toward the cost of construction materials for this traveling exhibit. Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Maybe \_\_\_\_\_

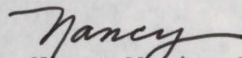
#### LOAN REQUEST

31) Black Workers for Justice (Rocky Mount, NC) - They're asking for a loan of \$1,000 for three months. Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Maybe \_\_\_\_\_

#### BUSINESS/POLICY ITEMS

- \* Report on the Resist Arts show
- \* Office - Staff, finances and other miscellaneous items.
- \* The next Board Meeting will be in the Boston area on December 5th. Pam Chamberlain has tentatively volunteered to host the meeting at her new house.

For peace and justice,

  
Nancy Moniz, Resist staff



Board Meeting NYC ①

Resist - Oct 24, '93

Present: Larry, Merble, Belle, George, Nancy M, Amy,  
Lorris (secretary)

- ① Hope ~~Oliver~~ Olive (Yes) (\$489)
- ② Comm. of Refugees From El. S. Moniz said things are very complicated; she has no way to judge who's reliable. Question was raised about funding credit union. Denied, because we don't fund credit unions.
- ③ Honor Our Neighbors Request for photocopier (not fax). Yes. Salzman grant. (\$800)
- ④ Cape Codders Against Racism Yes (\$800)
- ⑤ Interntual Gay/Les Human Rights Comm Yes. (\$800)
- ⑥ Esto No Tiene Nombre Pam thought it was OK magazine, & they should be funded, but for fundraising rather than special issue. Amy thought they did not really grapple with the political aspects of being lesbian. ~~Paris~~ Question came up as to actual political organizing they do. Merble wondered about ~~their~~ way they dealt with issue of diversity and race, which is very important in Latin communities. The issue of the magazine people looked at is very non-political; the contributors' notes indicated people were not left-wing, one identifying herself as ~~an~~ anti-communist. Yes — but with many doubts. (\$800)
- ⑦ All Peoples Coalition Yes (\$800)
- ⑧ Gateway Greens Alliance Larry thought materials looked very dense for organizing. Yes — but a few sentences on materials being ~~so~~ dense, that they are not easily accessible to most people. (\$800)



# Resist

(2)

- (9) Comm. on US/Latin Amer. Relations Yes. (\$750)
- (10) Videoteca del Sur Yes. (\$800)
- (11) Network in Solidarity... Guatemala George thinks their work is very important at this point. Questions were raised about their large budget. Yes. (\$800)
- (12) El Salo. Peace Accords Coalition Question was raised about putting out a new Newsletter when there's lots of material available for mailing. Yes. (\$740)
- (13) Centrovision Frank liked video, <sup>about Cuba</sup> he looked at: professionally done; it's useful for organizing; not critical of Cuba, though it's not a puff-piece. Moing also saw it, & shares Frank's opinions. Yes. (\$600)
- (14) Haiti in Development Pam saw video, & it's mostly about their activities at Socialist Scholars Conference; it's heavy on political jargon. People remarked that they have no clear political perspective; not straightforward about their politics; few people involved; didn't say anything about reproductive rights; they seem to use ecology issue in opportunistic way. ~~Denied~~.
- (15) AFSC/Criminal Justice Program Larry wondered what's going on with the organization: they've gone through several directors, & seem disorganized. Larry thought there was a streak of privatization policy in one article in Newsletter. Yana thought new director might be good. ~~Not~~ Denied. But nice note saying we would consider a different project.
- (16) Leonard Peltier Def. Comm. People wondered why Hollywood people aren't giving them money. We'll ask them about this in letter. Yes. (\$600)



# RESIST

(3)

- (17) Graystone Newsletter Louis reported that Newsletter was well done, informative, & clearly written. Yes. (\$650)
- (18) CURE-NH Merble wondered that if they had such imposing board, they couldn't raise money from them. Yes. (\$800)
- (19) League of Yes/Gay Prisoners Question was raised whether we should fund a consultant for fund-raising. Yes. Letter should ask why Newsletter doesn't go to more people if they want to make it inside/outside thing. (\$600)
- (20) Vermont AIDS Cermail Yes. (\$759)
- (21) ACE-OUT Merble talked to people in the organization, & is persuaded it's not part of WTA, which has very large budget. Merble said they will be applying to other funds, but they still don't have income part of their budget. Merble thinks they'll keep going, whether funded or not. Question was raised about them being a service organization. No - with suggestions for funding sources.
- (22) Working Classroom Question was raised about paying for consultant. Yes. (\$800)
- (23) Farmworkers Democracy Educ. Ctr. yes (\$800)
- (24) Black Workers For Justice Yes. ~~Letter: we don't~~ (\$800)  
~~general support usually give money for general support that we'd like to support the Build the South Coalition. Cohen grant. Letter: it's for Workers Want Fairness Campaign. Cohen grant.~~
- (31) Black Workers... Loan request granted (\$1000)
- (25) Peace Offerings Question came up again of their raising only \$6400. Denied: this is not a priority for us; we don't think \$6400 is worth the effort.



# RESIST

(4) (26)

- (26) Chico Peases Justice Ctr. Some people were confused about just what the proposal was for. No. Letter: Updated letter confused us about what they were asking for.
- (27) St. Louis Fair Trade Comm. Question was raised about their ignoring reprod. rights. Merble observed that it involves very few people. It may be that's because they're reps. of organizations. There seems to be lack of diversity. George said that organizations involved in project should fund it. Yes (\$500)
- (28) Irlande Libre Postponed; letter: where do they stand on IRA violence.
- (29) Midwest Inst. Louis said that list of speakers & performers are same old folks. <sup>Larry</sup> ~~George~~ thought goals of project did not seem focused. Denied. Letter: project not politically focused; they do well at fund-raising.
- (30) World Solutions Exhibit No. Still one person organization; it's not proposing any specific actions.

Total grants: \$15,588 to 21 groups

Loan: \$1000

All the yesses got what they asked for.

Financial Report: See attachment.

Cheryl & Weeks. at end of year should do report on trends of income & expenses during last few years.

Next Board Meeting Dec. 5, Cambridge at Pam's house.

George's Report on Wash. Office on Latin America  
of which he's executive director. It has 12 staffers and interns. Works with Congress. Its work is



# RESIST

(5)

mainly on human rights. There's potential now because some of WOLA's friends are in administration; they consult with WOLA.

George also reported on Haiti. WOLA thinks there's no non-violent way of bringing Aristide back.

**NOTE:** See attached agenda for descriptions of what grants were actually for. (NW)



# RESIST

## FINANCES:

Cambridge Trust Co.	\$16,674.01
Calvert Money Market	92,989.19
Bond Fund	<u>138,654.34</u>

Unrestricted Sub-total	\$248,317.54
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Loan Fund	\$ 5,894.98
Resist Endowment	23,288.68
Cohen Endowment	<u>11,277.18</u>

Restricted Sub-total	\$40,460.84
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Total all funds	\$288,778.38
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( We have enough interest in both the Cohen and the Resist Endowments to give out Cohen and Salzman grants.)



October 22, 1993

References for the Resist Board Meeting of October 24, 1993

1) HOPE Alive - I called Mike Roque of the Chinook Fund in Denver for their last proposal. He said then that the group's organizers are good and that this is a good organization. "Fairly effective but always hamstrung for money... working now on getting a bus line into low-income Latino neighborhood... They spearhead progressive work in the area... do a lot of networking with other groups, especially Central America and women... challenge the City council... Pueblo is strange, very conservative, a Deep South mentality, right of center, politics very much an old boy network, a throw back to the 50s."

I called Mike again for this request. He agreed with his last reference and added that this is the only group in Pueblo challenging business as usual. Did direct action around the closing of schools with predominantly Chicano and African American students and kept the schools open. Mike thought that since theirs is an area isolated from other parts of the state (?), a fax is a good tool to fund.

2) CORES - This group has come to us in the past and received very good references. Their office is in our building and I have seen a lot of activity there daily, lots of people coming and going. I was therefore very surprised when I tried to get a reference for them and walked into what looks like a can of worms. I first called Jack Hamilton of the Somerville Community Action group. Jack was reluctant to be too specific, since he's not Salvadoran. He did say that "the organization seems to be doing good stuff, no one else is doing this important work... not likely anyone else will." He said that he had questions about the group in that there was a division in the Salvadoran community, as well as a split between CORES and the Sister City Group (which is recently more Anglo than in the past.) He said that he had questions about the group, if they are in fact doing empowerment work. He also has questions about the leadership of the group; was it the cause of the splits. Jack wouldn't be more specific. I then called Mike Prokasch of CISPES and NECAN. Mike said he wasn't "current with the group... did great work a couple of years ago on self-help community projects, solidarity and great media work... been some fighting in the group." Mike had heard it had to do with the contact person for the group "difficult to work with; has to control things... some folks left the group." Mike said that's all he knew. He did also say that it was an organizing as well as service group. He recommended I call Aram Falsafi who had been in the Sister City about a year and a half ago. Aram said he was not directly involved, but knew that most members left, feeling there was a lack of accountability for decision making, that the contact person had total control of the finances and projects. He wasn't sure if anything had changed in the group. He said that the group does good work with refugees. He also said that the Sister City group hadn't been an official part of CORES, but had worked with them on projects. He said that about a year ago some of the Salvadorans left the group and formed another group and is now running the ESL program. Aram said that it's "difficult to get an objective opinion from anybody (about the situation)." His opinion is "not to go with what happened a year ago. I also called Julie Schneider who had worked with the Sister City group but doesn't now. She said that CORES has "done an incredible amount of work... (part of) the split was displeasure of the teachers of the ESL classes (white progressives) about the leaders of CORES... conflict seemed to be the teachers wanted more of a say in what CORES as a whole was doing, only a few teachers upset.. made accusations that CORES was hiding something but no proof of this... CORES has a tiny budget, gone far, and very strong in making sure that Salvadorans/ immigrants run the organization... I feel that some white people have a problem with the contact person because he's independent, which is positive in my view... most important thing is their past and present work... done a lot of great work."

I left messages with other contacts, who didn't call back. Unfortunately, none of my contacts could recommend an objective Salvadoran for me to talk to.



3) HONOR - For their last request Steve Starkey of the Wisconsin Community Fund said that WCF had funded this group three times. "A really good group, very active, has been involved in networking with other Indian treaty rights groups around the state... WCF is giving them a special award, the Funding Exchange Quincentennial Award... an extremely responsible group, good brochures... a diverse group, people of color, white and Native American." Highly recommended.

I called Steve again; he agreed with his last recommendation and added that the group is now active nationally. WCF gave them another grant in the Spring. He thinks "they're great... have grown a lot, doing more, have 2 or 3 staff persons now.. number one rated group in WCF's cycle... don't only look good on paper but are really a dynamite group." Highly recommended again.

4) Cape Codders Against Racism - Last time Sarah Thatcher of FOR/Cape Cod said that she knew 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 recommended funding.

I called Sarah again for this request. She agrees with her previous reference and again recommends funding the group.

5) International Gay & Lesbian Human Rights Commission - Last time I called Linda Lucero of Vanguard Fund in San Francisco. She said that this group does both international and US work, but Vanguard feels that the US work needs to be developed. They're "real successful" but don't get a lot of funding. "One of the lead groups in getting Amnesty International to recognize gays and lesbians as possible political prisoners.... A lot of people in exile in San Francisco are working with the group, mostly on other countries, such as Peru and Mexico, but also do work locally.. very energetic.. good local media... The group has been working with the city it a gay and lesbian component in the main public library." Recommended.

For this proposal - Linda agrees with her last reference and added that she "really likes this group.. producing Action Alerts and newsletters... I've learned a lot from them about the oppression of gays and lesbians in other countries... they've done a lot of work recently on the Far East and women sex workers who are HIV+ and abused, murdered... No one else is doing this type of work." She again recommends funding them.

6) esto no tiene nombre - Kathy Acey of the Astrea Fund said that they had made a grant to this group last year. Their board was positive about them and thought the magazine was good, good politics, a good resource. They saw the magazine as connected to organizing. They do have a small distribution but Astrea felt that it is grass roots and there are not many publications like this. Kathy recommended funding them.

7) All Peoples Coalition/CARD - Louis Head of the SW Organizing Project in New Mexico said that he's worked with them in the past on dumping at Sandia Labs. The groups are focusing on the WIPP, "good people... good politics... Big groups like Citizen Action have moved into the state and created conflicts over turf, insensitivity but this coalition is indigenous and sincere in working with New Mexico progressive politics and groups... A couple of years ago WIPP issue was a zoo.. WIPP was a sexy issue, lots of foundations came into the state and dropped dollars into the work, new groups formed, but this group not one of those." Louis said that SWOP is supportive of these groups.

8) Gateway Greens - I called Maggie Fisher at the St. Louis Interfaith Committee on Central America. The Gateway Greens have a good newsletter, good coalition and other work. The contact person for this had belonged to two of the Greens groups, both the Gateway Greens and the St. Louis Left Green Collective (we turned them down



last year) which, she says, is leftist, Trots, "Recycled Trots." She said the Gateway Greens are good, her group's worked with them since last September on NAFTA, "not a large group but they do a newsletter and have been the people who have led organizing about NAFTA in St. Louis, where it's tough to get labor to do stuff. This group has been the leadership for 2 conferences and several public actions, done organizing, writing, speaking.... Group and contact person works well with unions, no Trot influence." Recommended.

9) CUSLAR - For their last request in 1989, I received two excellent references. Sylvia Sherman of the Nicaragua Network in DC said that they're "a very stable local committee, organizing in the community and doing well.. good politics... very good newsletter with in depth articles... good events... excellent group." Walter Cohen of Cornell Univ. (and the Cohen Endowment) sent a long letter of reference (included with these sheets.) I talked with Walter Cohen yesterday for an update on the group. He said that he's not as active in the past, but knows that, "of all the organizations at Cornell, CUSLAR is the most active, both off and on campus... not as big as before, but Latin American issues do not have the cache they did in the past... cut out staff person, but have good volunteer input... get just a little money from the University... have speakers, good newsletter, work on projects with high school and grammar school teachers... currently working on Guatemala, Peru, Haiti and NAFTA... doing good stuff." He recommended funding.

10) Videoteca del Sur - The first 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.

For their last request, Betty Kapatanakis of North Star Fund 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.

I talked with Betty K. again for this request. She agrees with her past references. "Still good work... North Star is impressed with them."

11) NISGUA - We've always received the highest recommendations for NISGUA. George Vickers will check on them and report at the board meeting.

12) El Salvador Peace Accords Coalition - Mike Prokasch of NECAN said that this started a couple of years ago through sister city groups, CISPES and workathons. Mike feels that this "is an essential networking/coordinating coalition... also offer skills and organizing training... newsletter is, though an experiment, filling a need as a networking and informational piece... the coalition includes suburban groups and most of the sister city groups in the region." Recommended.

13) Centrovision - See letters of reference in your packet. Both the Nica Network and NISGUA support this project and recommend funding them.

14) Haiti in Development - I spoke with Betty Kapatanakis of the North Star Fund about this. She said that NSF "had recently funded this group... been around a little while... our board was very impressed with the interview, they had good reps at the meeting... group is doing local media and outreach the Haitian community, as well as important outreach to the local Dominican community... well developed politics.. working with local community groups, African American churches, labor groups around economic development issues... good follow-through... well organized... thorough, committed...good political perspective in connecting economic and environmental issues... trying to recruit Haitians not usually involved... Funding the project and the foundation directory would be good." Recommended.



15) AFSC/Criminal Justice Program - Fran Roznowski of the Prison Book Program said that she was "familiar with them but not had many dealing with them lately... Their newsletter is good, a voice for people in the Mass. prisons but reaches beyond that (population)." She did feel that the project for which they're asking a grant is "important, critical." Fran later checked with a friend who said that "AFSC is doing a dynamite job... held a press conference recently about Walpole, among other things."

16) Leonard Peltier Defense Committee - Last time they applied I talked with Ed Nakawatasi of AFSC/National Office. He said that this group was one of the most visible presences on the issue, active, hung in there a long time, helpful and positive, for all Native American prisoners, helps to focus on prisons in general (conditions, treatment issues.) He highly recommended funding.

I called him again for this request. He agreed with his previous reference and said the group has "essentially taken the lead... provide resources... an important force... fairly decentralized with local committees... good networking... send out updates." Ed felt that their planned demo would be important. Recommended.

17) Greystone Newsletter - I called Jackie Walker at the ACLU National Prison Project in DC. She didn't know of this but referred me to Olinda Moyd of the Baltimore Public Defenders Office. Jackie said she's a very good contact. Olinda did know of this publication, which she received for some time. She's worked for about 8 years with prisoners in the MD system. She said that she's "always been impressed with the issues they've put out... the men inside work on this, written and produced by prisoners... not fly-by-night... a lot of the older guys belong to the group.. know Robert Leisure (one of contact persons), dedicated individual... active with self help activities for all the prisoners, disseminates information... PHASE (fiscal sponsor) is an inside group... I received the last issue of the newsletter last Fall, but don't know why there haven't been more recent ones." Olinda felt this would be a good thing to fund.

18) CURE-NH - For their last request I called Arnie Alpert of AFSC/NH who said that AFSC worked with this group on organizing the first Conference. Two years ago, AFSC and groups other than this one organized a conference on prison issues with the goal of starting prisoner support groups, just about the time that CURE started. Last year's conference came from that work, with a focus of dealing with policy issues. Arnie said that "the pot's bubbling (in NH) on this issue.... CURE has the potential to be the grass roots group that takes the lead on the issue (which AFSC/NH can't)... No other group is doing this. They also have good national connections, very good local people involved... will deal with a range of issues.... good mix of people (religious community, experienced activists), doing good work now with a good future potential." He recommended funding.

I called Arnie again for this request. He agreed with his last reference and said that AFSC is co-sponsoring forums with this group in October for community discussion on the issues. He feels there still is a need for such a group in NH, "crucial, still no one else in the state doing such work." Recommended again.

19) League of Lesbian & Gay Prisoners - Dan Petegorsky of PDFund didn't know of this group, but referred me to Stephan at A Territory Resource in Seattle who did. He said that ATR had given the group a small technical assistance grant recently. There only hesitation was that it's a fairly new group, but ATR's general impression was that there is support in Seattle for this work. The group has had a lot of recent activity and is making progress in the work. He said that they have a positive degree of diversity, although not a group of color. They do good networking with other groups, and have both prisoners and outside supporters in the group. He felt they have good politics.

20) Vermont AIDS Council - Will Miller of the Green Mountain Fund said this "is primarily an umbrella group for all the AIDS groups in the state... do lobbying,



networking, resources, primary state-wide organizing... does a combination of organizing and service work... has the key role of coordinating local groups to organize around issues... the lead organization at the state level... very good politics." Recommended.

21) ACE-OUT - Betty Kapatanakis of the North Star Fund knew of this also, though they "funded a video to be used by this group, not the group itself yet." Betty said that she feels this group "is a border line case (ie service or organizing) because it deals with women in prison and there are not too many organizations around that do direct organizing around the issue." She said that she was very impressed with their contact person who is a film maker, rooted in the women's prison community.

22) Working Classroom - Wayne O'Neil has highly recommended this group in the past, saying they do wonderful work, that he was impressed with them and their projects, a unique group. Wayne said that he didn't know much about their recent work so I called Deb Preuesh of the Resource Center in NM. She checked around and said that her contact had heard of them and gave very positive responses on their work and their contact person, "dedicated, dynamic, working with little funding, really had an impact on kids' lives in New Mexico, Nicaragua, and Mexico, good politics, good projects, innovative." Recommended.

23) Farmworkers Democracy Center - Dan Petegorsky suggested I call John Boonstra of the WA Association of Churches who's active in this sector. He said he knows of the group and strongly recommends the project. Among others the group works with church people. "They're involving leadership from Latino farm workers community... grass roots... in decision making... really need support... have some of the best community organizers around... do a lot of community projects... have a lot of expertise, so they're a good group to do the seminar... this grew out of UFW of WA, separate and smaller than UFW." He highly recommends the group.

24) Black Workers for Justice - We funded them in the past and always received very good references. This time I called Linda Williams of NCARRV who said that this is "a great organization!... They reach into communities where others don't have access... focus on workers' issues... great politics, on the mark... good projects... pull in a lot of folks, working people, to their conferences." Highly recommended.

25) Peace Offerings - I talked with Naomi Jaffee of the Holding Our Own Fund in Albany. She said that this is "a good project, supports the Social Justice Center which is a key part of the movement in the city... makes connections between politics and cultural issues... performs a good cultural function... good politics.. done diversity recruiting for staff/volunteers... did a program last fall around the anti-Columbus Day protests, including an exhibit of indigenous products/art... had an exhibit of Guatemalan weaving... do non-exploitative purchasing." Naomi was surprised they only seemed to raise \$6,400 for the SJC last year.

26) Chico Peace & Justice Center - Linda Lucero of Vanguard Fund said the group was given a donor-directed grant and is on their agenda for a regular grant. She said that board members from that area speak highly of the group which does broad outreach and has a Black staff person who is very good. I talked with David Welton of the Stonewall Alliance Center in Chico. He said that the Alliance has worked with this group, very supportive, very good politics, work on many issues, a leader in the movement, very active, good newsletter, network well with other groups in area. Recommended.

27) St. Louis Fair Trade Committee - Maggie Fisher of the St. Louis Interfaith Committee on Latin America said her group is also working on anti-NAFTA. She feels that, in this project, "the Nicaraguan women are a link to folks not brought into NAFTA work yet... This committee does outreach to smaller grass roots groups in the



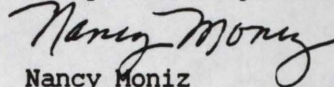
area... good at connecting to community development groups." She recommends funding.

28) Irlande Libre - Deb Preuesch of the Resource Center said that her contact said that there's not much happening around Ireland there, but this group has done some things such as bringing people in to speak. It's a new and small group, but dedicated and committed. Recommended by Deb's contact.

29) MIST - Steve Newcom of the Headwaters Fund said that he's known the group and folks involved for a long time. After the Honeywell Project ended, the people started this as a resource for groups in the area. Headwaters has funded them. "Marv Davidov brings a tremendous history of organizing and CD to the group... groups works well with other groups to develop their own strategies... effective... good politics... branching out of local work to nation-wide... I feel they have high capability of carrying out objectives, such as this project... good project, politically and for fund raising for group... local folks on their speakers list are excellent, solid people." He recommended funding.

30) World Solutions Exhibit - Linda Lucero of Vanguard Fund said that VF did not turn them down but rather they were not picked up to be interviewed for a grant. The reason was that it was felt that this is primarily a one-person group and also Vanguard was not convinced that the exhibit was developed enough. VF also wasn't sure they knew how to hook up with other groups and had questions on the depth of support from groups they listed as supporters.

For peace and justice,



Nancy Moniz  
Resist staff



September 28, 1993

Hayyim Feldman  
83 Belmont Street  
Somerville, MA 02143

Dear Hayyim,

Thank you for your thoughtful and detailed letter about our anniversary display. I must apologize for the lateness of my reply. We discussed your letter at length at our September 12 Board meeting, and I accept full responsibility for the delay, since I volunteered to respond on behalf of the Board.

You shared with us your concerns about a collage created by Odyssey Enterprises that was a part of our anniversary celebration. In particular, you described your reactions to two elements of the collage that you felt were anti-Jewish. At the Board meeting, we took a look at a copy of the collage and we discussed your analysis and recommendations. Specifically, you suggest Resist acknowledge the problem of displaying art that is personally and politically oppressive, that we consider printing a disclaimer in our newsletter, and that we learn to recognize anti-Semitism more readily.

We share your concern about the impact of artistic expression that exploits, demeans, or otherwise oppresses any individual or group. As many of us have experienced in political work, there can exist a wide range of opinion about what constitutes oppression, even among people in the progressive community. Add to this the human element of the subjective response to art that livens any conversation about the meaning and impact of what we see or hear. The message or meaning of any work of art is open to interpretation, and any meaning ascribed to this collage by viewers belongs to the viewers themselves. Your letter provoked lively discussion among Board members, although I must say we did not come to the same conclusion that you did about the impact of the collage. We have a difference of opinion between the Board and you about whether or not the collage is anti-Semitic. While we agree that oppressive artistic expression is deplorable, in the interest of mutual respect, we hope you understand our decision not to make a public statement disclaiming our involvement with the message of this collage.

Your suggestion that we develop an internal mechanism for dealing with similar situations in the future was taken up by the Board. In reviewing our decision-making process, we concluded that regular, issue-specific conversations among Board members (the staff at Resist are Board members, too) and listening to grantees, supporters and interested individuals are useful ways to maintain an active dialogue and consistent policies in the organization.



I'd like to address your comment that we may have some political blind spots and may need to improve our ability to recognize anti-Semitism. We are a multi-issue organization functioning with a belief that all of our work will be furthered by making connections among the many issues that concern progressive peoples. We appreciate your comment that Resist can spot forms of oppression, and we believe we are sensitive to recognizing anti-Semitism, and hopefully we can respond appropriately. Although we may disagree on whether a particular expression is oppressive, we can agree that any form of oppression creates the need for us to work for the liberation of all peoples.

Thank you again for sharing your thoughts with us.

For peace and justice,

Pam Chamberlain  
for the Board of Resist



October 19, 1993

Dee Farmer #23288-037  
PO Box 6000  
Florence, CO 81226

Dear Dee Farmer,

As you know, the Board of Resist has made two grants to Dee Farmer & Associates, one in December 1991 and one in March 1993.

As a result of our normal process of checking references for grant requests and following up on grants we have made, the Board of Resist has discovered substantial irregularities in two other grant applications, concerning projects from The Children's Center at Bedford Hills in December 1992 and The Committee to End the Marion Lockdown in June of 1992. We did not fund the Children's Center request and did fund the Committee to End the Marion Lockdown.

We were unable to locate satisfactory references on the Children's Center project, and were told by the contact person listed in the proposal, Reverend John Prowett of the Minority Prison Project, that his group was the fiscal sponsor and that it was your project. There are three irregularities here: first, that the proposal appears to have been a project of Dee Farmer & Associates, but there is no mention of Dee Farmer and Associates in the proposal. Second, the contact person listed had only agreed to be fiscal sponsor and had nothing to do with the proposal; and third, within our grant guidelines, Dee Farmer & Associates were ineligible to receive another grant until December 1992. We are concerned that the proposal appears to have been written to conceal the connection to Dee Farmer & Associates, in order to evade our guidelines concerning repeat funding.

The second proposal, in June 1992, was from the Committee to End the Marion Lockdown. This proposal was funded on the basis of references for the Committee. The proposal listed Judy Greenspan as contact person but gave an incorrect address and phone number where she might be reached. The six-month Progress Report on the grant was returned to us, filled in and signed by Judy Greenspan. However, Judy Greenspan maintains that she agreed only to be fiscal sponsor and that the Committee to End the Marion Lockdown had not requested the funds. She says that the grant money was sent to you and Dee Farmer & Associates. Ms. Greenspan also says that she did not sign the Progress Report which was sent to us over her signature. The irregularities here are that, first, as above, the proposal was made, and the funds received, under false pretenses, and second, that it violates our guidelines for repeat funding.



The Board of Resist views this matter very seriously. A grants-making institution such as Resist relies upon the representations made to it in the grant proposals. Your actions have amply demonstrated that we cannot rely upon your statements. The Board therefore has decided that we can no longer accept proposals from either you or Dee Farmer & Associates for funding, however worthy the projects may be.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Smith  
for the Board of Resist