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A call to **RESIST** illegitimate authority

One Summer Street, Somerville, Massachusetts 02143

617/623-5110

Board Meeting - December 4, 1994 - 11am

Place: To be announced

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

Dear Board member,

I haven't been able to find a meeting place yet. Any volunteers? If we can't find a home for the meeting, Louis has reserved a lounge (#14-E304) at MIT. Stay tuned and I'll call you with the meeting place asap.

We have 29 requests on the agenda for this Board meeting. There will be \$17,400 to give out for grants (\$600 x 29). We also have \$4,707 not used at previous board meetings for a grand total of \$22,107 for grants.

We also have \$1,073.38 from the Cambridge/Ramallah Sister City group for a grant to a Middle East solidarity group. When they closed up shop they donated that amount to Resist for the purpose of funding such a group with a priority being a group in the Boston area first, then New England, and, if not one of those, the rest of the U.S. It hasn't been clarified if this grant would be in addition to the above amount of funds available.

Please remember the Maximum grant is \$1,000 (but could be less); Some grant is \$300; Token grants remains at \$100; and emergency grants have been raised to \$200.

I'll send you references and updated information for these requests about two weeks prior to the board meeting.

AGENDA

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

** At the Board meeting on October 23rd, a grant to Guerilla TV Productions in Detroit was provisional on a reference to come from Paul Lauter's contacts in Detroit. That reference turned out to be negative in that Paul's contacts said that this was a one person operation without a track record of success in carrying out projects on video. Nothing was said about the politics, ie nationalism, etc. Since the first reference was positive, politics might be involved but Paul didn't know. In any case, No grant was made to Guerilla TV, Detroit, MI.

EMERGENCY GRANTS

** An emergency grant of \$200 was made to the November 12th Cuba Coalition toward the expenses of a national march in Washington, DC on 11/12/94 to call for the end of the US economic blockade against Cuba.

GRANT REQUESTS

Native Americans

- 1) Two-Spirited Thunder People/Native American Dance Troupe (Lawton, OK) - Requesting \$2500 for a computer system.

Yes _____ No _____ Maybe _____

- 2) Native Routes (New Prague, MN) - Asking for \$1,000 for promotion of their American Indian History Bus Tours in Minnesota.

Yes _____ No _____ Maybe _____

Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual

- 3) Sister Spirit, Inc. (Ovett, MS) - A request of \$1,000 to support the costs of an educational and fund raising mailing.

Yes _____ No _____ Maybe _____

- 4) North Carolina Coalition for Gay and Lesbian Equality (Durham, NC) - \$1,000 requested for the cost of printing the annual "Hate Crimes Report." A Board member will look at a sample for a report to the meeting.

Yes _____ No _____ Maybe _____

- 5) Lambda Community Center (Fort Collins, CO) - Requesting \$1,000 for production of a brochure; for the expenses of a regional forum on anti-discrimination; and for a computer printer.

Yes _____ No _____ Maybe _____

Central and Latin America and the Caribbean

- 6) The Nicaragua-United States Friendship Office (Washington, DC) - Request of \$1,000 for the expenses of public education projects.

Yes _____ No _____ Maybe _____

7) Ecumenical Program on Central America and the Caribbean (Washington, DC) - \$850 toward the cost of printing a report on Haiti entitled "Beyond the Mountains: Haiti Faces the Future." A Board member will review this.

Yes _____ No _____ Maybe _____

8) Cuba Information Project (New York, NY) - Asking for \$1,000 to help with the production and distribution costs of the publication "Cuba Action." To be reviewed by a Board member for a report.

Yes _____ No _____ Maybe _____

9) Kalfou Kreyol (Washington, DC) - Requesting \$1,000 toward production costs of the magazine "Roots." Another review by a Board member.

Yes _____ No _____ Maybe _____

Peace/Anti-militarism

10) Dayton Citizens for Global Security (Dayton, OH) - A request of \$600 for the expenses of Thought Swappers Guild house meetings.

Yes _____ No _____ Maybe _____

Albuquerque Peace Museum (Albuquerque, NM) - They're requesting \$1,000 for locking cases to be used to display artifacts for America-Japan Week exhibits.

Yes _____ No _____ Maybe _____

12) Delaware County Pledge of Resistance (Media, PA) Asking for \$1,000 for the production and mailing of a bimonthly newsletter.

Yes _____ No _____ Maybe _____

13) Project YANO (Project on Youth & Non-Military Opportunities (Encinitas, CA) - Requesting \$1,000 for literature, buttons and for staff salary.

Yes _____ No _____ Maybe _____

Community Organizing/Anti-racism

14) Texas Alliance for Human Needs (TAHN) (Austin, TX) - \$1,000 requested for production and postage for a fund raising mailing to the state-wide members list.

Yes _____ No _____ Maybe _____

15) Montanans for Social Justice (Helena, MT) - Asking for \$1,000 toward the purchase of a photo-copying machine.

Yes _____ No _____ Maybe _____

16) Politics of Food Program, Inc. (Rochester, NY) - A request of \$900 for a fax machine, and for a VCR to be used in workshops for community groups.

Yes _____ No _____ Maybe _____

17) Campaign to Abolish Poverty (San Francisco, CA) - \$674 requested for the expenses of a "Street Economics" project of monthly workshops and a demonstration.

Yes _____ No _____ Maybe _____

Prisoners

18) Prison and Jail Project (Americus, GA) - Requesting \$1,000 for printing and mailing of the bimonthly newsletter.

Yes _____ No _____ Maybe _____

19) St. Catherine's Prison Project (Cincinnati, OH) - Asking for \$1,000 to purchase a photo copying machine in order to minimize costs for the Jericho Newsletter.

Yes _____ No _____ Maybe _____

Environmental

20) Citizens for Environmental Justice (Savannah, GA) - \$800 requested for the printing of the newsletter, "The CFEJ Voice."

Yes _____ No _____ Maybe _____

21) Green Sphere, Inc. and EnviroVideo (Sag Harbor, NY) - \$800 request to help with the publication of an updated catalog of videos on environmental and social justice issues.

Yes _____ No _____ Maybe _____

22) Citizens Awareness Network (Shelburne Falls, MA) - A request of \$1,000 to purchase a photo copying machine.

Yes _____ No _____ Maybe _____

Economics

23) Mass. Jobs with Justice (Somerville, MA) - A request of \$800 toward the salary of an outreach coordinator for presentations of their slide show. Script of show to be reviewed by a Board member.

Yes _____ No _____ Maybe _____

24) Women's Development Institute (Hallowell, ME) - Requesting \$1,000 to initiate a newsletter.

Yes _____ No _____ Maybe _____

Miscellaneous

25) The Middle East Justice Network (Boston, MA) - \$1,000 requested to cover costs of printing one issue of the newsletter Breaking the Siege, and toward the expenses of organizing a forum for activists for Palestinian rights.

Yes _____ No _____ Maybe _____

26) Women and Cancer Project (San Francisco, CA) - \$1,000 request toward the cost of printed material for a Walk-A-Thon in June of 1995.

Yes _____ No _____ Maybe _____

27) Colectiva Teson (Boston, MA) - Requesting \$1,000 for distribution and advertizing of a video about changes in the public schools needed for Latino youth, and for a manual to accompany the video. The video will be looked at by a Board member for a report to the meeting.

Yes _____ No _____ Maybe _____

28) The Maine Progressive (Belfast, ME) - \$1,000 requested to pay writers to do four investigative articles.

Yes _____ No _____ Maybe _____

29) Washington Committee on Occupational Safety & Health (WashCOSH) (Seattle, WA) - A request of \$1,000 to be used as a matching grant to purchase a Notebook Computer System for training and educational programs.

Yes _____ No _____ Maybe _____

BUSINESS/POLICY ITEMS

* Newsletter report.

* Discussion about proposals from large budget organizations. Do we have a ceiling (\$100,000 per year) on this and/or should we raise it?

* Board search.

* Computers and us - Discussion on upgrading the Resist office computer system.

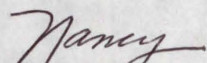
* Finances report.

* Office matters.

* Miscellaneous/other.

* We haven't scheduled the next Board meeting yet. I'd suggest a date of (no earlier than) Sunday, January 15, 1995. The meeting will be in the Boston area.

For peace and justice,


Nancy Moniz, Resist staff

**RESIST BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 4, 1994
MIT, CAMBRIDGE, MA**

PRESENT: Ken Hale (chair), Pam Chamberlain, Tess Ewing, Louis Kampf, Cheryl Smith, Stephanie Poggi, Nancy Wechsler (minutes) Wayne O'Neil, Nancy Moniz.

Newsletter Report: Stephanie gave a report on what was coming up-- Tatiana has completed the January issue and solicited articles for the February issue. (Grassroots report from group doing Philadelphia-Nicaragua cross cultural work.) March issue will be our year-end wrap up issue. Staff/bd lunch did some brainstorming already for it. Board did a little more. Stephanie and Wechsler will write it up. Nancy Moniz will get the grants part ready.

It was suggested that there is an article in the packet from group #25 on the Middle East peace agreement that might be worth updating and reprinting. Nancy Moniz made several suggestions for book reviews and reviewers. Stephanie will follow this up. She encouraged others to share their ideas.

Stephanie said she would start soliciting articles for the future. She expressed getting an article on the student organizing involved in the California immigration bill #187 campaign. (maybe also include teachers and health care workers?) Someone suggested that David Peck might be able to write something. He teaches at Long Beach State University in the English Department. Louis has his phone number. Another idea was "Bigot Busters," which GCN has an article about. It is a group organizing against those collecting signatures for anti-gay ballot initiatives. They go to the places the right-wing is collecting signatures and try to talk to people who may be thinking of actually signing the petitions. Another idea was to write something up on the series of Feminist backlash books that have been coming out. Maybe get someone who is 25 to write it up from that generation's perspective. Wechsler suggested asking Nancy Palmer if she was interested in this.

Wrap-up discussion: environmental racism- economic justice. Right's agenda around education, and the fact that they are losing some electoral battles. Race. Mention that so few people voted in last election. Lots of good groups out there doing good work.

***** For those wanting to reach Stephanie at home, her number is: 628-4528.

BUDGET FOR GROUPS: At the NYC meeting a question was raised as to whether or not we should change our guidelines to read that we prefer groups with budgets under \$150,000, instead of present language which is: "we prefer groups with budgets under \$100,000." People at Boston meeting decided to leave the current guidelines as is. We felt that the word prefer had not discouraged larger budget organizations to come to us, and that we did, indeed, make exceptions. It was raised as to whether there was a concern about what the staff should do about encouraging or discouraging people who called us up to apply or not-- but we didn't think changing this language would help that problem.

Board Search: Nancy Moniz gave report. Bev Tillery still considering. Marcellus Andrews has gotten all the information, but not gotten back to us.

Computers and US: postponed till next meeting.

FINANCES:	Cambridge Trust Company	\$19,048.07
	Operating Fund	\$65,424.28
	Bond Fund	\$32,655.25
	Managed Growth	\$94,466.30
	Total unrestricted funds:	\$211,593.90
	Loan Fund	\$ 6,201.53
	Resist Endowment	\$26,741.67 (below principle)
	Cohen Endowment	\$ 9,794.46 (below principle)
	Total restricted funds:	\$42,737.66
	Total all funds:	\$254,331.56

As of the end of October we were running about a \$50,000 deficit (meaning our expenses were \$50,000 higher than our income). This is largely due to decrease in value of stock and interest, and increase in grants given out. Donor income remains even. Given the state of our investments at this time, we have no money this year to give out a Cohen or a Salzman grant. Wechsler will write Walter and George and explain this. Cheryl suggested we add some information in our gifting stock blurb to include the new regulations on Alternative Minimum Tax Burden. Wechsler will go over wording with Cheryl.

At our January board meeting we will have an un-audited accounting of our income and expenses, which should help us make some decisions about our income and expenses budget for 1995. How much can we realistically expect to fund raise? How much is realistic to give out in grants? How much of our savings do we want to spend each year? How much money in grants is it realistic to expect to give out? Do we need to change the formula, or is it working? Tune in for this fascinating year end report! Just how much money will come in during December. Only our donors and stockbrokers know for sure.

Mediation: Brief report of some of the positive ideas that came out of final mediation session. Renae Scott said she was open to helping staff continue to mediate certain disputes, at least for a given amount of time. Recommendations from mediation:

1. Appoint a rotating (every three months) mediator to handle the more personal issues that may come up between staff.
2. Appoint a rotating ombudsperson to be someone staff can call to bounce off ideas about work, business, etc. Three month term also suggested.
3. Take another look at our personal policy and see what needs updating, changing, making more consistent, or adding what has always been policy but didn't get written down.

Personnel Committee will take up these suggestions. (Wechsler reminded board that originally, and officially, there should be staff on the personnel committee but they have been meeting without any staff at this time.)

Staff Resignation: We discussed Tatiana's resignation from RESIST after 8 years as our newsletter editor. Discussion as to how to show our appreciation for all her work and her incredible contribution to Resist, the newsletter, etc. Decisions: Resist had bought a few pieces of computer equipment for Tatiana in 1992, with the agreement that if she left she would owe us the depreciated value. We all agreed the value was now \$0, and that she did not owe us for any of this equipment. We wanted to make this official. We agreed to

pay for two months of her health insurance (\$210/month)-- December and January, as part of our saying goodbye and thank you for all your hard work. We agreed that she could write a fair well in the newsletter, and the we would also write a tribute to her (Stephanie and Wechsler will do this). We could use a photo. We had a discussion as to exactly what one months severance pay was- in other words, how long is a month? Decision was to pay Tatiana for 4 1/3 weeks. (This assumes she continues with her decision to not apply for unemployment compensation....)

It was requested that Tatiana's new address be put in the minutes:

December 4- Jan 30th: Tatiana Schreiber, PO Box 324, West Chesterfield, NH, 03466.
Phone: 603- 256-6582

We will let you know her address and phone number for February, March and April as soon as we have it here at the office. She'll be back in town May 1st.

Staff Search: Nancy Moniz had a list of things the board should consider re: staff search. They included: job description, salary, benefits, hours, deadline for resumes, ad/leaflets, hiring committee, list of groups to mail to, what region to mail to. We briefly talked about affirmative action hiring, and looking for someone with computer skills. Personnel Committee is meeting December 15th to discuss job opening and restructuring. Will bring suggestions back to January board meeting. Brief discussion about possibilities for job, including expanding hours and giving it more non-newsletter duties, as well as constricting it to be more consultant who just did newsletter. Agreed this would all need to be discussed with full board (with staff present).

Cheryl asked Wechsler to mail personnel committee stationary, Tatiana's letter, everyone's job description, and the personnel policy.

Sick Time Report: Wechsler gave a brief report on status of her sick leave. She mentioned that Ella had gotten sick in August when she transferred to a new day care setting, and that while she was over it fairly quickly, Julie and Nancy were sick for 8 weeks. She pointed out that there were often nights when they were both up with Ella on and off all night, and then sent her to day care and had to sleep themselves during the day. Then on top of this, the stress of work and mediation, as well as other things, had led to a flare up of her Crohn's disease, which led to more sick time being taken for doctor's appointments and bed rest. By her calculations, she has used up all but one day of sick time, plus a comp day from this board meeting. This should get her through December. She said she would be happy to use vacation time (she has three weeks left until April 20) or unpaid time, if she needed any more sick leave. She was not asking the personnel committee for more time. Nancy Moniz suggested the personnel committee give her a few more days. The personnel committee will discuss this at their meeting. The feeling of the board was that the last resort should be to take time off without pay.

Despite illness, work is going well and Wechsler is not behind.

NEXT BOARD MEETINGS: January 22nd at Pam Chamberlain's
 March 12th at Cheryl Smith's

Emergency Grants: Emergency grants made between the October and December Board meetings:

November 12th Coalition (NY, NY) an emergency grant of \$200 toward the expenses of a national march and rally calling for an end to the US economic blockade of Cuba.

Home Attendants Support Committee (NY, NY) an emergency grant of \$200 toward the expenses of publication and distribution of the committee's newsletter, and for subway tokens for members to be used for organizing.

On-Campus (Los Angeles, CA) an emergency grant of \$200 to be used for the expenses of the group's Pledge of Resistance by teachers in the area against the implementation of California's anti-immigrant ballot initiative.

Please also note from your meeting agenda that no grant was given to Guerilla TV, Detroit, MI-- a decision which had been held over from the October 23rd NYC meeting.

GRANTS: We gave out a total of \$20,997.38 to 22 groups. This was somewhat above the amount we had for the pool for this meeting, but less than what we had as a result of left over money from previous meetings. We decided not to carry over any left over into the new year. Our yearly grants total for 1994 so far is approximately \$147,815. That is a 33% increase over last year.

1. Two-Spirited Thunder People/Native American Dance Troupe (Lawton, OK) NO GRANT. They had requested \$2500 for a computer system. Report. Video poor quality. Not done well. But they aren't asking for money for video. Seem to have been inactive for a few years, really since 1991, but have fuller schedule planned for upcoming year. Decision: NO. We don't see any recent evidence of your organizing work. If in six months or a year you have done more organizing, please feel free to re-apply.

2. Native Routes (New Prague, MN) YES to a grant of \$1,000 for promotion of their American Indian History Bus Tours in Minnesota. Comment was made that there is a big difference between the tours, and what you might learn. Still we felt this was positive and people would come away with information and possibly energized to do organizing. We liked that it was something different.

3. Sister Spirit, Inc. (Ovett, MS) YES to a grant of \$1000 to support the costs of an education and fund raising mailing. We decided to make this our Mike Riegle tribute grant for 1994. Let them know this, and tell them a little about Mike. (You could send them the issue of the newsletter which contains our tribute to him.)

4. North Carolina Coalition for Gay and Lesbian Equity (Durham, NC) YES to a grant of \$1000 requested for the cost of printing the annual "Hate Crimes Report." NM gave report on the Hate Crimes report. Tess suggested we let them know there is a group in Brazil that is also doing this.

5. Lambda Community Center (Ft. Collins, CO) YES to a grant of \$1000 for production of a brochure; for the expenses of a regional forum on anti-discrimination; and for a computer printer. Tess reviewed newsletter. Seemed social oriented. Group came out of organizing against the anti-gay referendum. Serves large geographic community. Glad to see they work with youth. Hope you will do organizing as well as service. It was argued that it was important to give money to groups in Colorado. Fort Collins in no hotbed of radicalism. Question raised as to whether we were contributing our money to make space for gay right wing? If they were conservative, would they have included transgendered people in their statement? They do tracking of discrimination and anti-violence work. Send them North Carolina report. Suggest they use our money for the organizing work they

do, such as the anti-violence tracking, or printing a report about it.

6. The Nicaragua-United States Friendship Office (Washington, DC) YES to a grant of \$1000 for the expenses of public education projects. Not much work happening around Nicaragua.

7. Ecumenical Program on Central America and the Caribbean (Washington, DC) YES to a grant of \$850 toward the cost of printing a report on Haiti entitled "Beyond the Mountains: Haiti Faces the Future." Cheryl gave report. Supported it. Large budget. We should say something about the fact that they ignored our question on abortion and reproductive rights.

8. Cuba Information Project (NY, NY) POSTPONED. They had asked for \$1000 to help with the production and distribution costs of the publication "Cuba Action." Louis read several copies, including article on gay/lesbian delegation to Cuba. POSTPONE to get more answers to question #10, and their relationship to Workers World, and to find out if Leslie is leaving group or not. Also ask for clarification of humanitarian aid budget items.

Wechsler will call and get information, and report back.

9. Kalfou Kreyol (Washington, DC) YES to a grant of \$1000 toward production costs of the magazine "Roots." Ken looked at one issue. We didn't get the issue we would be funding. They use culture to reach broader audience.

10. Dayton Citizens for Global Security (Dayton, OH) NO GRANT. They had requested \$600 for the expenses of Thought Swappers Guild house meetings. Good reference. Uninspiring ideas about what to "swap thoughts on." Boring. Question raised re: their answer to #10, especially people of color and gays/lesbians. NO. Particular organizing vehicle doesn't look like an effective idea to us.

11. Albuquerque Peace Museum (Albuquerque, NM) NO GRANT. They had requested \$1000 for locking cases to be used to display artifacts for American-Japan Week exhibits. People felt there was no organizing component to this work. Not even a sign up list to see who might want to get involved.

12. Delaware County Pledge of Resistance (Media, PA) YES to a grant of \$1000 for the production and mailing of a bimonthly newsletter. We should write and encourage them to use their newsletter to raise money. Put a plug for money in every newsletter. Have a coupon or something. Think about including a reply envelope, too.

13. Project YANO (Project on Youth and Non-Military Opportunities) (Encinitas, CA) YES to a grant of \$1000 for literature, buttons and for staff salary. Peace Development Fund has changed priorities away from more general peace groups. Money is drying up for this kind of work. Good group.

14. Texas Alliance for Human Needs (TAHN) (Austin, TX) YES to a grant of \$1000 requested for production and postage for a fund raising mailing to the state-wide members list. large budget, but \$26,000 is in kind. Large state! Good work. We've funded them in past.

15. Montanans for Social Justice (Helena, MT) YES to a grant of \$800 toward the purchase of a photo-copying machine. They are split on abortion rights, but at least they are honest and say so.

16. Politics of Food Program, Inc. (Rochester, NY) NO GRANT. They had requested \$900 for a fax machine, and for a VCR to be used in workshops for community groups. Not our priority. Check what reference said.

17. Campaign to Abolish Poverty (SF, CA) YES to a grant of \$674 for the expenses of a "Street Economics" project of monthly workshops and a demonstration. We've turned them down in the past, but they seem to have broadened base and are still going after several years. Maybe it's time to fund them.

18. Prison and Jail Project (Americus, GA) YES to a grant of \$1000 for printing and mailing of the bimonthly newsletter. Brief discussion of their politics.

19. St. Catherine's Prison Project (Cincinnati, OH) NO GRANT. They asked for \$1000 to purchase a photo copying machine in order to minimize costs for the Jericho Newsletter. Letters to the editor are people from the board. Use of word "hate-full bitch" is offensive. Don't seem to have larger political perspective. Doesn't have potential for strong national presence. Not much of assistance to prisoners. Three years later they haven't developed enough. We don't see how samples of your newsletter will particularly help prisoners.

20. Citizens for Environmental Justice (Savannah, GA) YES to a grant of \$800 for the printing of the newsletter, "The CFEJ Voice." Ask them if they have bulk mail permit to save some money on postage.

21. Green Sphere, Inc. and EnviroVideo (Sag Harbor, NY) NO GRANT. They had requested \$800 to help with the production of an updated catalog of videos on environmental and social justice issues. We didn't like answers to #10. Not much radical content in list of videos. Nor priority for Resist. What is catalog for? Selling videos is not an organizing tool.

22. Citizens Awareness Network (Shelburne Falls, MA) YES to a grant of \$1000 to purchase a photo copying machine. Louis called Dick Ohmann, who is living nearby now. Good people doing decent work.

23. Mass. Jobs with Justice (Somerville, MA) YES to a grant of \$800 toward the salary of an outreach coordinator for presentations of their slide show. Good people. Coordinated health care referenda this past election. Do good work. Real group.

24. Women's Development Institute (Hallowell, ME) YES to a grant of \$1000 to initiate a newsletter. Board was favorable. Very little discussion.

25. The Middle East Justice Network (Boston, MA) YES to a grant of \$1073.38* to cover the costs of printing one issue of the newsletter Breaking the Siege, and toward the expenses of organizing a forum for activists for Palestinian rights. Louis gave a report. He said it was initially a sectarian organization, did some good things. Annual conference got people together for a day. They have since broadened their politics. Stopped getting enough money for a staffer. Louis supports funding them. There is practically nothing going on around Middle East work now. Louis went to a meeting with a whole group of people interested in Middle East work. They discussed this proposal and made some changes in it, changes in objectives-- made it more interactive. Should we give this group \$1000 of the Sister City money we were donated? YES (*The Sister City Group guidelines were to have "the entire amount be used for a single grant to a grassroots organizing project around Middle East Issues." This is why the figure is more than \$1000.) Write them and let them know we are giving them this money, and that Louis was at a meeting with them and understands they will be working on this project in coalition with other people.

26. Women and Cancer Project (SF, CA) YES to a grant of \$1000 toward the cost of printed material for a Walk-A-Thon in June of 1995.

27. Colectiva Teson (Boston, MA) YES to a grant of \$1000 for distribution and advertising of a video about changes in the public schools needed for Latino youth, and for a manual to accompany the video. Pam gave report. Positive about video. Not as positive about manual. Doesn't see an organizing effort. Not a clear plan. They need to identify audience. Make specific recommendations to people for organizing. Material accompanying video needs work. Need to finish packet. Say to people, now that you see this reality, what will you do about it?

28. The Maine Progressive (Belfast, ME) YES to a grant of \$1000 to pay writers to do four investigative articles. Good paper.

29. Washington Committee on Occupational Safety and Health (WashCOSH) (Seattle, WA) YES to a grant of \$1000 to be used as a matching grant to purchase a Notebook Computer System for training and educational programs. good group.

We had a lot of good proposals this round, and decided to give each group we funded what they asked for.

DON'T FORGET THE DATES OF THE NEXT BOARD MEETINGS: January 22nd and then March 12th.

December 4, 1994

References for the December 4, 1994 Resist Board meeting:

1) Native American Dance Troop -

For their request in 1991 I talked with Mandy Carter of the WRL/Southeast. She knew of them. She said they actually started because of a perceived need to have a Native American cultural component at the National Lesbian Conference. (Mandy was on the planning committee.) A network of Native American women around the country pulled together to make a presentation, etc. at the conference and had also gotten other events dates for after the Conference. After the Conference, Mandy said that she had seen them: they are extremely talented and were one of the best parts of the cultural evening. She felt that the politics of the group is fantastic. She said there was one problem to do with the manager of the group. The conference planning committee had real problems with the manager over the distribution of donations from the evening; she became very angry, wouldn't talk about it. Many has questions about if this person is a good person to deal with people because of her non-professional type of operating. (Mandy has a long history of cultural work and management styles.)

For this request I called **Mandy Carter** (now at the **Human Rights Campaign Fund**) again. Many said that she'd not heard of them lately since they weren't active for the last few years. Mandy said that although there were problems in the past with the leader of the group, she'd hate to not have them funded because of that. The group does "incredible work... fabulous."

2) Native Routes - **Leah Forshee of Indigenous Women in Minnesota** had heard of this and feels that it's a good thing. One of their guides, Fr. Cavender, is Indian, a professor and very good at educating people on Native American issues. Leah didn't know too much about the group, so I called **Sharon Metz of HONOR**. She said that this is "an OK group. HONOR works closely with the tribal governments and this group deals more with the Indian people directly, working with them on the tours. The group is an associate member of HONOR and always have an Indian guide for the tours, don't interfere in people's lives, but rather go on visits to public places and sites.

3) Sister Spirit - **Frank Adams** (who used to be at the Highlander Center and is now helping with our newsletter) said that these are "extraordinarily able and courageous women... understand the approaches to education... quite an effort to do this in Miss., crucial that gays and lesbians have this kind of support there... virtually no one else is doing this type of work in the rural area... they support and strengthen leadership... building a broad based leadership and doing it at extreme risk. I couldn't be more supportive." I asked Frank about diversity. He said they're determined to have their work open to racial diversity but this, in the real situation in Miss., will take time.

4) NC Coalition for Lesbian Gay Equality - **Mandy Carter** said they are "up and running strong.. have a lot of people active in communities all over NC... The report is excellent... one of the more critical projects they do. Recommended.

For their last request I talked with Mandy Carter when she worked for WRL/SE. She said that she'd been somewhat involved in this, but not as much as Mab S. Mandy thought "it's an excellent project since there are lots of incidents of violence against gays and lesbians in the state. North Carolinians Against Racist & Religious Violence had been dealing with this issue as well as everything else in the state. NCARRV and Mab (an ex-staff person there) decided amicably to create this separate entity. This was a positive thing because NCARRV is over-loaded with its anti-racist work, and now each group gets to put a lot of energy into each of the issues. They'll definitely work closely together." Mandy recommends funding. I had also talked with Christina Davis-McCoy, director of NCARRV who said these are "good folks!." In 1990 NCARRV hosted a state-wide event for gay & lesbian leaders about the issue, and they started this project to monitor violence against gays and lesbians. It was felt that

the new organization could be more consistent in investigating, documenting and reporting abuses and also could mount political strategies for the gay and lesbian community. There was a real need for such an organization. Without this type of group some of the cases "could slip through the cracks" considering NCARRV work overload. NCARRV was on their steering committee. Christina highly recommended funding.

I also talked with a North Carolina friend of Nancy Wechsler, **Kathy Travis**, who said that she felt "funny about talking about them since I haven't been involved with them... a respected organization... do what they say they have... focus on change seems to be on state laws and legislative races... not familiar with their Report... sort of rooted in Democratic Party politics... don't think of them as a left group, but more left than liberal." She also said that this "might be unfair since I'm not sure." 5) **Lambda Community Center** - I called **Mike Roque of the Chinook Fund**. He said they turned down the group because it is mostly a service group, more a support and services center as opposed to one that deals in organizing. Mike said that they're "pretty OK on what they're doing especially for their area, northern Colorado being pretty risky about coming out."

6) **Nicaragua-U.S. Friendship Office** - I talked with **George Vickers** about this. He said it's basically a one person show but does run with volunteers. He likes the contact person "a lot, not strident, has family ties with D'Escoto and Ortega in the FSLN. The group does a lot of meetings on the Hill and is part of the C.A. Working Group (WOLA's in it too). Small scale operation that does important work, keeps Nicaragua in view... few people working on Nicaragua now... have a hard time getting funds, not an expensive operation, get a lot of work out of this... effective." George recommends funding this.

7) **EPICA** - I talked with **George Vickers** about this also. He said he knows of them "still active on a number of issues. I see them around Salvador and Chiapas issues... small operation, has done good work, do good publications... ties into the religious community in important ways. Mainstream Protestant sector now has less funds available so less money around for this kind of thing. Important to keep this group going." George recommends funding them.

For a previous request I had talked with **Lisa Fithian of the Washington Peace Center** said the Center has worked with this organization in the past on a variety of projects, especially in their ground-breaking work on Sanctuary in mid-'80s. They are basically research and resources oriented, but are great about supporting and working in Coalitions. Very good publications which are excellent for resources and education. Highly recommended. I also have known them since the early '70s. Always high quality resources, very good politics, in the forefront of issues, especially those of Latin America and the Caribbean. Highly respected in the movement.

8) **Cuba Information Project** - **Betty Kapatanakis of the North Star Fund** said that this is "a good group... people involved are very good... I feel they're not dogmatic on Cuba... works really well with lots of groups... able to work with groups that might have some political differences between them... only group which is doing Cuba work in coalition efforts which is a presence out there.. core place to bring together isolated groups and is a major point for information on Cuba and its movement." Recommended.

9) **Kalfou Kreyol** - I called **Vicki Linton of the Washington Peace Center** who said the Center has worked with the group on a support level. This is one of a number of groups they've worked with, a good group which has put on a number of cultural events and some political events. She didn't know much more.

I asked **George Vickers** about this and he recommended that I talk with **Rachel Nield of WOLA**. She said that she knows several members of the group one of whom is from the Quixote Center. She said that the group has "committed people with a left perspective. It is more oriented to education and cultural activities, give classes in Creole... very active in organizing events.... They understand the use of culture to develop and strengthen the US public's activity around the issue of Haiti. With the crisis in Haiti, there's been a tremendous increase in interest in Haiti, and culture is one way to get to a broader audience."

10) Dayton Citizens for Global Security - I talked with **Jana Schroeder of AFSC/Dayton** who said this was "an old guard peace group, around a long time, and in the past concerned with the cold war and Central America. She recommended I talk with her co-worker at AFSC **Michael Hawk**. He said he knows them pretty well and has worked with them as an AFSC rep. He felt that they "haven't been incredibly dynamic lately... drained by not having a lot of new people but they are good people... recently had a couple of new people come in with a lot of energy." He said that this particular project request "has good potential to succeed here... hope to integrate new people in the group through educating and discussing issues... a good idea for Dayton, other groups are trying this too. Dayton is a very conservative and military type place. The group has a pretty good class diversity, but has less African Americans involved than the demographics of the city (38%). There is a very small Latino community and the group has tried to work with them. A lot of younger people and women are in the leadership, whereas about ten years ago it was mostly Anglo male." He feels it's a good group and recommended funding.

11) Albuquerque Peace Museum - **Nan Elsasser of Working Classroom** said that this is at the Peace Center and she has mixed feelings about the Center itself. "For a while it was going great guns, but now only open a couple of hours a day... very Anglo, very middle class,,, do some good things, always there, but I feel that it's old and tired... haven't figured out how to do new things... most folks involved are religious, I have problems because they do a lot of Masses which are not inclusive for me and others... seem stuck in the early 60s... They do put out a good newsletter and have events." Nan hadn't been to the Museum itself, and said she'd drop in and report back to us on that. **Nan Elsasser** later: She went to the Albuquerque Peace Center and said that basically "there is no Museum, only some interesting posters of different struggles hanging in the lobby... no titles, no curator..." Nan said that if they're asking funds to develop this into a more formal museum, that would be worthwhile to fund, otherwise no.

12) Delaware County Pledge of Resistance - We've funded this group five times and always received very good references. I'd talked with Frank Brodhead in previous years about this group and he had recommended talking with Anne Doley and Rhonda Jordan of the Bread & Roses Fund in Phila. They said that the group was active in coalition building in the county, got good participation in rallies, had been a volunteer group, made links with other groups in the area, made connections between Central American issues and the need for housing in the area, also work with Jobs with Peace and Sane/Freeze. B&R board liked this group and funded them in 1989 for staff; also funded them in 1990. Highly recommended. Last time I talked with Angie Berryman of AFSC who said that she admired the group's work. They've done a variety of things, continued to do direct action around issues that others "have let go." They also did projects other than direct action and had good input into National Pledge strategy. Angie felt that the project on NAFTA was a good one since it was important to start dealing with economic issues at the time. She recommended funding.

For this request I called **Robert Smith of the Brandywine Peace Community**. He said that his group has "worked a great deal with the group especially around anti-NAFTA work more recently and Central America work before... in a real way they are the continuity in the area of the C.A. focus... Pledge has been a mainstay... work well in coalitions with other groups, committed, good organizers... worked on Haiti, good diversity in the effort, worked with Black churches and with the Haitian community... Newsletter nicely done, very informative." Recommended.

13) Project YANO - We've funded this many times in the past. I talked with Margarita Ramirez of the Liberty Hill Fund for their last request. She said that LHF has funded the group and "think highly of them... great work... consistent, innovative... Their outreach is to a diverse community and they have a real commitment to that diversity." Highly recommended.

For this I called **Kathy Gilberd of the NLG in San Diego**. She said she likes them "a great deal... doing work that impressed me... consistently in the schools, pushing

and making the issues links, recently had a gay person to speak on homophobia in the military... one of the best community based groups in the US doing work in the schools... Their work is paid attention to nationally by other groups... very definitely could use the money." (When I talked with Rick Jahnkow, he told me one of their better funders, the Peace Development Fund, will no longer consider proposals for youth anti-militarism work either in their Teaching Peace component or their regular cycles. I don't know why yet. Will check.) Kathy highly recommends funding the group.

14) TAHN - We also funded this many times in the past, a unique group covering a huge state. For this request, I talked with Bob Brister of the Austin Peace & Justice Coalition. He said that TAHN continues to be "an excellent group, very political, really good newsletter, work on issues affecting low income people, advocacy not services oriented." Recommended.

15) Montanans for Social Justice - Scott Crichton of ACLU/Montana said that, originally, this was part of a state-wide organization Montanans for Social Action but this chapter was purged by that group (which Scott said was extremely controlling and didn't allow independent thought.) The Helena chapter "became this group and worked with the Montana Low Income Coalition. They did some tenant organizing work, then kind of dried up... contact person an old peace activist who was into tax resistance.... not an effective spokesperson... I haven't heard anything about them recently." Scott called a close contact on the MSJ Board who said that he is "encouraged by the work they're doing. The only presence not an agency which advocates for the homeless and the hungry... working on housing issues... have a good rapport with people on the street and also with agencies... a couple of the clients from the Homeless shelter are working as volunteers with the group."

16) Politics of Food Program - Henrietta Levine, one of our long-time supporters in Rochester, said that the group "is what it says it is - do things in local gardens and tries to connect with the world situation... has a little newsletter.. sincere person, worked in peace and justice in the past... strongly believes in vegetarianism and local food... understands the bigger picture but focuses on local issues... has the support of post-Hippie types... has support of anti-choice sector as well as liberals... her politics are different than mine, doesn't see what she's doing as a solution.. not in the social action community. I would not recommend funding this because there are many other groups that need financial help more.

17) Campaign to Abolish Poverty - I talked with Kelly Brown of the Vanguard Fund. She said that her Board also had concerns about the group's diversity of including the homeless and poor on their Board and input to planning. They felt that this group had good organizing skills but some weakness on connections with the grass roots as far as inclusion in leadership roles. The group originally had "an ambitious plan" but does seem to have improved on local work. They're working on homelessness issues and on legislative things such as the federal jobs program. Have done economic literacy workshops in the Tenderloin and seems to have diversified their Board a little. Vanguard gave them a \$4,000 grant last summer.

For their first request in July, 1992 I called Linda Lucero of Vanguard Foundation. She said that Vanguard had funded the Tenderloin Project's Solutions to Poverty Workshop; it was the first time that there was low income organizing in that area. Vanguard did feel that the group didn't have a good plan beyond that, seemed vague. Linda hadn't heard anything recently. I had also talked with Rebecca Gordon who hadn't heard of this but, after I read her the list of endorsers, said that they were good groups involved as well as progressive officials.

For their last request I called Linda Lucero again. She said that Vanguard had turned the group down, but she didn't have any information other than one of their board members did say that this was a "viable group." She didn't know why the group didn't get a grant. I then talked with Mark Miller of AFSC/SF (Community Relations) who said that AFSC has endorsed the Campaign. He feels that they have been "steadfast, even during the Reagan/Bush years... The change of administrations has given

new impetus to their efforts and they're doing more events/projects now... have put together a forward looking proposal on poverty, calling for an ambitious \$50 billion program to employ low-income people... have articulated effectively and have organized with the religious, homeless and grass roots sectors to bring the issue to Congresspeople (He thinks that Ron Dellums is putting forth a bill on this in the Congress.) He said that they have the ability to bring groups together and had heard of their demonstration on April 6th (and that it was good), but hadn't gone to it.

18) Prison & Jail Project (Americus, GA) - **Jack Beckford of the Fund for Southern Communities** said that this "came out the Koinonia community which is an interracial Christian commune around for some 40 years. The Habitat for Humanity came out of the group. This particular project is a relatively new effort, very dedicated people who would use the money effectively... have connections through Koinonia with many other groups around the state, especially the church-based justice movement... well organized conscientious, attention to details. A Resist grant would go a long way with the Project." Recommended.

19) St. Catherine's Prison Project - **Jana Schroeder of AFSC/Dayton** said that she'd heard of the group but hadn't had contact with them. She did say that their newsletter is very good. I sent a letter to one of our grantees, Justice Watch in Cincinnati, asking for their comments. Lori Swain Thomas of Justice Watch called to say that she knows of the group which is fairly new to the city. She'd first heard of them from a contact, a prisoner who does a lot of organizing inside. Lori talked with them and has received their newsletter which she feels is good. She said that she feels good about the group "progressive perspective on prisons and on the unequal justice of the system." She looks forward to working more closely with them.

20) Citizens for Environmental Justice (GA) - Another reference from **Jack Beckford of the FSC**. He said that this is a small budget group. The main organizer "is a Black woman who is very good organizer, particularly on working with young people, real good at identifying issues which need working on. A lot of people are interested in the group which has identified the key issue in the area. The group is up and going, several young people are involved... have had group activities... The downside is that the contact person doesn't have a terrifically long track record of starting groups which have longevity."

21) EnviroVision - I called **Norm Fruchter**. He said that hadn't heard of them and didn't know who would have. I talked with Paul Shannon at the AFSC video library and with Betty Kapatanakis of North Star Fund. Neither had heard of this group or its catalog.

22) Citizens Awareness Network (Mass.) - **Tommie Harris and Hilary Smith of the Haymarket Peoples Fund** said that this group is applying for a grant in the next cycle. They didn't know much about the group. Hilary referred me to a new Haymarket/Western Mass. Board member who referred me to **Ellen Cotine, the director of the Breast Cancer Project of Family Planning**. She said that she has worked with this group on the issue through the Breast Cancer Coalition and is "very impressed with them.. The group has a strong leader but I like the fact that there are a number of people really involved and committed to this grass roots effort, donated hundreds of hours working against the nuke plant... extremely knowledgeable about the technical and other issues... very grass roots.... works very well with other groups... did mailings for the BC Coalition and had events... good at sharing information... well organized, done an incredible amount of work on very little money... have made significant progress in pressuring the Nuclear Regulatory Administration... accessible and open to public participation." Highly recommended.

23) Mass. Jobs with Justice - **Mike Prokasch of Boston CISPES** said they "do great work, have put together a broad grouping... sustained work... union's are the backbone of this... a coalition, small staff so one problem is there is no direct membership base to do the work of the organization, but they do call on members of coalition

members... doing health care, workplace health safety, cross union solidarity and NAFTA/GATT work, main areas of concentration, the issues work together nicely... Small staff limits how much they can do. Even with these limitation, this is a very necessary organization for connecting the groups in the coalition... Their request would be greatly helpful to change this limitation, particularly right now, given the election results." Mike recommends funding this.

24) Women's Development Institute (Maine) - I talked with Kathy McInnis of the Haymarket Board who said that she hadn't heard much about this project except that they look at issues of employment in Maine in a more consistent way than other such efforts in the past. A general critique of them has been that they've focused on urban AFDC families rather than rural ones, which is very much needed. In the past they weren't diverse enough, but since they've recruited women of color and a Franco American woman to their Board, Kathy felt that is a good step. She said that the group's goals are excellent on the issues of AFDC and workfare. The Lobby itself has done a lot of good things but no grass roots organizing; Kathy doesn't know about the Institute. They don't have a newsletter yet, but Kathy's on the mailing list and gets their material, which is mostly legislative information.

25) Middle East Justice Network - I called Louis Kampf about this. He said that he's supported them, on their list. They had to let their staffer go. Mainly put on conferences, used to be closely tied to the Popular Front but have loosened up more recently. He wanted to know more about when the forum is and what will the theme/subjects covered be. I'll check.


26) Women and Cancer Project - I called Rebecca Gordon but she didn't know much about the coalition, other than there are "the right kind of groups involved." I then talked with Kelly Brown of the Vanguard Fund who said that VF funded the Walk the last couple of years. She said that it's grown considerably, both in funds gathered and in attention paid to the issue. They have an ongoing component for education and organizing on the issues. She said the project is doing good work with good people and organizations involved.

- For their last request, I talked with Rebecca Gordon about this. She said they're "great folks (Women's Resource Center)... it started long before recent consciousness on the issue.... good politics... both feminist and class conscious. Deal with issues about who has access to health care and who doesn't... I have a lot of respect for them and how they organize. The other groups involved are very good also....continues to be very good project." We gave them a grant of \$275.

27) Colectivo Teson - Tom Louie of the Mass. English Plus Coalition said that he knows some of the people involved in this, "good people... We have worked with thme... educational work, not organizing... work with the Multicultural Center at UMass which offers resources.. This group works with minority youth and with teachers on issues of concern." He didn't know anything about this particular project. I put in a call to Ann Withorn who's on sabbatical. Pam C. has a copy of the video; she'll report on it for the Board meeting.

28) Maine Progressive - Kathy McInnis (formerly of the Haymarket Board) said that "in general this is the only large state-wide progressive newspaper... cover a tremendous range of issues/groups of progressive Maine... covers things other newspapers don't... like most newspapers which are liberal/progressive not great on covering internal of the movement... basically a phenomenal way for progressives around Maine to find out what's going on in our large and rural state... has a good subscription base but has slipped a little in the last few years... do a lot of advertizing... solicit articles from a broad section of the community... criticisms would be that they could be better on disabled and Native American issue articles and haven't in the past dealt a lot on issues of class and racism, but they have a new editor who is a long time labor activist, so I think this will improve." Kathy recommends funding them.

29) WashCOSH - I called Dan Petegorsky at Peace Development Fund/West but he didn't know of this and referred me to **Rich Feldman of the Seattle Workers Center**. He said that he knew some of the organizers and that the group "has taken steps to go from a committee of unionists only to a broader base which has been real positive because of the links made between workplace and the environment in general... a positive way of connecting, the linkage is a very powerful mechanism in organizing... more recent activities are to link workers to pollution prevention, good organizing, important piece of what has to be done in our area... group is part of a growing coalition of broader based organizations... This group's work presents the possibility of bringing issues down from the legislative and leadership focus to the grass roots... good on diversity... have been concentrating some recent work in minority communities... A good project request since they go out and work in the field a lot." Recommended.



Nancy Moniz, Resist staff