

MIDWEST REGIONAL REPORT - 6/30/79

At the first meeting of the Midwest Region on April 15, 1979, held the day following the Point 18 Conference, plans for regional development were adopted. They are:

- I. A Steering Committee (now called a Regional Coordinating Committee) was elected. The chair is Pam from Milwaukee, Bob from Cincinnati and Kae from Detroit. The SC representative for the midwest region is also to serve. Expenses for travel and other costs will be paid by a regional treasury with each organization and/or individual assessed (to be determined).

- II. Plans for the period leading up to the Labor Day OC National meeting are:
 - A. Efforts at developing resources for the region and a plan for promoting the OCIC presence in the midwest.
 - B. Plans for systematically taking up the following issues before the Labor Day Conference in the midwest:
 1. how to build Local Centers
 2. discussion of the OCIC Bulletin #2
 3. discussion of the Draft Plan
 - C. MSU will follow up with the newer OC forces in the region regarding the Point 18 Conference (in particular, COG and NSSO). Also, the various groups in the Twin Cities will also be visited.
 - D. Possibility will be explored of a regional Local Center structure for Racine, Madison, Milwaukee and Chicago.
 - E. The next meeting of the region will be held over Labor Day weekend. At that time a new leadership body, if necessary, will be voted on.

The Regional Coordinating Committee met on June 2-3, 1979. What follows is a report on concrete plans for moving forward in building the OCIC in the region:

- I. Preparation for Labor Day OCIC National Conference:
 - A. Main emphasis will be on preparing OCIC comrades in the midwest for the discussions to take place at the conference. Strong emphasis on directing organizations to prepare each individual in their respective organizations to take up in-depth preparation. In other words, organizations should not assign one or two delegates to read the documents and report on it to the other members in their organizations. In cities where there are more than one OCIC group, or an OCIC group(s) and individual members, joint discussions of the document should be organized, as the primary area of discussion.

Hopefully, each document to be discussed for the Labor Day conference will be sent ahead in enough time for the RCC to prepare discussion questions to help comrades in the midwest prepare. Discussion questions have already been done for the Draft Plan (see attached).

- B. In the next period of time, the RCC feels that the main emphasis on work in the region will be around taking up the Draft Plan for an IC and moving toward establishing local and regional centers. Concrete plans for doing this in the region will be discussed at the regional meeting over the Labor Day weekend.

II. Regional Organizational Work:

- A. Chairperson of the RCC made a visit to Minneapolis and St. Paul recently and it resulted in three new groups joining the OCIC. Chair is also helping to bring all four Twin Cities groups into contact and joint study with each other.
- B. COG held a tendency-wide forum on the OCIC. About 40 people attended. CN spoke about the OCIC and PF spoke on midwest regional work. PM joined COG, CN and PF for a meeting the next day and discussed the possibility of a Local Center in Chicago.

III. The RCC discussed the SC's plans for the next year of the OCIC and had some questions about our ability to carry them all out thoroughly and systematically. The RCC is preparing a specific recommendation for the SC's consideration.

IV. The next meeting of the RCC will take up the following:

- A. Making plans for taking the Draft Plan to the tendency in the midwest. The work will start after Labor Day and will probably be the major topic of discussion at the next regional OCIC meeting which will follow the Labor Day conference.
- B. Increasing the Multi-Nationality of the OCIC in the Midwest. A report is being prepared on this for the next meeting of the RCC. We feel it is crucial for the RCC to take up this work and to do so in conjunction with any development flowing out of the National Minorities Conference.
- C. Drawing up study questions on Local Centers and on the remaining documents for the conference.
- D. Assessing the progress of the midwest in discussing the Draft Plan.