

POLITICAL COMMITTEE MINUTES No. 17, June 23, 1966

Present: Barnes, DeBerry, Dobbs, Halstead, Hansen, Kerry, Novack, Shaw, Sheppard, Jones.

Visitor: Jenness.

Chairman: Kerry.

AGENDA:

1. DuBois Convention.
2. New Politics Conference.
3. Antiwar Report.
4. Socialist Scholars Conference.
5. ISR.
6. Joe Johnson Case.
7. International.

1. DuBOIS CONVENTION

Jones reported that between 150 and 275 attended, which was below expectation.

Two important elements of convention were (1) impact of black nationalism on convention and (2) effect of our participation.

Intent of convention was to (1) throw DuBois Clubs into summer projects where they do community organizing; (2) to organize clubs around peace candidates; (3) to launch the August 28 march on Washington in their own name for "Peace and Security."

Our aims at convention were: (1) to continue previous policy of fraternization, bringing healthy elements close to us; (2) to push for independent political action; (3) to counterpose International Days of Protest to their August 28 march; (4) to push concept of defense committee through Joe Johnson case.

Supplementary report by Jenness: (1) \$50 of literature was sold; (2) the negotiations versus withdrawal dispute was never solved; (3) on the question of defense, most DuBois Clubs members didn't know much about their own case; (4) we succeeded in getting some sponsors for the Joe Johnson case.

Discussion: DeBerry, Kerry, Barnes, Hansen, Jones, Sheppard.

2. NEW POLITICS CONFERENCE

Jenness reported. Written report will be made available.

Discussion: Barnes, Halstead, Jones.

3. ANTIWAR REPORT

Halstead reported that letter has been mailed out by four GI's and defense committee is in process of being set up.

Discussion: Kerry, Barnes, Dobbs, Novack, Shaw, Hansen.

Halstead also reported on plans made for August 6 demonstration in New York City.

4. SOCIALIST SCHOLARS CONFERENCE

Novack reported answer from conference stating that representative of SWP cannot participate this year but will be considered for next year's conference.

Discussion: Kerry, Dobbs, Halstead, Barnes, Hansen.

Agreed that copies of correspondence be sent to Steering Committee and all participants in program with request for reconsideration.

5. ISR

Kerry reported on perspectives.

6. JOE JOHNSON CASE

Shaw reported that the Justice Department didn't rule on the appeal but sent it back to Minneapolis office for further hearings.

The implication is that they thought they did not have a strong enough case to uphold ruling for deportation; they didn't want to drop case so they sent it back for further processing.

7. INTERNATIONAL

Hansen reported.

(1) Japanese representative now in contact.

(2) Informational material of an organizational character on South African committee which will be communicated to co-thinkers.

Discussion: Kerry.

(3) Attention called to current issue of Healy's Newsletter which carries pertinent sections of Blas Roca attack and SLL answer. They come out publicly with their Cuba position.

Informational report concerning situation in London and Nottingham.

(4) Information from Mexico and on China.

(5) Further correspondence from co-thinkers on Sino-Soviet document; agreed to hold over until next meeting.

Meeting adjourned.