

YOUNG SOCIALIST ALLIANCE

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NEWYORK, N. Y., 10003 YU9-7570

July 26, 1967

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RE: THE MURDER OF ANTIWAR ACTIVIST GEORGE VISSARD

The Young Socialist Alliance today sent the following protest to the Austin, Texas, Chief of Police and Chamber of Commerce, and to Attorney General Ramsey Clark:

The brutal slaying of antiwar activist George Vissard on July 23, in Austin, Texas, was apparently a political assassination. Before his murder Vissard had been threatened by the Birch Society and warned by the Austin police that they could not be responsible for his life if he continued his antiwar activity.

When his murder was first discovered, Austin police reported that there was no evidence of any theft in the drive-in grocery store where Vissard worked and where he was murdered. The police later reversed this report and claimed that money had been taken from the cash register.

This murder constitutes a direct attack on the antiwar movement and must be answered by the united protest of the antiwar movement. Neither the Young Socialist Alliance nor any other part of the antiwar movement will be intimidated by this kind of action. The Young Socialist Alliance strongly condemns the attempt by the Austin police department to obscure the facts surrounding the murder of Vissard and to dismiss the political implications. We demand a full public investigation of the assassination and of the police department's failure to provide protection for Vissard when his life was threatened.

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