

POLITICAL COMMITTEE MINUTES, No. 16, May 23, 1968

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

Visitor: Ring

Chairman: Shaw

AGENDA: 1. Antiwar
 2. Plenum Information Bulletin
 3. Membership
 4. PC Meeting Schedule
 5. International

1. ANTIWAR

Jones reported.

About two weeks ago Kipp and Syd were fired for being YSAers from the Student Mobilization Committee by a bloc formed by the CP and pacifists. It was an attempted "palace coup" to get rid of us so they can use the SMC for their own purposes.

They accused Syd and Kipp of preventing the SMC from carrying out the things it should be doing -- their "things" like individual draft resistance, etc.

The pacifists have been moving to the right in the recent period. They are under pressure to get out of this movement some kind of movement they can call their own. They want to turn the SMC away from the war, into a multi-issue organization.

The CP wants to destroy the SMC because (1) it embarasses them internationally, and (2) it acts as an impediment to their electoral plans.

They both must have assumed they could carry out a palace coup without much fuss from us. On the contrary, we have brought the whole thing out into the open to publicly organize a caucus to re-establish the SMC as it was initially conceived.

We're drafting a caucus document to (1) reaffirm non-exclusion and to rehire Syd and Kipp; (2) to call a national conference in the Midwest at the end of June.

We are also drafting position papers with our views on the types of actions that the SMC should carry out. We are organizing our people for the fight as well as others who agree with us.

2. PLENUM INFORMATION BULLETIN

Shaw reported.

Motion: To publish an internal information bulletin containing the Trade Union Memorandum, the Report on the Black Struggle, the Political Report, and sections of the Youth Report.

Carried.

3. MEMBERSHIP

Shaw reported.

Motion: To approve the recommendation of the Oakland-Berkeley branch to readmit Bob M. to party membership.

Carried.

4. MEETING SCHEDULE

Shaw reported.

Motion: To change the regular meeting time of the PC from Thursday at 10 a.m. to Wednesday at 10 a.m.

Carried.

5. INTERNATIONAL

Discussion of French events: General agreement to feature reports and our analysis in the press and open a campaign for increased circulation while the crisis continues.

Meeting adjourned.