

Minutes of the National Committee Plenum

Young Socialist Alliance

New York, June 13-15, 1969

First Session, Friday, June 13, 1969, convened at 10:00 AM.

Present:

Full: John B., Nelson B., Charlie B., Peggy B.,
Ellis B., Robin D., Kipp D., Carl F., Rich H.,
Evelyn K., Susan L., Marilyn L., Carol L.,
Caroline L., Robin M., Derrick M., Derrel M.,
Wendy R., Will R., Dan R., Bob S., Peter S.,
Larry S., Linda S., Melissa S., Syd S., Tony T.,
David T., Peer V.

Alternate: Joanna M., Richard L., Roger R., Howard P.,
Chris H., Mike H., Ove A., Frank G., Sharon N.,
Kitty C., Jean S., Norman O., Russell B.,
Bob W., Patricia G., Hernan F., Gordon F.,
Albion U., Alan W., Laurie P., Steve Z., John V.

Fraternal: Debbie N., George K., Peter H., Lee S., Peter G.,
Pat Q., Steve C., Lindley G., Rick C., Dave D.,
Margaret R., John S., Mark A., Peter G., Walt B.,
John S., Gary M., Jeff P., Kathy C., Frank B.,
Jacquie H., Joe Y., Ed S., Matilde Z., Ruth B.,
Flax H.

Observer: Tom K., George N.

I. ORGANIZATION OF THE PLENUM

Motions presented for the NEC by Carol L.

- (1) That the Presiding Committee be the National Office staff:
Charlie B., Larry S., Susan L., David T., Nelson B., Tony T.,
Derrick M., Carol L.
- (2) That procedural questions be decided by majority vote with one
speaker for and one against, each with one minute.
- (3) To adopt the following rules:
 - a. Fraternal delegates have voice and consultative vote.
 - b. Discussion presentations be limited to seven minutes.
 - c. That in a discussion period no one may speak a second time
before each person desiring the floor has had a chance to
speak.
- (5) That fraternal delegates be the following: local organizers who
are not on the N.C., Margaret R., from the Chapel Hill local,
Ed S., from the SWP, and Joe Y. and Jacquie H. from Canada.

That George N. and Tom K. sit in as observers from the SWP.
That Matilde Z. and Ruth B. who are in charge of the national
GI CLDC sit in, with voice, under the Antiwar and GI CLDC points
on the agenda. That Flax H., who is the business manager of the
YS, sit in, with voice, under the YS point on the agenda.

(6) That Peggy B. and Syd S. be designated as plenum secretaries.

Motions Carried

Recommendation from the Presiding Committee that Peer V. chair the
first session.

Motion: to approve.

Motion Carried

II. INTERNATIONAL REPORT

Reporter - Caroline L.

CANADIAN REPORT

Reporter - Joe Y.

Discussion: Tony T., Ellis B., Debbie N., Peter S., Robin M.,
Syd S., Robin S., Linda S., Steve C., Pat Q., Peter H.,
Derrel M., Bob S., Frank B., Derrick M., Chris H.,
Gordon F., Al U., Ellis B.

Summary of the International Report - Caroline L.

Motion from the Presiding Committee: to approve the general line
of the International Report.

Vote on the motion:

NCers: 47 for, none opposed, no
abstentions; Consultative: 19 for,
none opposed, no abstentions.

Motion Carried

: Greetings from the Socialist Workers Party - Tom K.

Motion from the Presiding Committee: to send the following message
to Hugo Blanco, El Fronton Prison, Peru:

To Hugo Blanco:

The National Committee of the YSA, meeting in New
York, June 13th, 14th, 15th, 1969, expresses its revolu-

tionary solidarity. Your example of determined struggle is an inspiration to the swelling ranks of revolutionary socialist youth here, in North America, and around the world. The struggle against the Peruvian neocolonialists, the accomplices of United States imperialism, is also our struggle. We demand the release of all political prisoners in Peru and elsewhere in Latin America. We demand the end to brutalizations. We will continue to wage the struggle against political repressions, and for the release of your imprisoned comrades around the world. Venceremos!

Motion Carried

First session ended at 3:45 PM.

Second Session, Friday, June 13, 1969, convened at 4:00 PM.

Recommendation from the Presiding Committee that Melissa S. chair this session.

Motion: to approve.

Motion Carried

I. POLITICAL REPORT

Reporter - Charlie B.

Discussion: Gordon F., Peter S., Derrel M., Debbie N., Syd S., Rick C., John B., Bob W., Russell B., Peter G., Roger R., Pat Q., Tony T., Kitty C., Lindley G., Richie L., Will R., Ove A., Linda S., Joanna M., Pat G., Lee S.

Summary of the Political Report - Charlie B.

Motion from the Presiding Committee: to approve the general line of the Political Report.

Vote on the motion:

NCers: 48 for, none opposed, no abstentions; Consultative: 22 for, none opposed, no abstentions.

Motion Carried

Second session ended at 9:00 PM.

Third Session, Friday, June 13, 1969, convened at 9:02 PM.

Recommendation from the Presiding Committee that Bob S. chair this session.

Motion: to approve.

Motion Carried

Motion from the Presiding Committee: that the following message be sent to the Communist League in France:

To the Communist League:

It is barely one year since the magnificent uprising of French workers and students almost swept French capitalism off the map. The leading intervention of the Trotskyist vanguard in that rebellion was in inspiration to hundreds of thousands of youth around the world.

The formation of the Communist League in April was the culmination of your intervention in the May events and in the movement to force the imperialists out of Vietnam. The National Committee of the Young Socialist Alliance proudly salutes this historic step forward in the fight to overthrow capitalism. We are confident that the experience you acquired in the May events, the audacity you demonstrated in your recent election campaign, and your founding of a new, expanded revolutionary tool for struggle will succeed in providing French revolutionaries with a dynamic alternative to the Stalinist betrayers.

As the crisis of imperialism deepens, we look forward to further Mays, not only in France. The work you are now doing not only lays the groundwork for the next French May; it is also an inspiration to revolutionary youth in the United States and throughout the world.

Vive La Ligue Communiste!

Motion Carried

I. BLACK STRUGGLE REPORT

Reporter - Derrick M.

Motion from Ellis B.: to reconvene on June 14th at 9:30 AM.

Motion Defeated

Third session adjourned at 10:00 PM.

Third session reconvened at 10:00 AM, June 14th, 1969.

Discussion: Norman O., Ellis B., Syd S., Tony T., Lindley G., Lee S., Frank G., Frank B., Rich H., Peer V., Will R., Howie P., Carol L., Chris H., Peggy B., Rick C., Carl F., Frank G.

Summary of the Black Struggle Report - Derrick M.

Motion from the Presiding Committee: to approve the general line of the Black Struggle Report.

Vote on the motion:

NCers: 48 for, none opposed, no abstentions; Consultative: 22 for, none opposed, no abstentions.

Motion Carried

Third session ended at 1:45 PM.

Fourth Session, Saturday, June 14, 1969, convened at 2:00 PM.

Recommendation from the Presiding Committee that Chris H. chair this session.

Motion: to approve.

Motion Carried

I. ANTIWAR REPORT

Reporter - Carol L.

Discussion: Tony T., Frank G., Jean S., Norman O., Bob W., Bob S., Pat Q., Syd S., Richie L., Wendy R., Peter S., Debbie N., Howie P., Al U., Joanna M., Larry S., Carl F., Gordon F., Will R., Derrel M., Melissa S., Kathy C.

Summary of the Antiwar Report - Carol L.

Motion from the Presiding Committee: that the following message be sent to Pvts. Joe Cole and Jose Rudder at Ft. Jackson:

To Joe Cole and Jose Rudder:

The YSA National Committee sends its warmest revolutionary greetings to you. It is the courage and revolutionary commitment of comrades such as yourselves that make the YSA the powerful revolutionary organization that it is.

We salute you and your brothers in GIs United Against the War.

Motion Carried

Motion from the Presiding Committee: that the following message be sent to Pvt. Raymond Ashley at Ft. Lewis, Washington:

To Pvt. Raymond Ashley:

The National Committee of the YSA, meeting in New York on June 13, 14, 15, pledges to redouble its efforts to force the withdrawal of all U.S. troops from Vietnam and to continue to expand its campaign to build mass demonstrations against the war.

We look to your speedy recovery and know you are anxious to join actively in this work again.

Motion Carried

Motion from the Presiding Committee: to approve the general line of the Antiwar Report.

Vote on the motion:

NCers: 47 for, none opposed, no abstentions; Consultative: 21 for, none opposed, no abstentions.

Motion Carried

II. GI CIVIL LIBERTIES DEFENSE COMMITTEE REPORT

Reporter - Matilde Z.

Motion from the Presiding Committee: that George N., an observer from the SWP, be allowed to speak under this point.

Motion Carried

Discussion: George N., Howard P., Rich H., Linda S., Peer V., Larry S., John S.

Summary of the GI CLDC Report - Matilde Z.

Motion from the Presiding Committee: to approve the report.

Motion Carried

Fourth session ended at 7:25 PM.

Fifth Session, Sunday, June 15, 1969, convened at 10:20 AM.

Recommendation from the Presiding Committee that Sharon N. chair this session.

Motion: to approve.

Motion Carried

I. ORGANIZATIONAL REPORT

Reporter - Larry S.

Discussion: Ellis B., Robin M., Robin D., Derrel M., Sharon N., Carol L., Susan L., Bob S., Kipp D., Pat G., Jean S., Tom K., Tony T., Roger R., John V., Evelyn K., Pat Q., Rick C., Alan W., Dan R., Gordon F., Lindley G.

Summary of the Organizational Report - Larry S.

Motion from the Presiding Committee: to approve the general line of the Organizational Report.

Vote on the motion:

NCers: 49 for, none opposed, no abstentions; Consultative: 19 for, none opposed, no abstentions.

Motion Carried

Motion from the Presiding Committee: that a message be sent to James P. Cannon and Vincent R. Dunne:

Motion Carried

Fifth session ended at 3:30 PM.

Sixth Session, Sunday, June 15, 1969, convened at 3:40 PM.

Recommendation from the Presiding Committee that John V. chair this session.

Motion: to approve.

Motion Carried

I. YOUNG SOCIALIST REPORT

Reporter - Susan L.

Discussion: Syd S., Roger R., Carl F., Peter S., Robin D., Larry S., David T., Derrel M., Richie L.

Motion from Charlie B.: That the YSA conduct a literary discussion on the question of the YS magazine, beginning immediately and continuing through the next convention, and that the plenum authorize the NEC to decide on the form of the discussion.

Motion Carried

Summary of Young Socialist Report - Susan

Motion from the Presiding Committee: to approve the general line of the Young Socialist report.

Vote on the report:

NCers: 45 for, none opposed, no abstentions; Consultative: 19 for, none opposed, no abstentions.

Motion Carried

II. CONVENTION

Reporter - Nelson

Motion from the NEC: That the National Committee call a convention of the YSA to be held at the end of 1969 or the beginning of 1970, and that the National Committee empower the NEC to organize the Convention and decide on the dates and the place.

Motion Carried

III. ELECTION OF NATIONAL OFFICERS

Motion by Carol L.: That Charlie B. be National Chairman, that Carol L. be National Secretary, that Larry S. be National Organizational Secretary, and that the Editor of the YS be referred to the incoming NEC.

Motion Carried

Motion by Carol L.: That the naming of National Field Secretaries be referred to the NEC.

Motion Carried

IV. ELECTION OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Motion by Larry S.: That the NEC consist of Carol L., Melissa S., Susan L., Tony T., Kipp D., Larry S., Dan R., Derrick M., Caroline L., Peer V., Robin M., Charlie B., Nelson B., and David T.

Discussion: Ellis B., Larry S., Charlie B.

Motion Carried

Motion from the Presiding Committee: that the following message be sent to Danny Camejo in Mexico:

To Danny Camejo:

Meeting in New York City at the largest national plenum in the history of the Young Socialist Alliance, we wish to convey to you and your fellow prisoners of the repressive Mexican government our revolutionary solidarity.

We take this opportunity to rededicate ourselves to struggle within the heart of the imperialist beast for your freedom and for the victory of the world-wide socialist revolution.

Motion Carried

SINGING OF THE INTERNATIONALE

Plenum Adjourned at 5:45 PM.