

C. J.

MINUTES OF NATIONAL COMMITTEE PLENUM

August 4, 1973

Convened: 8:40 PM

Chair: Stone

Present: Regular

Barnes, Bolduc, Britton, Camejo, Chertov, Coover, DeBerry, Garza, Halstead, A. Hansen, J. Hansen, Himmel, Horowitz, Jenness, Johnson, Jones, Lovell, Morrison, Ring, Shaw, Sheppard, Stone, Waters, Weinstein

Alternates

Seigle, White, Wulp, Styron, Benson, Lipman, Henderson, Scheer, Thomas, Montauk, Lovell, Scott, Evans, Sell, Kirsch, Edwards, Roberts, Pulley

Advisory

Alvin, Chester, Dobbs, Harer, Kerry, Novack, Reed

Control Commission

Chester, Ferguson, Hansen, Scheer

AGENDA: 1. Organization of Convention

1. ORGANIZATION OF CONVENTION

Jones reported for Political Committee.

- Motion: That the following rules govern convention procedure:
1. In cases of procedural disputes, discussion shall be limited to two speakers, one for and one against, and that each speaker be limited to two minutes.
  2. Discussion from the floor shall be limited to 10 minutes per speaker.
  3. A speaker may have the floor only once in a given discussion until all those who wish the floor have had the opportunity to speak.
  4. All voting, except for election of National Committee and National Control Commission, will be done by voice vote unless a division of the house is called for; then the vote will be taken by a show of delegates' cards. Election of National Committee and National Control Commission shall take place by secret ballot.
  5. Only delegates shall have voice and vote. Fraternal delegates shall voice and consultative vote.
  6. Alternate delegates have voice and vote only when acting to replace a regularly elected delegate.
  7. In all other cases, Roberts Rules of Order shall apply.

Carried.

Motion: To concur with the request of Comrade Massey for the minority to allow non-delegates to be reporters for the minority (see attached).

Carried.

Motion: That the Presiding Committee be composed of the outgoing Political Committee: Barnes, Breitman, Britton, Camejo, A. Hansen, J. Hansen, Horowitz, Jenness, Jones, Lovell, Morrison, Pulley, Shaw, Sheppard, Stone, Waters, and Political Committee consultative members: Dobbs, Kerry, and Novack.

Carried.

Motion: To adopt the following agenda:

1. Disputed Questions in the World Movement
  - a. Latin America
  - b. Vietnam
  - c. Europe
2. Political Resolution
3. World Movement Report
4. Youth Report
5. Organization Report
6. Appeals
7. Election of National Committee

Discussion: Kerry, Alvin, Jones, Alvin, Ring, Bolduc, Ring, Bolduc

Carried.

Motion: That the following time allotments be given to Political Committee reporters:

1. Latin America: 1¼ hour plus ½ hour summary
2. Vietnam: 1¼ hour plus ½ hour summary
3. Europe: 1¼ hour plus ½ hour summary
4. Political Resolution: 1½ hour plus ½ hour summary
5. World Movement Report: 1½ hour plus ½ hour summary
6. Organization Report: 1¼ hour plus ½ hour summary

Carried.

Motion: That 10 minutes each be granted the three appeals.

Carried.

Motion: To grant a delegate who supports the Thorstad-Green Amendment an extension of 10 minutes during the discussion of the Political Resolution.

Carried.

Motion: That the following time allotment be given to youth reporter: Youth Report: 1 hour plus ¼ hour summary.

Carried.

Motion: That the following time allotments be given to minority reporters:

1. Latin America: 1¼ hour plus ½ hour summary
2. Vietnam: 1¼ hour plus ½ hour summary
3. Europe: 1¼ hour plus ½ hour summary
4. Political Resolution: 1½ hour plus ½ hour summary
5. World Movement Report: 1½ hour plus ½ hour summary

Carried.

Motion: That there be the following tasks panels:

1. Black Struggle, led by Morrison
2. Trade Union, led by Lovell
3. Women's Liberation, led by L. Jenness

Carried.

Motion: That the following workshops and fractions take place:

1. Sales Directors, led by Cabaniss
2. Fall Press Circulation Plans, led by Cabaniss
3. Education, led by Horowitz
4. Pathfinder, led by Brundy
5. Party Finances, led by Morell
6. Latin American Political Prisoners, led by White and Grinnon
7. CoDEL, led by J. Baumann
8. Political Rights Legal Suit, led by Stapleton and Lynn
9. Militant Correspondents, led by Joel Britton
10. Forums, led by Morell
11. Election Campaigns, led by Seigle
12. Speakers Bureaus, led by Lynn
13. Farmworkers, led by F. Lovell
14. Antiwar, led by Stapleton
15. Teachers, led by F. Lovell
16. Puerto Rican Work, led by D. Jenness
17. Irish Work, led by Foley
18. Chicano Work, led by Vidal
19. Social Service Employees, led by F. Lovell
20. Ligue Communiste Defense, led by Lund
21. East Europe, led by Saunders
22. African Liberation Day, led by Morrison

Carried.

Motion: To approve the convention schedule (see attached).

Carried.

Motion: That Feigenberg, Lesnik, and Lynn serve as convention secretaries.

Carried.

Motion: To elect a Credentials Committee consisting of five delegates.

Carried.

Motion: To elect a Constitution Committee consisting of three delegates.

Carried.

Motion: To elect a Nominating Commission of 20 delegates consisting of one delegate from each branch.

Carried.

Motion: To seat as fraternal delegates the following: (1) National Committee members, (2) members of the National Control Commission, (3) heads of national departments, (4) members of the youth National

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Executive Committee, (5) one delegate each selected by the St. Louis and Pittsburgh branch organizing committees, (6) special guests.

Carried.

Motion: That the convention be open to party members, youth members and sympathizers vouched for by the branches.

Carried.

Motion: That the official convention photographers be M. Baumann and Petrick.

Carried.

Motion: To recommend to the convention that the number of alternate delegates from any delegation be limited to the number of full delegates from that delegation.

Carried.

Plenum Adjourned.

## CONVENTION SCHEDULE

### Sunday, August 5

8:00 - 9:45 Breakfast  
10:00 - 10:45 Organization of Convention (3/4 hr)  
10:45 - 12:00 Latin America, Political Committee Report (1¼ hr)  
12:00 - 1:15 Latin America, Minority Report (1¼ hr)  
1:15 - 2:30 Lunch  
2:30 - 6:00 Discussion (4 hrs)  
6:00 - 8:00 Dinner  
8:00 - 10:00 Black Struggle Panel

### Monday, August 6

7:00 - 8:45 Breakfast  
9:00 - 9:30 Discussion  
9:30 - 10:00 Latin America, Minority Summary (½ hr)  
10:00 - 10:30 Latin America, Political Committee Summary (½ hr)  
10:30 - 11:45 Vietnam, Political Committee Report (1¼ hr)  
11:45 - 1:00 Vietnam, Minority Report (1¼ hr)  
1:00 - 2:15 Lunch  
2:30 - 6:30 Discussion (4 hrs)  
6:30 - 8:30 Dinner  
8:30 - 10:00 Expansion Fund Presentation  
10:00 - 11:00 Panels, Fractions, and Workshops

### Tuesday, August 7

7:00 - 8:45 Breakfast  
9:00 - 9:30 Vietnam, Minority Summary (½ hr)  
9:30 - 10:00 Vietnam, Political Committee Summary (½ hr)  
10:00 - 11:15 Europe, Political Committee Report (1¼ hr)  
11:15 - 12:30 Europe, Minority Report (1¼ hr)  
12:30 - 1:45 Lunch  
2:00 - 6:00 Discussion (4 hrs)  
6:00 - 6:30 Europe, Minority Summary (½ hr)  
6:30 - 7:00 Europe, Political Committee Summary (½ hr)  
7:00 - 9:00 Dinner  
9:00 - 11:00 Trade Union Panel

### Wednesday, August 8

7:00 - 8:45 Breakfast  
9:00 - 10:30 Political Resolution, Political Committee Report (1½ hr)  
10:30 - 12:00 Political Resolution, Minority Report (1½ hr)  
12:00 - 1:00 Discussion (4 hrs)  
1:00 - 2:15 Lunch  
2:30 - 5:30 Discussion  
5:30 - 6:00 Political Resolution, Minority Summary (½ hr)  
6:00 - 6:30 Political Resolution, Political Committee Summary (½ hr)  
6:30 - 8:30 Dinner  
8:30 - 10:30 Women's Liberation Panel  
Panels, Fractions, and Workshops

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Thursday, August 9

7:00 - 8:45 Breakfast  
9:00 - 10:30 World Movement Report, Political Committee  
Report (1½ hr)  
10:30 - 12:00 World Movement Report, Minority Report (1½ hr)  
12:00 - 1:00 Discussion (4 hrs)  
1:00 - 2:15 Lunch  
2:30 - 5:30 Discussion  
5:30 - 6:00 World Movement Report, Minority Summary (½ hr)  
6:00 - 6:30 World Movement Report, Political Committee  
Summary (½ hr)  
6:30 - 8:30 Dinner  
8:30 - 10:30 Panels, Fractions, and Workshops

Friday, August 10

7:00 - 8:45 Breakfast  
9:00 - 10:00 Youth Report (1 hr)  
10:00 - 11:30 Discussion (1½ hr)  
11:30 - 11:45 Youth Report Summary (¼ hr)  
11:45 - 1:00 Organization Report (1¼ hr)  
1:00 - 2:15 Lunch  
2:30 - 6:30 Discussion (4 hrs)  
6:30 - 7:00 Organization Report Summary (½ hr)  
7:00 - 9:00 Dinner  
9:00 - 11:00 Special Presentation on the 45th Anniversary  
of The Militant

Saturday, August 11

7:00 - 8:45 Breakfast  
9:00 - 12:30 Appeals  
Election of National Committee  
Plenum of National Committee

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National Committee  
Socialist Workers Party

Comrades:

In view of the absurdly high proportionment for delegates 15 for 1 the International Majority Supporters Caucus while receiving at least 85 votes has only three delegates. This factional setting of the 15 for 1 cannot be changed. It can only be denounced.

On behalf of our caucus I ask that we be allowed to select three more full delegates and three alternates to bring into balance our voting strength with our delegate strength. Three additional delegates would give us six delegates which based on the 15 for 1 ratio would be accurate.

Our votes are as follows:

Boston	3
N.Y.	5
Philadelphia	3
Wash. D.C.	4
Chicago	19
Detroit	1
Houston	23
Portland	1
San Francisco	4
Oakland-Berkeley	13
Los Angeles	<u>9</u>

85 Eighty Five

We feel that our rights and abilities to put forth our political positions demand our receiving these three delegates.

If these are denied us we are put in the position of having to use non delegates to make some of our presentations -- you leave us no choice. We hope that you will grant us our additional delegates but if not then you are aware that we need non delegates to present some of our major reports.

We request equal time under the World Situation Report in order to make a presentation. The documents of our caucus obviously contain a different perspectives on the World Situation: For instance

1. The SWP's outlook on the Detente stands in opposition to the perspective found in The Building of Revolutionary Parties in Capitalist Europe.

2. The leaderships view of the character of nationalism and the World Wide Youth Radicalization are contrary to the outlook of the documents "In Defence of Leninism: In Defence of the Fourth International" and "The Building of a Revolutionary Party in Capitalist America

Based on these differences our caucus requests the right to make a presentation to the convention on The World Situation. Our reporter should receive equal time to the reporter for the Party majority.

Comradely  
s/Bill Massey I.T.  
for International Majority  
Supporters Caucus