

PO Box 471 Cooper Station
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March 21, 1967

Steve Chase
Eloise Meseke
John Barzman
Linda Sherrill

Dear Comrades,

I'm writing in regard to your request for equal time with the NEC reporter at the convention to present criticisms of the NEC draft resolution on the antiwar movement. At yesterday's NEC meeting the convention schedule to be recommended to the National Committee was decided upon, and I want to pass along the thinking of the NEC on this question.

It is in our tradition to grant equal time to the reporter for a distinct political tendency which has formulated its political line in a resolution which is presented to the convention for decision. In case there is more than one minority with distinct political views the time of the minority is divided between them equal to the time of the majority. In the above cases minority political tendencies submitting resolutions for convention decision are also granted time for summary remarks. This is not so in the present instance.

Your letter of March 13 states that you are in agreement with the political line of the NEC resolution. Under ordinary circumstances our procedural principles would preclude granting "equal" time for the presentation of criticisms. However, in view of the original submission of your material as a counter-resolution, its circulation to and discussion by the entire membership on this basis, and the importance of ensuring an adequate presentation and full discussion we propose to recommend to the pre-convention plenum the granting of extended time of one hour for whomever you select as a reporter. This is equal to the presentation time of the reporter for the NEC resolution.

On procedure, the NEC is recommending to the pre-convention plenum that all substantive amendments to resolutions before the convention must be submitted in writing prior to the opening of the session so they can be made available to the delegates for their consideration and decision.

I'm making copies of this letter for the National Committee for their information before Friday's plenum.

Comradely,


Lew Jones