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3 Jan. 1969
RPT # 1 43SITUATION INFORMATION REPORT

The American Council on Education in a recently conducted study among the nations college freshmen concludes that student power pressures can be expected to continue into the 1970's. The survey of 300,000 entering freshmen on 435 college campuses provided the following percentages of "yes" answers to key questions:

Students should have a major role in specifying the college curriculum (a paramount goal of current student activists) - 89.7%

Faculty promotions should be based in part on student evaluations - 63.2%

College officials should have the right to ban speakers with extremist views from the campus - 31.7%

Only volunteers should serve in the Armed Forces - 37%

Campus officials are too soft in dealing with student protests - 54.5%

The study reflects that 6% of freshmen who entered college in the present semester are negroes.

Since the completion of this responsible and comprehensive study, several events point to a stronger stand by college administrators. The indications are that although the students will press for more academic freedom and self determination, the "establishment" will resist with increased vigor. Several barometer events are: (1) The stand of the governor, regents and administration at San Francisco State; (2) The criminal indictments brought against the leaders of the revolt at San Fernando Valley College; (3) The re-establishing of on campus job interviews with war producing engineering firms at the City College of New York; (4) The Yorty report where in the mayor of Los Angeles, among other things, connects campus riots with hard core old line communists. This connection will undoubtedly cause the "casual" SDS'er to reappraise his campus affiliations.

The most important of the above is the confrontation at San Francisco State College. The college must show the determination to stay in business or the public educational structure in California and elsewhere will suffer serious consequences.

The Eighth National Convention of the Young Socialist Alliance concluded in Chicago early in December. The YSA is the youth and training section of the militant and revolutionary Socialist Workers Party. The usual themes pervaded the convention with a topically stronger anti-war flavor than in the past. Members of the Chicago Black Panther Party were in attendance and proved a disruptive force. In addition to the usual profane labels for political leaders and disruption of conventional democratic processes the Panthers chided the delegates for waging a revolution with talk and not with guns in the streets.

Membership figures presented to the gathering point up once again the incredible voice by a dissident mini-minority.

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS AS OF NOVEMBER 27, 1968

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------|
| YSA Members | 572 |
| Candidates for Membership | 64 |
| YSA Members who are also SWP | 187 |
| Colleges with YSA Members | 101 |
| High Schools with YSA Members | 32 |
| Jr. High Schools with Members | 5 |
| SDS'ers joining YSA in 1968 | 60 |
| Subscribers to YSA Magazine | 3,300 |

One graphic example of the great power of a few activist is the recently concluded meeting of the SDS at Ann Arbor, Michigan. The National Interim Committee of the SDS just barely succeeded in holding the national leadership of the SDS against a extremely strong challenge by the Youth Socialist Alliance.

The Ann Arbor meeting issued forth a very shaky SDS leadership that has been alerted, clearly to the fact that the organization, and the national leadership of it, is a most enticing target for take over by the well organized, strong ideological, old line communist organizations. One large crumb that the SDS leadership was forced to throw the YSA was, no demonstrations at the inauguration. For some reason demonstrations on January 20 are not in the YSA or the SWP time table. It is believed that through YSA pressure on SDS leadership, urged on by a few black SDS'ers (who believe that demonstrations in Washington will hurt the D.C. black community most) the SDS leaders were forced to issue a statement of "no demonstrations in Washington." Their reason, they feel that if they demonstrate it will show their contempt only for the Nixon administration and it is their desire to show contempt for all organized government

leaders. Transparent reasoning perhaps but a reason was needed so the SDS leadership obliged the press and public (and the YSA, the SWP and the Black caucus).

Mrs. Madalyn Murray O'Hair the former Baltimorean who won a United States Supreme court ruling banning prayer from public schools said biblical readings should be barred on all future space flights. Mrs. O'Hair has taken her campaign against religion into space by protesting televised biblical readings by the Apollo 8 astronauts. She will ask the 28,000 associates in her society of SEPARATIONISTS to join her protest to the astronauts readings to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

Eldridge Cleaver the fugitive leader of the Black Panther Party had been scheduled to appear in court on 23 December, to have a date set for his trial on charges of attempted murder and assault with a deadly weapon.

Judge Folger Emerson asked if Cleaver was in the courtroom, Charles R. Garry, his attorney, answered, "No your honor." Judge Emerson then ordered Cleaver's \$50,000 bail forfeited and issued a bench warrant for the arrest of Cleaver.

After the court proceedings, a news conference was held in the courthouse on behalf of five of the six persons who had guaranteed Cleaver's \$50,000 bail.

Paul Jacobs, an author who was spokesman for the group, called the money "ransom demanded by the state" and said that Cleaver was a "fugitive from the Political Persecution" of the state.

Mr. Jacobs called on "all who believe in freedom, including freedom for those with whom they disagree" to share the financial burden by making contributions toward raising the \$50,000. Joining in the statement were Godfrey Cambridge, the comedian, Mrs. Cleaver, Dr. Philip Shapiro, and Ed Keating, a lawyer who is the former publisher of Ramparts magazine on which Cleaver was a senior editor.

Although Judge Emerson ordered Cleaver's bail forfeited, the order does not become final until June 20. If Cleaver should re-appear within this "recovery period" the money would be returned.

Stokeley Carmichael the well-known black extremist and his wife, Miriam Makeba, departed from John F. Kennedy Airport in New York City, 28 December 1968 enroute to Stockholm, Sweden. Miriam Makeba, an entertainer, begins a singing engagement in Stockholm on 1 January 1969.

Calendar of tentatively scheduled activities

"Asterisked" items are either reported for the first time or contain additions or changes to previously reported activities.

- January 1969 A dissident faction of the American Independent Party has announced that it has taken steps to form a continuing national organization. A temporary national committee was formed by 150 representatives from fourteen states at a two-day convention in El Segundo, California, recently.
- The Committee's main objectives would be "assistance to all state parties in preserving their ballot qualifications and retentions of the A.I.P. as a legally constituted national party." The committee will meet early in 1969 in Tulsa, Oklahoma, to form a regular national committee.
- January 2-10 At a meeting in Kalamazoo, Michigan on 15-17 November the National Interim Committee of the SDS proclaimed 2-10 January to be SDS Days of Solidarity with the Cuban Revolution. SDS is planning to send a small official delegation to Cuba at that time. Additionally, during Solidarity week, SDS plans other activities including the presentation of films, educational programs and possibly demonstrations.
- January 2-10 *During the days of solidarity it has recently been announced that SDS has been invited to send five observers to Havana for the tenth anniversary celebration of the revolution. The five are to be picked by the National Interim Committee presently meeting at Ann Arbor, Michigan.
- January 3-9 A new left symposium will be held on the Northwestern University campus on the above dates. The symposium is planned to bring together national new left leaders including:
- Tom Hayden, SDS founder and theorist
 - Carl Oglesby, of Ramparts magazine
 - Mike Herrington, SDS Leader
 - Dick Gregory, erstwhile Presidential candidate of the Peace and Freedom Party
 - Jesse Jackson, of Operation Breadbasket
- A large number of New Lefters from many areas are expected to be in attendance. The CIA recruiter who was scheduled to be on the Northwestern campus is expected to move his activity to the Chicago Federal building and conduct interviews by appointment.

- January 6 D.C. - Oral arguments will be heard by the 1st U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals on behalf of Anti-draft conspiracy convicted Dr. Benjamin Spock and the three other convicted defendants. Written appeal briefs have been filed.
- January 7 Los Angeles, California - The trial of Sirhan B. Sirhan for the murder of Sen. R.F. Kennedy as been postponed until 7 January. The delay from 9 December was granted to permit a new member of the defense team, Attorney Grant B. Cooper, to study the case. The trial will be held in a steel-plated court room with closed circuit television for reporters. There will not be any public television.
- January 9 Evanston, Illinois - SDS at Northwestern University plans to demonstrate to protest CIA recruiting on the campus. An SDS leader has stated that he feels the demonstration will be "obstructive in nature."
- January 18 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania - The Black Liberation Alliance, formed October 18-20 at Columbus, Ohio, by 50 dissatisfied members of CORE from five states will hold its first convention. Temporary officers were elected at Columbus. It was decided that the organization will strive for basic social, economic, and political change in the U.S.A. rather than reform. It will seek racial separation, black nationalism, and the formation of a separate black nation within the boundaries of the U.S.
- January 20 An informant of unestablished reliability has provided information that it is rumored the Black Panther Party plans to assassinate Mayor John Readings of Oakland and Joseph Aliato of San Francisco on inauguration day. Local and federal officials in the San Francisco Bay area have been advised.
- January 21 New Orleans, Louisiana - Clay L. Shaw is to go on trial in the Orleans Parish Criminal District Court on charges of conspiring to assassinate President John F. KENNEDY. This case has been in an "on and off" status for a long time but does appear to actually be

going to trial this time. Controversial District Attorney Jim GARRISON was quoted as saying, "The moment of truth has arrived in this case. Even if I am killed, the Clay Shaw case will go to trial."

SOURCES: Government and news media reports

RELIABILITY: Probably true