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24 May 1973

SITUATION INFORMATION REPORT

The Communist Party, USA (CPUSA) is in the process of trying to organize a new national multi-issue front organization to replace its antiwar contingent, the People's Coalition for Peace and Justice (PCPJ). This "united front" concept is a typical CPUSA tactic implemented to attract broad-based support from minority, religious, and nonaligned U. S. revolutionaries.

The new coalition, the National Defense Organization Against Racist and Political Repression (NDO) plans to focus its attention on the issues of prisons, police brutality, political repression, and the U. S. legal system.

Support for the NDO is being generated by a number of diverse "leftist" groups who met in New York City on March 17 for a national pre-conference meeting organized by Charlene Mitchell, CPUSA candidate for the U. S. Presidency in 1968.

A national organizing conference sponsored by the Rev. Ralph Abernathy, Southern Christian Leadership Conference; Rev. Dan Berrigan; Julian Bond; Prof. Noam Chomsky, MIT; Rep. John Conyers (D-Mich); Bert Corona of Casa Hermandad; Ricardo Cruz, Mexican-American Legal Defense and Education Fund, L. A.; Rep. Ronald Dellums (D-Calif.); Patrick Gorman, president, Amalgamated Meatcutters and Butchers; Rev. James Groppi; Fannie Lou Hamer; William Kunstler, attorney; John Lewis, Southern Voters Education Project; Alfred Lopez, Puerto Rican Socialist Party; Javier Rodriguez, Los Tres del Barrio Defense Committee; Modjeska Simkins, president, Southern Conference Education Fund; Jarvis Tyner, chairman, Young Workers Liberation League, and Henry Winston, chairman of the Communist Party, USA, was held in Chicago, Illinois on May 11-13, 1973 to launch the NDO.

Seven hundred and sixty-nine representatives of black, white, Chicano, Puerto Rican, American Indian, Asian, and labor organizations attended the founding NDO Conference. Angela Davis, Bert Corona of Casa Hermandad, and Carl Braden of the Southern Conference Education Fund were elected co-chairpersons of the new coalition. Those elected as vice co-chairpersons were Clyde Bellecourt of the American Indian Movement; Alfredo Lopez of the Carlos Feliciano Defense Committee and the Puerto Rican Socialist Party; Rev. Ben Chavis of the Commission of Racial Justice and the United Church of Christ; Bill Takahashi of the United Defense Against Repression, Los Angeles; and Fred Bell of the United Defense of Political Prisoners, Dallas, Texas.

The founding conference, in addition to launching a new national communist-dominated coalition, brought into sharp focus the disunity within the "radical left" in the U. S. today. Fractionalism highlighted the organizing conference. According to reliable sources, each attending group strove to establish itself as the "revolutionary vanguard" of the new coalition and consequently very little concrete organizing was actually accomplished. It should be noted, that the Socialist Workers Party (SWP) and other Trotskyist splinter groups did not participate. In addition, the Maoist organizations chose to boycott the conference.

There are basic ideological problems to be overcome if these groups are to become involved. It remains to be seen, if the new coalition will be able to accommodate the ideologically different "leftist sects" and still be a viable organization.

#### CALENDAR OF TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES

##### 26 May, Nationwide

A second nationwide African Liberation Day has been announced and will be held in 25 cities across the country on the above date to show support and solidarity with Africans in southern Africa.

Committee chairman Owusu Sadaukai, president of Malcolm X University in Greensboro, North Carolina, recently issued a call for sponsors to raise at least \$50,000 to support the liberation movement in southern Africa.

Members of the African Liberation Day Support Committee have been holding rallies and going door-to-door to collect funds and solicit support from local churches, schools, neighborhoods and organizational institutions. Among the supporters of the African Liberation are the following: members of the Congressional Black Caucus; Anderson Young of Georgia; Percy Sutton of Manhattan; the Rev. John Walker; Marion Barry; Leroi Jones; Leonard Ball (Black Labor Leaders Coalition) and Don L. Lee, Institute for Positive Education, Chicago.

African Liberation Day will be observed in the following cities: Atlanta, Ga.; Boston, Mass; Buffalo, N. Y.; Chicago, Ill.; Columbia, S. C.; Columbus, Ohio; Detroit, Mich.; Houston, Tex.; Indianapolis, Ind.; Jackson, Miss.; Kansas City, Mo.; Los Angeles, Calif.; Memphis, Tenn.; Nashville, Tenn.; Newark, N. J.; New Orleans, La.; Oakland, Calif.; Oklahoma City, Okla.; Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, Pa.; Portland, Ore.; Raleigh, N. C.; San Francisco, Calif.; St. Paul, Minn.; and Washington, D.C.

The ALDSC was granted permission to conduct a parade on 26 May from 11:00 a. m. to 2:00 p. m. in Washington, D. C. The Metropolitan police anticipate that the 800 to 1,200 figure called for by the organizers will participate; however, last year's demonstrations drew 12,000 people to Washington, D. C.

Recently the organizers of ALDSC were granted permission to use the Meridian Hill Park until 10:00 p. m., and they have made plans to have entertainment furnished by rock bands at the conclusion of the parade. This recent change of plans in all probability will increase the number of participants to 3 or 4,000 persons.

Tentative speakers for the rallies will consist of such local activists as the Rev. Douglas Moore (Black United Front), Rev. Ben Chavis (African Prisoner of War Solidarity Committee) and the Rev. Smallwood Williams (local activist). Reportedly, Edison J. M. Zvobgo

(an exile from Rhodesia) has claimed that plans are being made to take over the Rhodesian Embassy in Washington, D.C. by force; however, Rhodesia does not have an embassy in Washington but it does have a Rhodesian Information Office, 2852 McGill Terrace, N.W. This information has not been confirmed. There has also been talk of causing damage to a Gulf service station along the route, possibly 23rd and "P" Sts., N.W. and the ITT Building, Connecticut Ave. and "L" Sts., N.W. The Gulf Oil Co. and ITT have been singled out by this organization because they are allegedly exploiting blacks in southern Africa.

The parade will form at the Meridian Hill Park, 16th and Euclid Sts., N.W. and return to the same location. Attached is a route of the march and rallies for the African Liberation Day activities to be held in Washington, D.C.

In New York City, demonstrators will meet at 9:00 a. m. at Dag Hammarskjold Plaza and march from there to the Charles Young Park at Lenox Avenue and 145th Street where a rally will be held at 2:00 p. m.

26 May, Washington, D.C.

The Ukrainian Committee of America will sponsor a demonstration to protest the Russian suppression of the Ukrainian people. Organizers of the demonstration are calling for 3,000 participants to gather at the Taras Shevchenko Monument, 22nd and "P" Sts., N.W. After this rally, they will march to Scott Circle where they will disband.

The Ukrainian Committee is an adult group that held the same type demonstration last year with no problems; however, there is a Ukrainian youth and student organization of the Ukrainian Committee of America that held a demonstration on 19 May 1972 which resulted in the arrest of 64 participants for blocking the sidewalk in front of the White House. Police chased the demonstrators from the White House to 16th and "K" Sts., N.W. where a group of 400 demonstrators blocked traffic and burned trash in the intersection.

This year the demonstration will be a combination of the youth and adult groups with participants generally coming from the East Coast. Metropolitan police are expecting 1,500 persons to participate in the demonstration.

16 June, Washington, D.C.

Reportedly, the National Peace Action Coalition has announced tentative plans to hold a demonstration on the above date to protest U. S. involvement in S. E. Asia.

Details are unknown at this time but will be reported when they become available.

16 June, Washington, D.C.

The People's Coalition for Peace and Justice has outlined plans to hold demonstrations in three locations (Washington, D. C., a city in the Mid-West and the East Coast which are unknown at this time). The purpose of these demonstrations is to protest the bombing of Cambodia and the alleged widespread discontent of Government handling of domestic matters.

Tentative plans for the demonstration in Washington, D. C. call for demonstrators to assemble at noon at the Watergate Apartment Building complex. Reportedly, Daniel Ellsberg and Anthony Russo will be the speakers at the Watergate Building.

The demonstration will be in the form of a march which is scheduled to begin at 1:00 p. m. Demonstrators will march from the Watergate Building to the State Department Building, to the Bureau of Indian Affairs and to the White House where they will pause for 20 minutes then proceed to the Justice Department.

Laurie Sandow, a member of the New York City interim committee of PCPJ, and Barbara Webster, a member of the New York City national staff of PCPJ, will come to Washington to set up an office to run the demonstration. Headquarters will probably be located at the VISTA office building (16th and "M" Sts.). The Vietnam Peace Parade Committee is attempting to raise \$16, 500 for a train to carry demonstrators from New York City to Washington, D. C.

More information will be reported when it becomes available.

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SOURCE: Government and News Media  
RELIABILITY: Probably True

