

Student Strike Conference Report given to the NEC by Doug, Dec. 11, 1966

The two Cleveland conferences have helped solve some of the anti-war movement's political-organizational problems, which we have seen from the beginning of the movement. The Cleveland gatherings succeeded in initiating a broad united front on a national scale, involving many sections of what can be called the peace movement. What has not been fully accomplished is the building of a nationwide organization to unite and coordinate the activities of the more militant, campus based committees and groups.

The Conference for a National Student Strike (or alternately, Conference for a National Student Spring Action), scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday, December 28 and 29, in Chicago, represents an attempt by the CP youth to fill the vacuum of student group coordination. Bettina Aptheker, in talks she has given, sees this conference as an opportunity to create a national center for the coordination of student activities.

Reports indicate that the conference will be well attended. The host group, the Chicago Peace Council, estimates that 250-300 people will be present. Local support groups have been formed and in some areas (New York and Chicago) they have succeeded in drawing serious youth around them.

The possibility of a national organization coming out of the conference is an extremely important development for the antiwar movement. The NEC has voted for maximum midwest and east coast participation in the conference. We will want to see a student spring antiwar action that has a united front character.

Each area should become familiar with what local support groups are planning, who has been attracted, and who will be attending. A report outlining this information should be sent to the NO as soon as possible, so that we will be fully prepared for the conference.

A leading activist in each area should write the Chicago Peace Council, 1608 West Madison, Room 201, Chicago, Illinois, registering as a participant and sponsoring the conference.

Locals should write to Chicago (Debs Hall, 302 S. Canal St., Chicago, Illinois 60606) letting them know who will be attending, so they can arrange housing.