

POLITICAL COMMITTEE MINUTES, No. 8, February 1, 1968

Present: Novack, Jones, Kerry, Barnes, Dobbs, Shaw, Hansen, Shepard

Visitors: Camejo, Waters

Chairman: Novack

AGENDA: 1. Student Mobilization Committee Conference
2. International
3. Peace and Freedom Party

1. STUDENT MOBILIZATION COMMITTEE CONFERENCE

Jones reported.

The Student Mobilization Committee Conference marked a beginning of a debate over perspectives for the antiwar movement: to mobilize masses in action versus a "peace and freedom" movement.

900 attended the conference which was slightly below expectations.

The central issue in dispute was the CP's proposal to add a plank "against racism" to SMC's heretofore single-issue platform. Most of their demagogic appeals and proposals were undercut by the formation of an all-black antiwar organization, The National Black Anti-war, Anti-draft Union.

We sought to expose this proposal as a gimmick for changing the character of the SMC to a liberal, civil rights group. A motion reaffirming the character of the SMC was finally carried. This dispute, however, will continue in the coming months.

The Conference called for 11 days of antiwar activity April 20-30, an international student strike April 26, and mass street actions in all major cities April 27.

SMC is already notifying international groups of the call for international action.

2. INTERNATIONAL

Hansen reported.

Two international draft resolutions received. (See attached).

First pre-congress discussion bulletin has been published, containing material on the Chinese Cultural Revolution. (Bulletin will be published here as fraternal courtesy).

3. PEACE AND FREEDOM PARTY

Kerry reported. (Written report to follow).

Motion: To assign Kerry to pay special attention to P&FP situation and collateral developments.

Carried.

Meeting adjourned.