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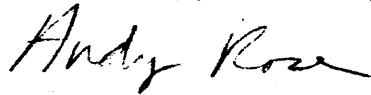
TO ALL ORGANIZERS AND NC MEMBERS

Dear Comrades,

Attached is a report on YSA recruitment and the antiwar upsurge. It should be read by all executive committee members, and the exec should plan to have a discussion soon on this topic. In preparation for that discussion, comrades may wish to read over Mirta Vidal's article on YSA recruitment in the March 24 YS Organizer.

In order to gear the entire local into recruitment activities to take advantage of the increased opportunities now before us, locals may want to schedule a special report and discussion in the local. This communication could be read to the local as part of such a report, or as part of an executive committee report if no special recruitment discussion is held.

Comradely,



Andy Rose
YSA National Chairman

The current upsurge of antiwar activity on the campuses offers unprecedented opportunities for recruitment to the YSA. While we mobilize our forces to participate in and provide leadership for the next round of antiwar actions, it will be important to organize stepped-up recruitment activities at the same time.

Any period of upsurge is favorable for recruitment to the YSA because it involves a heightened political consciousness on the part of large numbers of people. The students who have been drawn into antiwar activity are looking for answers to more than the question of how to end the war--they are interested in changing other aspects of society as well, they want to know how to act effectively, and many are open to the ideas of revolutionary socialism.

In addition, during a period of upsurge and activity students are more likely to see the need for joining an organization like the YSA that can coordinate its work nationally and internationally, that has a correct strategy for building the movement, and that can respond and provide leadership in an organized way in the rapidly changing situation.

The Socialist Workers Party election campaigns will continue to be the key to YSA recruitment. We face a two-fold task: to reach out to thousands of students through increased sales, speaking engagements for SWP and YSJP candidates, literature tables at meetings and demonstrations, special forums, classes, etc.; and to work with those who have already been drawn around us through the campaign, involve them in activity alongside YSAers, talk to them, and convince them to join.

All locals will want to consider increasing their Militant bundles so as to have plenty of Militants for daily sales on campus, as well as for special sales at all meetings and demonstrations.

Now is a good time to hold forums or class series on campus--not just about the YSA's position on the antiwar movement, but about all the basic ideas of the socialist program.

Along with distributing large quantities of SWP campaign literature, we can get out specifically "Join the YSA" leaflets. One idea for a "Join the YSA" leaflet is to reproduce the YSA NEC statement on "Revolutionary Youth and the New Upsurges on the Campuses" that appears in the May 5 Militant. Special attention can also be given to distributing the four-page flyer "YSA Program for the Student Revolt."

The SWP and YSJP campaign committees can issue statements and press releases with our positions on each new development in the war and Nixon's escalation, and our support for the antiwar actions that are called.

Our most immediate prospects for recruitment will be the hundreds of students who have already come around the YSA through the campaign. Mailings and telephone calling to YSJPers can make sure they are involved in the antiwar activity. Locals should consider inviting some of the YSJPers to attend YSA fraction meetings. Whatever organizational form is chosen, our objective should be to get the YSJPers working as closely as possible with the YSA so they can see how the revolutionary socialist youth organization performs in action and so we can talk to them about joining.

We do not hesitate to point out that the YSA's perspectives for the antiwar movement have been dramatically confirmed by the events of the last few weeks, and that the YSA has been in the leadership of much of the organized response to Nixon's escalation. This is no accident. It is because we have a correct Marxist analysis, we understand the centrality of the Vietnamese revolution in world politics, we are internationalists who seek to defend the Vietnamese revolution, and we understand how to build a mass action movement to end U.S. aggression.

We want to explain this to YSJPers and other antiwar activists. Doing so involves consistent personal discussion, as well as getting them to read our literature. Young Socialist Strategy for '72 can be particularly useful. We can urge YSJPers and other activists to read first the antiwar section and then other sections on areas they are interested in or have questions about.

This letter has gone over just a few ideas for how YSA locals can maximize recruitment during the current upsurge. Locals will undoubtedly think of many more. The first step is for each local executive committee to discuss its recruitment possibilities and map out a plan for achieving them.

The final paragraph of a special YS Organizer article on recruitment from May, 1970, is just as relevant now as when it was written:

"If we are conscious of the importance of building the YSA during this movement, we will be able to win hundreds of new socialists to the YSA and our participation in the next upsurge will be even more effective."