Recent ideological stirrings within SDS are having reverberations on the local level. Two new at-large chapters with slightly different structures and objectives have been set up recently in Atlanta; their differences stem largely from the fact that national SDS has undergone rapid changes in the past month and is still in the process of clarifying its new orientation.

In the past, SDS has been a vaguely left-wing umbrella group of students who "did their own thing" around programs that were only loosely coordinated and often contradictory. But when SDS expelled the Progressive Labor Party at its national convention last month, it reconstituted itself around principles which would provide a political basis for recruiting and excluding members. Now, program is to flow from politics, and the most vocal segments of SDS hope to develop a class analysis of American society which will help them recruit large numbers of working-class youth. This concept is loosely titled a working-class revolutionary movement. This concept is loosely titled a working-class revolutionary movement.

At this point many fundamental questions about the new SDS remain unanswered. The group which expelled PL at the convention adopted only two unity principles, dealing with support for national liberation movements in Latin colonies within the U.S. for national liberation, and the new SDS remain unanswerable. The group which expelled PL at the convention adopted only two unity principles. SDS, supporting socialism and armed struggle against imperialism, and opposing anti-communism and male supremacy (for the full text, see the July 7 Guardian). After some debate, the convention voted to tuck these principles into the membership for consideration during the summer, and to reopen the question of their adoption at the fall National Council meeting.

It is not clear how chapters are to interpret the two principles already adopted. Some argue that SDS will only expel those who, like PL, obstruct the organization in practice as well as with words. Others would apply the principles more strictly as a test of anyone holding or seeking membership. The same question arises in connection with the adoption of any additional principles, nationally or by chapters.

The recent series of city SDS meetings, aimed at creating a citywide structure for SDS, began even before the convention. They have been attended by President Ho Chi Minh, as well as the Democratic Republic of China, the People's Republic of Korea and Albania, and the Republic of Cuba, all waging fierce struggles against U.S. imperialism. We support the right of all peoples to pick up the gun to free themselves from the brutal rule of U.S. imperialism.

Two amendments were also passed by the convention, opposing male supremacy and anti-communism. However, they were proposed by a minority tendency known as Revolutionary Youth Movement II 2, whose interpretation of these issues is not shared by the Weatherman tendency which captured all three National Officer slots. As a result, the two amendments somehow got lost in the shuffle; when the National Officers later sent a mailing to all SDS members, they neglected to print the amendments.

After the convention expelled PL, Noel Ignatin, a leader of RYM 2, proposed a set of five principles for SDS, supporting socialism and armed struggle against imperialism, and opposing anti-communism and male supremacy. After some debate, the convention voted to tuck these principles into the membership for consideration during the summer, and to reopen the question of their adoption at the fall National Council meeting.

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For more information about AMDS, write Box 7946, Station C, Atlanta, Georgia 30309.

Barbara joye

Hard on the heels of the revelation that American GI's were participating in Spanish "maneuvers" despite denials by the U.S. government, comes the revelation that the U.S. entered into a secret pact with Thailand in 1965 without even informing Congress! Even under pressure from Sen. Fulbright, the administration has refused to divulge the contents of the treaty, other than to state that it relates to the specifics of American military commitments to Thailand in case of unspecified emergencies. Details of troops and supplies have been worked out. The schedule of the next Vietnam, in short, has all been worked out in advance.

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