

Box 471 Cooper Station
New York, N.Y. 10003

February 13, 1974

TO ALL ORGANIZERS

Dear Comrades,

At the last YSA convention a special presentation announced the formation of the Committee for Artistic and Intellectual Freedom in Iran and its work in defense of the Iranian poet, Reza Baraheni. Since that time the efforts of the committee, along with the protests of other groups and individuals around the world, have met with success, and Baraheni has been released from the Shah's jails. The poet's life is still in danger, however, and the committee is demanding that he be allowed to write and teach freely without fear of his life.

Another international defense effort in which the Committee for Artistic and Intellectual Freedom in Iran is involved is the case of 12 Iranian writers and filmmakers. Enclosed is a fact sheet on this defense case produced by the committee. Also enclosed are a copy of a protest telegram about the 12 sent by PEN, the international writers' organization; a copy of a February 3, 1974 New York Times article on the case; a statement by the committee on the case of Reza Baraheni; and five endorser cards (sent only to local organizers).

The YSA supports the efforts of the Committee for Artistic and Intellectual Freedom in Iran and YSA locals are encouraged to help publicize and gain endorsements for the defense of the 12 political prisoners.

Where possible we will want to obtain prominent individuals or groups as endorsers of the defense committee and urge them to send letters of protest to the Iranian embassy and the Prime Minister of Iran. We can also aid the committee's work by publicizing this latest case in the campus press, helping to raise funds and by supporting local protest activities. Iranian or other international student groups can also be approached about sponsoring speaking engagements for leaders of the Committee for Artistic and Intellectual Freedom in Iran.

Additional copies of the enclosed literature can be obtained from the committee at 309A Low Library, Columbia University, New York, N.Y. 10027. Any donations raised by locals should also be sent directly to the committee.

Comradely,


Jerry Freiwirth
YSA National Office