

Box 471 Cooper Station
New York, New York 10003

September 11, 1974

TO ALL ORGANIZERS AND NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Dear Comrades,

At the Asian-American workshop at Oberlin, a discussion was held concerning the possibilities for organizing protest actions against political repression in South Korea and against U.S. backing of the Park dictatorship. The discussion took place after a report by Caroline Lund on the Asian Youth Conference she attended this summer in Japan where a proposal for international actions against South Korean political repression was passed. Given the recent press coverage on the repression in Korea and given the strength and breadth of the resistance in Korea itself, it was thought that there would be openings for organizing effective protests in this country.

Since Oberlin, the Secretariat of the Asian Youth Conference has issued a formal call for international solidarity actions this fall to demand the release of all South Korean political prisoners. The call, which is enclosed, arrived here this week. It points out that mass actions, which have the support of the Japanese Communist and Socialist parties, are planned for Japan on September 18 and 19.

In response to this call, each area should think about whether anything can be done to organize around this issue in your area. Types of actions which might be considered include forums, teach-ins, campus meetings, or pickets. Since the days of September 18 and 19 set for the international actions are so close, actions in this country will in most cases have to be held on later dates, according to what is convenient in each area.

As was reported in the July 23 Militant, there has already been a picket against South Korean repression organized in New York by the Congress of African People (CAP). Black groups, Asian groups, student groups, foreign students, and many other groups and individuals will be concerned about this issue. We should also look into what kind of support can be gotten from the churches, since Christian groups in South Korea have been heavily involved in the resistance and hard hit by the repression. An article in the September 9 issue of Intercontinental Press describes this as well as other aspects of the situation in South Korea.

It will be of special importance in organizing the actions to make sure that any representatives of the Japanese press in your area be informed. Branches should also be sure to send in stories on the actions to The Militant.

Communications concerning this work should be sent to Malik Miah.

Comradely,

Malik Miah
YSA National Office