

P.O. Box 471 Cooper Station
New York, N.Y. 10003
September 24, 1975

TO ALL ORGANIZERS AND ANTIRACIST WORK DIRECTORS

Dear Comrades,

The second National Student Conference Against Racism is about two weeks away.

The political report at the September 13 NSCAR National Steering Committee meeting stressed the following as immediate tasks which SCAR chapters should take on for the next few weeks: building the October conference so that it will represent the widest possible spectrum of activists, campus organizations, and community groups; and going on an educational campaign around the country to educate on the real issues involved in Boston and the prodesegregation campaign.

The political discussion at the upcoming NSCAR conference will be an extremely important one. The steering committee decided to encourage discussions on political issues and activities that SCAR chapters should be involved in by publishing a special issue of the Student Mobilizer prior to the conference. Articles are welcome from all SCAR activists. Anyone interested in writing a contribution should inform the NSCAR national office immediately and plan to send it in within the next few days.

Local SCAR chapters may want to begin now to discuss some of the issues likely to face the conference. We want to encourage these discussions among activists, particularly around some of the central issues that will come up at the conference.

One of the most important issues to be discussed is busing and school desegregation, which is still at the center of the Black struggle today. The fact is shown by the number of desegregation plans in effect or being considered around the country. This campaign has become a national one. This is also indicated by the recent attacks on busing that have taken place in the U.S. Congress. It's important that we go on an educational campaign with activists around the country before the conference on why this issue should continue to be the focus of NSCAR's activity.

Other issues that will be discussed include the multi-national character of NSCAR; the relationship of the desegregation struggle to the fight for bilingual education and community control; May 17th and a mass action strategy for fighting racism; and the question of calling on the government to use all necessary force to stop racist antibusing violence.

Two aspects of NSCAR activity that will be discussed at the conference are the anticuthacks struggles on the campuses and the defense of affirmative action. NSCAR activists will

want to discuss how SCAR chapters have and will want to continue to relate to these two important arenas of antiracist activity.

A series of articles in the Militant, beginning with the current issue, will also take up some of the political issues involved in the desegregation campaign from our point of view as socialists. We will want to make sure that as many activists involved in the antiracist fight as possible get copies of these issues and are able to read and discuss these articles with us. Comrades, too, may want to discuss some of these points prior to the conference. Some of these issues can be presented and discussed in the form of educationals prior to or following the next few YSA meetings before the conference.

The only opponent that participated in the NSCAR Steering Committee meeting was the Spartacist League. Two members of Stokely Carmichael's All African Revolutionary People's Party (AARPP) observed the meeting but did not participate. The AARPP in Boston has been critical of NSCAR's multinational character, claiming that it should be an exclusively Black organization. It is possible that some people coming to the conference will express this position. It is important that all activists coming to the conference understand that it is being organized as a multiracial conference open to all individuals and groups who want to fight racism. Comrades should try to discuss with activists the important role of NSCAR as a multiracial action coalition in building a massive antiracist movement.

The YWLL has said that it has no intention of attending the October conference. If they actually don't show up, this will be one more step backward in their withdrawal from the antiracist fight. Two previous steps were the YWLL's withdrawal from NSCAR last spring, and the CP's recent sectarian campaign involving the distribution of an article and convention report by Gus Hall as their sole contribution to the antiracist fight in Boston. The Stalinists have used this campaign as an excuse to their membership for removing themselves from the pre-desegregation fight. Despite what they've said about their plans for October 10-12, we want to continue to encourage SCAR chapters to do whatever possible to pull the YWLL into this movement and to get them to Boston for the conference.

NSCAR has invited the Committee Against Racism (CAR) in Boston to participate in the conference as well. We expect them to attend the conference and we want them to be there. CAR has received a significant amount of publicity for its activities in Boston over the last few months. CAR has also involved a number of independents in its activities in Boston. The conference will be an opportunity to take on their ultraleft, confrontationalist strategy for fighting racism and to explain what is wrong with it.

The NSCAR Steering Committee meeting also launched a membership drive to get as many individuals and organizations as

possible to join NSCAR. Membership cards are \$1.00 for individuals, \$.50 for high school students, and \$10.00 for organizations.

A discussion was also initiated at the steering committee on the structure of NSCAR. The coordinators have proposed that NSCAR broaden out its leadership by taking two new steps. One of these is to elect a number of National Coordinators who will be national spokespeople for NSCAR. The coordinators proposed that the new National Coordinators include those activists who are the real leaders of national stature of SCAR, regardless of where they live. Another proposal is to form a National Working Committee of NSCAR. The committee would be composed of National Coordinators resident in Boston and representatives from NSCAR groups and affiliated groups in the Boston area. The committee would work together with the National Coordinators and national NSCAR staff in coordinating the day-to-day activities of NSCAR.

The discussion on NSCAR's structure will be continued at the October conference where the final decisions will be made. We should encourage all SCAR activists to begin to consider these proposals and discuss possible nominations of SCAR leaders from your area as national coordinators.

The National Student Conference, at this point, is shaping up to be an exciting event. A new England coalition of students fighting cutbacks on New England campuses will be attending and holding a workshop as part of the conference. The FUSP, the campus youth affiliate of the Puerto Rican Socialist party, will be attending the conference and have given it their endorsement. Several national leaders of the FUSP attended the September 13 steering committee meeting. Although the FUSP holds an anti-busing stand, they view NSCAR as an important campus organization that they want to work with. They are cosigning a letter with NSCAR's coordinators, urging Puerto Rican groups around the country to come to the conference and participate in discussions there. They feel it is important for Puerto Rican students to work with NSCAR around some of the antiracist issues it takes up.

In these last weeks before the conference, we want to continue our work in urging every campus organization, student, youth, and Black activist to make the trip to Boston to take part in this important conference. Doing so will help make the second National Student Conference Against Racism and the decisions that come out of it another important step toward building a massive counter-movement to racist attacks.

The Socialist Workers 1976 campaign will be at the conference to show its support. The YSA will help to distribute campaign materials and sell the October issue of the Young Socialist which will include a number of articles especially oriented to conference participants. We want to discuss the relationship between the

struggle for Black rights and the fight for socialism with anti-racist activists who may be interested in joining a revolutionary socialist youth organization.

Comradely,

Nan Bailey

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YSA National Office