

POLITICAL COMMITTEE MINUTES, No. 43, April 6, 1967

Present: Barnes, DeBerry, Dobbs, Hansen, Kerry, Novack, Shaw, Sheppard.

Visitors: Ring, Waters.

Chairman: Kerry.

AGENDA:

1. Antiwar Report.
2. G.I. Defense Case.
3. International.

1. ANTIWAR REPORT

Barnes reported:

It has been agreed that Linda Dannenberg from the Student Mobilization Committee will speak at the rally. There is the possibility that Kipp will speak at the West Coast rally. SDS nationally has now endorsed the mobilization. (They did so at their national council meeting this week.) However, they want draft card burning to be a part of the rally.

The CP has agreed to the Student Mobilization Committee's leafletting the April 15 march and calling a conference in Chicago the weekend of May 13.

Supplemental report by Ring:

The route for the New York march has been settled. Practically all restrictions on Central Park have been lifted to allow the entry of signs, sound trucks, a peace fair, etc. Pedro Juan Rua of the M.P.I. and Gilberto Gerena Valentin, a Puerto Rican community leader will speak. There will be a speaker from SDS.

SDS, with support from the CP continues to push the draft card burning, and as it now stands about 50 persons plan to burn their draft cards during the Saturday rally. Bevel is opposed to the draft card burning, but Dellinger would like to get it included in the official program. We should fight this in every way we can to avoid the possibility that draft card burning will become the focal point of the demonstration.

Discussion: Dobbs, Ring, Barnes.

2. G. I. DEFENSE CASE

Waters reported.

The press will feature the story in the issue dated April 17.

Discussion: Shaw, Novack, Dobbs, Waters, Kerry.

3. INTERNATIONAL

Hansen reported:

(1) IEC meeting.

Discussion: Dobbs, Kerry, Hansen.

(2) Latin America

a. Bolivia -- A wave of arrests has isolated the leadership of all left organizations. The individuals arrested have been removed to isolated villages. Whatever help and publicity can be given is needed.

Discussion: Shaw, Dobbs, Kerry, Hansen.

b. Peru -- The campaign to free Hugo Blanco continues. A large meeting is planned April 10 in Europe. Also more and more emphasis is being given to the Pereyra case. Pereyra and his comrades have been in prison since 1962 without trial. A few who were charged with minor offenses have been released because they already had spent more time in prison than they could have legally been sentenced to, had they been found guilty.

c. Mexico -- The Posadistas are continuing their own sort of defense campaign for their imprisoned members, but they have aggravated many others by loosely grouping Galan and Gilly in their list of "Trotskyist" prisoners.

Discussion: Novack.

Meeting adjourned.