

14 Charles Lane  
New York, New York 10014  
May 17, 1974

TO ALL ORGANIZERS AND NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Dear Comrades,

Enclosed is a list of all trade unionists and union locals to date that have endorsed PRDF.

The first state convention of any union to adopt a resolution endorsing PRDF was the Michigan Federation of Teachers, full text reproduced with this list of endorsers.

This information is forwarded to you for your use: 1) to help PRDF get as many individual endorsers as possible from union officials at all levels; 2) to get resolutions adopted by local unions wherever members (or friends) of the SWP or other supporters of the PRDF are able to submit resolutions; 3) to get endorsements from international union presidents, executive boards, and conventions.

You will note that several local unions have already passed support motions or adopted resolutions. Copies of these should be referred to state or national conventions for action.

A list of all AFL-CIO conventions this year will be provided by PRDF, or can be found at your local union hall or library in the January 19, 1974, issue of AFL-CIO News.

The UAW convention this year is in Los Angeles, June 2-9. We expect that there will be an opportunity at this convention to get PRDF endorsements and to sell literature. Efforts to get top UAW officials to endorse have been initiated by national PRDF, but district and local officials can be approached for endorsement in all areas where there are auto plants. Where friends or members of the SWP are working in the auto industry, they should be able to advise on the best approach to union officials and members.

The AFSCME convention is June 10-14 in Honolulu. The final date to submit resolutions is May 24. Several AFSCME locals have endorsed PRDF, but we do not know how many have submitted resolutions to the national convention. This should be attended to wherever possible. National PRDF is trying to get top officials to endorse.

The NEA convention will be in Chicago this year, June 28-30. Many educators are interested in PRDF. Some have already endorsed. We would like as many NEA locals to endorse as can be reached, and we hope the convention will pass a resolution endorsing PRDF.

The resolution adopted by Michigan Federation of Teachers should serve as an example, not a model. It is preferable if local resolutions are varied, each union passing a resolution that relates to government repression, supervision, and (sometimes) illegal wire-tapping and spying that is used against it.

These approaches to the various unions and to union officials will help all SWP friends and members get better acquainted with the union movement.

As the list of endorsers grows, extending it becomes easier. Someone who has been approached early and refused, may be willing to sign later when more prominent union representatives have endorsed.

In the steel union some officials may be willing to sign when attention is called to the fact that the editor of Steel Labor has already endorsed PRDF. The same is true of mine union officials since some prominent officers of UMW have already signed. The initial list of endorsers can be used effectively in this way when explaining PRDF to others.

Please keep us informed of progress on this project. It will be useful in other aspects of trade union work.

Comradely,



Frank Lovell  
Trade Union Director

POLITICAL RIGHTS DEFENSE FUND  
156 FIFTH AVENUE, SUITE 703  
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10010

LABOR SUPPORT FOR PRDF  
(partial list)

Local 1595, American Fed. of Gov't  
Employees, Chicago  
Local 1061, American Fed. of Gov't  
Employees, Los Angeles  
Local 1497, AFSCME, Detroit  
Local 1880, AFSCME, Detroit  
Local 2000, AFSCME, Chicago  
Louis Antal, pres., Dist. 5 United  
Mine Workers  
David Beasley, pres., Local 1930,  
AFSCME, New York  
Neal Bratcher, dir., Dist. Council  
19, AFSCME, Ill.  
Richard Broadhead, vice-pres., Calif.  
Fed. of Teachers  
Joel Brooks, pres., Local 1902, Amer.  
Fed. of Teachers, Diablo Va., Ca.  
Cesar Chavez, pres., United Farm  
Workers  
John Craig, pres., Local 575, Amal.  
Meat Cutters, Boston  
Harold Day, pres., Local 727, Amer.  
Fed. of Teachers, Bassett, Ca.  
Howard Deck, pres., Local 590, AFSCME,  
Philadelphia  
Michigan Fed. of Teachers  
Michael Delligatti, pres., Local 86,  
Amal. Clothing Workers, Pittsburgh  
Detroit Welfare Workers Union  
Ruth Ellinger, Educ. and Research Dir.,  
Texas AFL-CIO  
Henry Foner, pres., Fur, Leather and  
Mach. Workers Joint Bd., N.Y.  
Moe Foner, exec.-sec'y, Local 1199  
Drug and Hosp. Union, New York  
Russell Gibbons, ed., Steel Labor,  
United Steelworkers Union  
Jack Havelly, Sr., Brotherhood of Rail-  
way Clerks, Fort Pitt Lodge 719

David Hoffman, exec. dir., Local 96,  
AFSCME, San Francisco  
Joseph E. Illick, pres., Local 1352,  
Amer. Fed. of Teachers, S.F.  
Patrick Knight, pres., Local 371, Soc.  
Services Empl. Union, New York  
David Livingston, pres., Dist. 65,  
Distributive Workers, New York  
Eliseo Medina, int'l exec. bd., United  
Farm Workers  
Mike Nye, vice-pres., Calif. Fed.  
of Teachers  
Gilbert Padilla, nat'l sec'y-treas.,  
United Farm Workers  
Paula Reimers, vice-pres., Local  
2000, Amer. Fed. of Teachers, Det.  
Auda Romine, exec. bd., Local 427,  
Amal. Meat Cutters, Cleveland  
Ralph Schwartz, vice-pres., Local  
1244, Amer. Fed. of Teachers, Minn.  
Charles P. Scott, Jr., vice-pres.,  
Calif. Fed. of Teachers  
Robert Kenneth Shayler, pres., Local  
1285, Am. Fed. of Teach., San Leandro  
Local 535, Soc. Services Employees  
Union, California  
Don Stillman, ed., United Mine  
Workers Journal  
Jim Vallas, vice-pres., Serv. Empl.  
Int'l Union, Local 585, Pittsburgh  
Jack Weir, pres., Cleveland Newspaper  
Guild  
Rexford Weng, vice-pres., Massachusetts  
Labor Council  
John T. Williams, Local 208, Int'l  
Brotherhood of Teamsters, Los Angeles  
Paterson Wiman, pres., Local 827,  
Amer. Fed. of Teachers, Vallejo, Ca.

(organizations for identification only)

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RESOLUTION #9  
"SUPPORT OF THE  
POLITICAL RIGHTS DEFENSE FUND"

MICHIGAN FEDERATION OF TEACHERS  
40TH ANNUAL CONVENTION  
MAY 3-4, 1974

- WHEREAS, In 1972, Lori Paton, a 16 year-old New Jersey high school student wrote to the Socialist Workers Party for information about their campaign to use in a school term paper, and was subsequently harassed by the FBI, who discovered her name by monitoring all mail received at the party headquarters, and
- WHEREAS, Civil liberties attorney Leonard Boudin has filed a suit in Federal Court, citing nearly 200 specific cases similar to that of Lori Paton, in which government agents have harassed and intimidated members, supporters and persons who have merely come into contact with the Socialist Workers Party and the Young Socialist Alliance, and
- WHEREAS, The Boudin suit calls for a permanent injunction restraining all government agencies from conducting wiretapping, harassment, and intimidation of the plaintiffs and calls for the revelation of secret documents on all such government police-state type actions, and
- WHEREAS, The Political Rights Defense Fund has been established to publicize the civil liberties issues involved in this case and to raise money for legal expenses, and
- WHEREAS, The issues involved in this case affect the rights of all Americans, and support to the Political Rights Defense Fund does not imply agreement with the political views of the plaintiffs, and
- WHEREAS, As teachers we are particularly concerned that our students and ourselves have the right and opportunity to explore different political ideas without fear of harassment or intimidation, and
- WHEREAS, As trade unionists we particularly value the right of freedom of association, without which no union or political organization is free to function and therefore condemn any attempts by the government to interfere with that right, NOW THEREFORE BE IT
- RESOLVED: that the Michigan Federation of Teachers endorses the goals of the Political Rights Defense Fund to publicize the civil liberties issues involved in this case and to raise money for legal expenses, and be it further
- RESOLVED: that this resolution be submitted to the national convention of the AFT for action by their organization.

Submitted by:

Wayne County Community College  
Federation of Teachers #2000