

What follows is a report on those areas of the country that are moving ahead on developing Local Centers. Attached is a synopsis of a report done by comrades in the LA area after a visit by CN last fall. It is included in the report in order to help give more guidance to the effort in other areas of the country. Much thanks to the LA folks for their diligent work!

1. Southern California: (Now called the S. Calif. L. C.) The forces in this area have been leading the rest of the O.C. in getting Local Centers off the ground. In short, the forces here which presently compose the S. Committee are the Socialist Organizing Committee (SOC), the Los Angeles Organizing Committee (LAOC), and the Los Angeles Work Group (LAWG). They have initiated contact with the Guardian Club and two study group collectives. Co-chairs of the Steering Committee have been selected (because of geographic considerations) for a 3-month transitional period. A Recording Secretary has been chosen and regular minutes are being sent to the National Steering Committee of the O.C. Someone is also responsible for finances. A dues formula, checking account, child care fund - are all being worked out. A Post Office Box has been established (write: Boxholder, P.O. Box 525, Bell, CA, 90201). Duties of the chair have been charted and criteria for leadership has been decided.

The following tasks have been outlined:

- Primary:**
1. Identifying, assessing and contacting forces in the area to be brought into work of the Local Center.
 2. Consolidate unity in the O.C. around the 18 Principles of Unity.
 3. Organizing discussions to unity perspective of the O.C. and the S.C. of the Local Center - particularly around the Draft Plan for the Ideological Center.
- Secondary:**
1. Sponsor forums and discussions of concrete work.
 2. Present films and activities for advanced workers and people from communities.
 3. Hold forums on political questions.
 4. Ongoing investigation of the communist movement in the area.

To date the activities of the S. Calif. Local Center have included:

1. An initial informal party using the sign-up list from the Silbur-Newlin debate last summer;
2. An informal discussion between the Guardian Club members and the Local Center members;
3. Organizing an outreach approach to forces in the area - mainly anti-imperialist formations in order to make presentations on what the O.C. is all about and the work of the Local Center;
4. Decision reached to contribute to the work of the Souther Africa Support Committee Newsletter in the name of the Local Center;
5. A forum and discussion is being organized on the following topics:
 - a. Principle 18 - history of struggle and overview
 - b. OC membership and conference representation
 - c. Struggle against racism within the O.C.
 - d. Local Centess
 - e. OCIC Proposal as amended
 - f. Concept of an Ideological Center

Local Centers Progress Report - Page 2

It was decided that this forum and discussion would be mainly internal to L.C. members and those forces close to it.

II. Seattle:

Seattle has brought together several people in the area who have been involved in various anti-imperialist projects in the area and who agree with the 18 Principles of Unity. The core is in the process of forming a Steering Committee structure. The Guardian Club is also an informal part of the process. Two forums on international line have been presented jointly with the Guardian Club. These forums have been highly successful, attracting as many as 40 independent Marxist-Leninists from Seattle. (Note: the forums were not advertised publicly - invitation only.) The forums were also successful in another way - they served to isolate the incorrect international line of the "S.U. is the main danger" variety.

Seattle has been exemplary in executing a systematic plan for pushing ahead the work of the O.C. at the local level in a city which has not had a high concentration of M-L organization.

III. Detroit:

Progress toward building a local center has been slower than originally expected. The leadership of DMLO and DSC have been meeting together every 2 to 3 weeks since last Spring to prepare a 4-part presentation of the politics of the anti-"left" tendency. What has, in fact, happened, is that the political differences behind the split in DMLO of over a year ago have been emerging. IN an effort to get off dead center, a plan for moving ahead is being worked out between the 2 organizations.