

POLITICAL COMMITTEE MINUTES No. 14, May 26, 1966

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

Chairman: Dobbs.

AGENDA:

1. Boston Communication.
2. Detroit Report.
3. Antiwar Report.
4. International.
5. Socialist Scholars Conference.

1. BOSTON COMMUNICATION

Shaw reported request from Boston branch for clarification of Shaw's letter in answer to protests of Kelly and Dante about material printed in non-union shop.

Recommendation of Administrative Committee:
that Kerry be assigned to go to Boston and determine all the facts and circumstances surrounding this issue, and that no action be taken pending Kerry's report.

Discussion: Kerry, Novack, Hansen, Dobbs.

Motion: To concur with recommendation

Carried.

2. DETROIT REPORT

Dobbs reported that two surviving comrades are now definitely out of danger but that process of recovery will be long, due to extent of injuries. Morale is very good.

Emergency committee set up to raise money to help meet expenses involved; also legal aid being sought.

Memorial meeting in Detroit well attended and spirit good.

Assassin has been charged with first-degree murder and is to be arraigned today. Line of news media has been to sensationalize case and then drop it. Our job is to underline the political side of case. Comrades in Detroit will follow-up on all angles.

Dobbs to report to combined New York party and youth meeting.

3. ANTIWAR REPORT

Novack reported on meeting he and Hansen had with Deutscher concerning antiwar movement.

Supplementary report by Hansen.

Discussion: Halstead, Kerry.

Barnes reported information received about Berkeley and Los Angeles meetings.

Discussion: Kerry, Halstead, Barnes, Novack, Hansen, DeBerry, Dobbs.

4. INTERNATIONAL

Hansen reported on letters and documents relating to SLL conference and expulsion of Spartacist group showing clearly the low level of internal life and lack of democracy in this group.

Proposed that material, plus article from French V.O. group invited to conference as observers, be put out in mimeographed form and made generally available.

Kerry reported that person who wrote one of main Wohlforth documents for conference has sent letter of resignation to Healy and has since joined Robertson's group.

Novack reported progress in project for youth observers to visit Mexico.

5. SOCIALIST SCHOLARS CONFERENCE

Novack reported on preliminary program covering three-day sessions; variegated staff for panels but no representative from SWP; reflects obvious attempt to exclude us. Efforts will continue to get such representation.

Meeting adjourned.