

P.O. Box 471, Cooper Station  
New York, New York 10003

Oct. 3, 1969

To All YSAers

Dear Comrades,

Enclosed is the Call for the Ninth National Convention of the YSA. It should be read to all YSA members at the next local meeting. A full report on the plans for the convention, and for the mobilization of the YSA around building the convention into the largest and most successful convention in our history, will be sent out soon.

Comradely,

*Larry Seigle*  
Larry Seigle  
National Chairman

CALL FOR THE NINTH NATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE  
YOUNG SOCIALIST ALLIANCE

The National Committee hereby calls the Ninth National Convention of the Young Socialist Alliance to convene in Minneapolis on Saturday, December 27, and to continue through four days (Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday, December 28, 29, and 30, 1969).

The following is the proposed agenda for the convention:

International Report  
Political Report  
Antiwar Report  
Black and Other Third World Struggles Report  
Young Socialist Report  
Organizational Report  
Election of National Committee

Pre-Convention Discussion

Written discussion will be opened with the publication of the first bulletin. The pre-convention discussion bulletin is open for all YSA members on the subjects listed in the agenda or others which they may wish to present for the consideration of the YSA.

Local membership meetings shall be arranged for oral discussion of the various points on the agenda and may also be arranged for discussion of any of the articles submitted to the pre-convention discussion bulletin.

Convention Assessments

A convention assessment of \$2.00 shall be levied to help cover the expenses of the convention, the payment of which is obligatory for every member.

Basis of Representation

1. Representation from the locals shall be as follows: one delegate for the first 5 members and one additional delegate for each 5 additional members of major fraction thereof (3 or more constituting a major fraction).

2. Each local having 5 or more members is entitled to a voting delegate.

3. Delegates are to be elected by the locals in accordance with the actual number of members in good standing who have been admitted to the YSA prior to December 15, 1969, and who have paid their convention assessment. "Good standing" according to our constitution is defined as follows: Article III, Section 5, "Any member more than one month in arrears in dues ceases to be a member in good standing. Only members in good standing may vote or hold office in the YSA. Any member more than three months in arrears may be dropped after

notification."

4. Locals organized after December 15, 1969, are entitled to send fraternal delegates to the convention.

5. Members admitted to the YSA after December 15, 1969, are entitled to a voice in the local discussion, but no vote on resolutions or in the selection of delegates.

6. Members must be present and voting in person at the meeting where the election of delegates takes place. The only exception is for members whose absence is for a substantial reason such as being sick or working, and who send an unambiguous written statement of their positions or delegate choices.

7. Members transferring from one local to another after December 15, 1969, must vote in the local from which they transferred.

Proportional Representation

Where there is a division on national policy within a local unit, election of delegates in the local is to be on the basis of proportional representation. Delegates shall be elected on the basis of a vote on a resolution or statement made in writing and submitted to the local unit for a vote. Abstentions in no case count as votes.

The following table show the modified proportional system to be followed if division occurs.

<u>Number of qualified members in unit:</u>	<u>Total number of delegates the unit is entitled to:</u>	<u>Minimum number of those voting for a minority to get:</u>		
		<u>1 del.</u>	<u>2 del.</u>	<u>3 del.</u>
3-7	1	-*	-	-
8-12	2	1/3**	-	-
13-17	3	1/4	-*	-
18-22	4	1/5	2/5	-
23-27	5	1/6	1/3	-*
28-32	6	1/7	2/7	3/7
in general:				
5n+2	n	1/n+1	2/n+1	3/n+1

(\*in the special case of a unit entitled to an odd number of delegates and where the division in unit voting is exactly equal, 2 delegates with 1/2 vote each will be elected.)

(\*\*for example, in a unit of 8 qualified members, 8 times  $1/3$  equals  $2-2/3$  members; therefore a minimum of 3(not2) would get a delegate. If the unit had 11 qualified members then 11 times  $1/3$  equals  $3-2/3$  members, so 4 voting minority members would be the minimum to get a delegate. The same consideration holds true for figuring all other fractions in the above table.)

In the event a unit undergoes a more than two-way division, that unit will elect delegates on a directly proportional basis, i.e., in a unit entitled to n delegates, at least  $1/n$  fraction of qualified members must have voted for a position for that position to get a delegate.

After a division has been established, those voting each way will select in caucus their own delegations and report them to the unit as a whole for acknowledgment. Where no division has taken place the election of delegates will proceed normally by the unit as a whole.

National Committee  
Young Socialist Alliance

October 3, 1969

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To All YSAers

Dear Comrades,

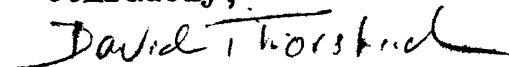
The status of the "Venceremos Brigade" is unclear at this point. The political evolution of the various SDS factions, the antagonisms among them, and their inability to organize anything on a national scale have all contributed to the confusing situation. The latest reports we have indicate that the deadline for applications has been set back to Oct. 7, and that the dates for the two sections of the trip have also been pushed back, with the first trip now scheduled to leave in the middle of November and returning in January, and the second trip leaving in mid-January and returning in March.

Because of the many questions about the Brigade at this point, we are proceeding to organize our participation on a tentative basis. All comrades who have applied should be advised that their applications are, at this point, to be considered tentative, and that the final decision on whether or not YSA members will actually go with the Brigade will be made by the NEC when the situation is clarified.

We have also decided that the YSA's participation in the Brigade will be limited to the second trip. No YSAers will go on the first trip. There are two reasons for this decision. First, as now scheduled, the first trip will be in Cuba at the time of the YSA convention, making it impossible to arrange a delegation without interfering with the convention. Secondly, we will have more information on which to base a final decision about our participation. Therefore all comrades who have applied for the first trip must write immediately to the Venceremos Brigade and tell them to change the application to the second trip.

If there are any questions about this, comrades should call the N.O. immediately.

Comradely,



David Thorstad  
YSA National Office