

MINUTES OF COALITION MEETING - MAY 30

Evaluation of last educational - Several criticisms and suggestions for strengthening educationals: There was a general lack of preparation for the educational; the location and physical layout was not conducive to a good meeting; the question: "What can people do to help in the struggle," was not really answered; the educational was too dull and unfocused and should be livelier.... Suggestions to improve future educationals: 1. Better preparation, need a committee to take responsibility, speakers should be better prepared by the Coalition so that their speeches will coincide with the particular objectives of the educational. 2. We should be clear about who we are trying to reach. The idea of community centered educational decentralized educationals. 3. More outreach for educationals beyond "movement" groups.

Political Discussion of the orientation and direction that the Coalition should take - Argument as to whether an explicitly political discussion was necessary or not. The idea of a separate meeting with the sole purpose of hashing out political differences and points of unity. The following areas were identified by people as important to cover: 1. Role of longshoremen in the struggle. 2. Congressional action and the repeal of the Byrd amendment. 3. What is to be the nature of the Coalition's outreach in the Phila. area? 4. The expansion of the stop imports campaign beyond Rhodesian goods. 5. Importance of racism as an issue in the struggle. 6. How to make the connection between the exploitation and oppression of U.S. people and the people of Zimbabwe. 6. Need to discuss the internal dynamics and practice of the Coalition. 7. What does it mean to say that the Coalition is an anti-imperialist grouping. 8. Need for organizational structure in the Coalition.

People were encouraged to write up their thinking or position (either of themselves as individuals or as representatives of a particular organization) for future discussion. Either the Coalition will discuss these positions during regular meetings or at special meetings set aside explicitly for that purpose. There was general agreement that the focus of the Coalition was on and in support of the entire liberation struggle in southern Africa. Jerry S. and Simeon W. were designated temporary co-chairpeople of the Coalition and Mark K. as temp. secretary. Generally the task of the co-chairs is to oversee and coordinate the various activities of the Coalition, maintain national correspondence, and chair and set agendas for meetings. The secretary is to keep and distribute minutes of the Coalition meetings. A committee was formed to look into the feasibility of setting up an educational featuring Leon Dash for the middle of June. Jerry S. is to give main presentation at Resistance Dinner, June, 24. The Coalition agreed to give whatever support it could to upcoming June 15th meeting to publicize mass death from famine in Ethiopia. Rosa agreed to be main contact person for the Coalition. Also July 26 (anniversary of the Cuban revolution) celebration which this year features support of Chilean people against the recent fascist coup. Tony M. and others said they would go to coming meeting. Picketing of the African Neptune(?), May 31, suspected of carrying Rhodesian goods was announced by Simeon. Need to do more and expanded work on the waterfront was discussed. Next meeting of Coalition set for June 11, 7:30 at 58 North 3rd St.

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