

LIBERATION
SUPPORT
MOVEMENT
CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE 1. Name.

The Name of this organization is "Liberation Support Movement" (LSM).

ARTICLE 2. Aims and Objectives.

The major objective of the LSM is to provide concrete and meaningful support to genuine national liberation movements and struggles within the U.S.-dominated imperialist system. Such support is to consist primarily of essential supplies, research and publicity, and technical aid.

Within North America vast human and other resources are at our disposal to serve the pressing needs of imperialism's super-exploited masses in their just struggles to achieve genuine political, economic and cultural independence. Such struggles, and the peoples engaged in them, are in a very real sense our own. Though of different national, ethnic and linguistic groupings, we are all one people with- in the American empire. The victories against exploitation and oppression achieved by our comrades in the "countryside" of the Empire serve to hasten the total destruction of the imperialist system. They thus bring those who dwell in the "metropole" of the American empire closer to their own decisive victories and liberation.

We believe that far too little practical and fraternal assistance has been given in support of national liberation movements by North Americans who are both capable and, in theory, desirous of providing such vitally needed support. The Liberation Support Movement was established in order to help resolve this glaring contradiction between theory

and practice, between the potentiality and actuality of our contribution to the anti-imperialist struggle.

ARTICLE 3. LSM Branches.

Liberation Support Movement Branches are to be organized throughout North America in order to implement the above stated aims and objectives. Each such branch will (1) contain no fewer than six members, (2) agree to abide by the Constitution and act in accordance with the policies of the LSM, (3) pay yearly dues of \$50.00 to the LSM Executive Committee - the first year's being payable within three months of the branch's formal recognition by the Executive Committee, (4) elect a chairman or other responsible person to represent it on the Steering Committee, (5) submit a Branch Constitution, prospectus of support activities and regular monthly progress reports to the LSM Executive Committee, (6) engage in regular critical evaluation of its work, and (7) make recommendations and critical suggestions regarding LSM policy and programs through its chairman to the Executive and Steering Committees.

ARTICLE 4. Associate Members.

With the approval of the Executive Committee, any individual or group in agreement with the aims and objectives of the LSM may become an Associate Member of the Liberation Support Movement. Each such Associate Member will be required to pay yearly dues of \$25.00 to the LSM Executive Committee and will be entitled to receive all LSM bulletins and other publications.

ARTICLE 5. Affiliated Groups.

The LSM will endeavor to establish fraternal working relations with other metropolitan groups throughout the world whose aims and objectives are similar or complementary to its own. After formal-

izing its relations with the LSM through the Executive Committee, such a group will be called an Affiliated Group of the Liberation Support Movement. An Affiliated Group may at any time petition the LSM Steering Committee for LSM Branch status.

ARTICLE 6. The Steering Committee.

The LSM Steering Committee will be composed of all LSM branch chairmen and will meet at least once a year. The Steering Committee constitutes the central policy forming and decision-making body of the Liberation Support Movement. At its meetings the Steering Committee will (1) discuss and evaluate reports from the Executive Committee, (2) discuss and decide upon suggestions, recommendations and resolutions from the branches, (3) critically evaluate the general progress of the LSM, (4) hear, discuss and decide upon motions moved and seconded by its members, (5) elect, or reaffirm in office, the Steering Committee Chairman and any other officers it deems necessary, and (6) elect, or reaffirm in office, members of the Executive Committee.

The Steering Committee Chairman and other officers will be elected by a majority vote of Steering Committee members. After a critical review by Steering Committee members, the Chairman and other officers may be reaffirmed in office by a majority vote. If any officer fails to be reaffirmed in this manner, new elections to the office in question will be held immediately.

Expulsion of a member from the Steering Committee requires a formal hearing by the Steering Committee sitting as a review board, and a secret ballot vote to expel by $3/4$ of all Committee members. Expulsion of a member from the Steering Committee will necessitate the election of a new chairman by the branch affected. An entire branch may be expelled from the LSM by a vote of $3/4$ of all Steering Committee members.

A 3/4 vote will also be required to sever relations with a Liberation Movement, Affiliated Group or Associate Member.

ARTICLE 7. The Executive Committee.

The LSM Executive Committee will be composed of the Steering Committee Chairman and as many other officers and members as deemed necessary by the Steering Committee. Executive Committee members will be elected by the Steering Committee at its first formal meeting in May 1970 and, thereafter, whenever it is deemed necessary by the Steering Committee (see Article 6).

The LSM Executive Committee will (1) implement the LSM Constitution and policy decisions of the Steering Committee on a day-to-day basis, (2) maintain an LSM Headquarters office in North America, (3) direct the work of an LSM Information Center, (4) represent the LSM in its relations with national liberation movements, affiliated groups and associate members, (5) send regular general reports to LSM branches, (6) act as LSM general treasurer and keep accounts on LSM financial matters, (7) analyse and maintain records of reports from LSM branches, fraternal liberation movements and affiliated groups, (8) submit a general report to the Steering Committee at its annual meetings, (9) convene regular and emergency meetings of the Steering Committee.

ARTICLE 8. Constitutional Amendments.

To amend the Liberation Support Movement Constitution will require an affirmative 2/3 vote of all Steering Committee members.

Ratified May 1970

liberation support movement
branches

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