

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

November 27, 1974

TO ALL MEMBERS

Dear Comrades,

The racists in Boston have called for a mobilization against busing on Dec. 15. This increases the urgency and importance of the Boston Freedom March and support actions across the country.

Enclosed is a copy of a proposal for a national student teach-in to be held on Dec. 13 in Boston which was passed at a meeting of Massachusetts student leaders on November 24. The purpose of this teach-in is to build the Dec. 14 Freedom March on Boston. On Wednesday, Nov. 27, a student press conference was held in Boston at which student government leaders and leaders of Black student groups announced the call for the teach-in and the formation of the Student Committee for the Dec. 14 National March Against Racism. The Student Committee reports that posters and other materials will be issued shortly.

The YSA has endorsed the teach-in. The teach-in can help to build the Dec. 14 demonstration in several important ways. First, it is a direct call to action to students issued by student leaders and others. Through this call, local coalitions and campus committees can approach student governments, campus papers, and other student organizations with added authority to encourage their active participation -- including providing office facilities, supplies, and buses to send students to the Dec. 14 action in Boston or help build local sympathy actions in other cities. The New York University Student Council has already donated \$1,000 and a free bus.

The teach-in also provides a vehicle through which national leaders of the Black movement can be drawn into the December 14 protest. If Black leaders across the country agree to speak at this teach-in, it will enhance the authority and attractiveness of the Dec. 14 action. It will also aid in getting media publicity and drawing forces into building Dec. 14 in each local area. The speakers program at the teach-in can also help answer the political arguments of the racists and educate on the real issues involved.

Where it may help to broaden the action, we may want to encourage the formation of citywide student groups by local student leaders under the auspices of the national Student Committee. These committees could get office space in student government offices and generally help to speed up the process of building the broadest and largest possible participation in the teach-in and Dec. 14 demonstration. This has been done successfully in New York City.

We should encourage the Student Committees to approach all those who have endorsed or will be approached to endorse the Dec. 14 action to also endorse the teach-in as part of the weekend's activities. All endorsements should be phoned in immediately to the Boston Univ. Student Union office which is currently providing a headquarters for the national Student Committee: (617) 353-3642.

Where possible, some transportation may be organized in such a way that some people coming for Dec. 14 can arrive on Friday night for the teach-in. However, the teach-in will be attended primarily by people from New England. We can suggest that student leaders from every school be encouraged to send small delegations or individual representatives to the teach-in which will give it a truly national character and increase its impact.

Another new development in the building of the 14th is what seems to be a shift in the attitude of the Communist Party and Young Workers Liberation League in Massachusetts. As pointed out in a previous letter, the CP and YWLL were actively involved in building a local Nov. 30 Boston action. The group building the Nov. 30 action has now endorsed Dec. 14. This includes the Massachusetts branch of the National Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression.

This gives us an additional handle in drawing local branches of the CP and YWLL, NAARPR and people in the CP periphery into supporting the Dec. 13 teach-in and Dec. 14 demonstration. In every area, coalitions should seek the endorsement of these forces.

The YSA should also make a special point of discussing the importance of these protest actions with YWLL members and their contacts. We should tell YWLLers that they should rearrange the schedule of their national convention to be held in Philadelphia Dec. 13-16 in order that they can participate in the Dec. 13 and 14 actions. We should point out that it will be widely misunderstood if their convention is held in conflict with this important national anti-racist mobilization. Their participation can be an important factor in broadening out support and participation in the actions.

In several areas local coalitions have already been established to organize participation in the Boston Freedom March. Many other areas are having their first coalition organizing meetings during this week prior to Thanksgiving. In addition, local support actions have been called for the 14th by coalitions in St. Louis, Houston, Los Angeles, the Bay Area, Portland, and elsewhere.

It is very important that local groups planning to mobilize people to Boston be encouraged to immediately begin to sign people up for buses and sell tickets. Sometimes the best way to approach student governments and others for bus funds is to approach them with a list of students that have already signed up to go on buses. This shows the student governments that the action is real and that students on the campus feel that student activities fees should

be used to transport students to this important national political action.

The special YS Boston supplements and YSA buttons are being mailed out today. Areas that have not ordered these materials should call the National Office immediately. The National Office should be kept informed of the progress of building activities for the Dec. 13 and 14 actions. Copies of all publicity including leaflets and press coverage should be sent to the National Office and to the Boston YSA headquarters.

Conradely,

Ginny Hildebrand

Ginny Hildebrand
YSA National Office

PROPOSAL FOR A NATIONAL TEACH-IN TO BUILD STUDENT SUPPORT FOR
THE DECEMBER 14th MARCH AGAINST RACISM

Today in Boston, a racist school boycott, weekly mass demonstrations against "forced busing," and racist taunts and violence directed at Black students are the cornerstones of a movement which seeks to roll back and defeat desegregation of this city's schools.

What is at stake in Boston are gains won through years of struggle by the civil rights movements of the 1960's. The events in Boston are of national significance.

The civil rights movement that defeated Jim Crow in the South was aided by students all over the United States. A national demonstration against racism has now been called for Dec. 14 by Senator-elect William Owens and a broad range of civil rights, unions, and other community leaders. A local demonstration to help build it has been called for November 30. As students, we have an obligation to help build this national action. Our actions can be a substantial contribution to the success of the December 14 national mobilization

A national student teach-in should be held on December 13 to help build the December 14 national demonstration. Such a teach-in can dramatically explain why we march and help to mobilize the Boston community to participate in the demonstration. By featuring national and local civil rights, union, student, and other figures, it can help get publicity and focus attention on the December 14 march and rally. It can help to unmask the real aims of the so-called anti-busing movement and it can play a significant role in convincing the honest and decent forces in this area that they can and must stand up against the racist offensive.

The student movement should rekindle its support to the struggle for equal rights for Black people. The racist offensive is a challenge to us. We must pull the student movement together and say: March on November 30; Come to the National Teach-In Against Racism on December 13; ALL OUT FOR THE DECEMBER 14 NATIONAL MARCH AGAINST RACISM to show the world that the bigots do not own the streets of Boston.

ENDORSERS (selected up-dated list)

Noan Chonsky, Professor, MIT
 John Conyers, U.S. House Of Representatives, Michigan
The Collegiate, University of Massachusetts, Amherst
 Ronald Dellums, U.S. House of Representatives, California
 Walter W. Fauntroy, U.S. House of Representatives, Dist. of Columbia
 Mike Furick, President, Student Government, University of Pennsylvania
 Tony Graham, President, Afro-American Institute, Northeastern Univ.
 Robert Harper, Political Affairs Director, Harvard/Radcliffe Afro-American Student Association
 Kathy Kelly, President, National Student Association
 Willie McKinney, President, Student Government Association, Roxbury Community College
 Ray Sherbill, President, Student Union, Boston University
 Student Senate, University of Rhode Island
 Donald Williams, Chairman, Brandeis University Afro-American Society