

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

December 18, 1974

TO ALL ORGANIZERS AND AT-LARGE MEMBERS

Dear Comrades,

On Dec. 13, the YSA won a historic victory in the fight for democratic rights. In response to the YSA's request for a temporary injunction to halt the FBI's plan to spy on the YSA convention, Federal Judge Thomas Griesa enjoined the "Director of the FBI, his servants, agents, subordinates, including confidential informants ...from attending, surveilling, listening to, watching or otherwise monitoring" the YSA convention. As of the time of this mailing the government has not appealed the court's decision.

The Dec. 27 issue of The Militant will include extended coverage of the victory. The judge's decision will be printed in its entirety in a two-page spread along with several other news articles and analyses. The decision has already gotten coverage in the New York Times, the New York Post, and the Washington Post. In addition, the St. Louis YSA held a successful press conference on Dec. 17.

The unprecedented nature of this decision upholding the constitutional rights of socialists to be free of government harassment can be a tremendous asset in publicizing the convention. Wherever possible, comrades should either hold press conferences, send out press releases or call up people in the media. The Militant coverage can be used to put together press statements and other materials which could be given to the media.

The YSA also won another victory in defense of democratic rights on Dec. 15. The Army informed Steve Wattenmaker that it was going to take no action against him and was dropping its attempt to railroad him out of the Army reserves with a less than honorable discharge. Further information on the Wattenmaker case will be available at the convention.

Comradely,



Steve Wattenmaker
YSA National Office