

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

January 15, 1975

TO ALL ORGANIZERS, BOSTON WORK DIRECTORS AND AT-LARGE MEMBERS

Dear Conrades,

At our recent convention we projected mobilizing the YSA to build support for the Feb. 14-16 National Student Conference Against Racism. This conference and its decisions can help galvanize national student support for the rights of the Boston Black community. Its call to action can be the basis for drawing Black organizations, trade unions and other forces into a national effort to defend the democratic rights of Blacks in Boston and defeat the racists.

Local areas should get student committees recognized on the campuses and supported and funded by student governments. Committees can approach a wide range of student organizations, especially Black student groups for their endorsement and active participation in conference building activities. We should urge each organization to send representatives to the Boston conference including the campus press. Special efforts should be made to involve high school students in local committees.

Leafleting and postering at all the schools, campus meetings, speaking before campus organizations, in classes and dormitories will all be important ways of building the conference. Some areas may be able to organize forums or teach-ins with local speakers which would help to educate people on the issues of the struggle as well as focus attention on the conference. In some places it will be possible to relate the issues in Boston to local struggles against racism in the schools. Some conference building materials are available from the Boston Student Committee including a printed leaflet and the "Freedom Now" buttons that were sold at the Dec. 14 demonstration. The Boston Committee is in the process of obtaining new offices but can temporarily still be reached at (617) 353-3642 or by mail c/o Boston University Student Union, 775 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, Mass. 02215.

We want to encourage committees to gain the endorsements of prominent individuals, community, trade union, and other organizations for the conference. This will enhance the authority of the student conference and facilitate building broader local coalitions to organize for the actions it calls.

Well organized fund raising activities during the next few weeks will be important in order to broadly publicize the conference and bring the maximum number of activists. Student organizations, community groups, unions and sympathetic individuals can be approached for their financial support. We understand that a professional national fund appeal letter will soon be available to help local

areas in this work.

The discussions at the conference and its decisions will be important for the future course of this new movement for Black civil rights. We can anticipate that our opponents will attend the conference and attempt to derail this movement. Information about their activities locally that would give us an idea of which ones are coming to the conference and in what numbers should be sent to the National Office.

Our perspectives on non-exclusion, united front-type coalitions and mass action will all be discussed and debated at the conference. We need to begin to win activists to these perspectives now through individual discussions, sales of The Militant and YS, through YSA classes, etc. At the conference itself we will need maximum attendance of YSA members to insure the fullest and clearest possible political discussions. Local areas should especially plan to send as many Black comrades as possible.

Comrades who are heading up this work in the local areas should keep the National Office informed on the progress of conference building activities. Copies of all materials printed by the student committees, press coverage, endorsers, etc. should be sent to the National Office and to Maceo Dixon c/o YSA, 655 Atlantic Ave., Boston, Mass. 02111

Comradely,



Ginny Hildebrand
YSA National Office