

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

January 25, 1975

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

Dear Comrades,

The Boston NAACP, headed by Thomas Atkins, has endorsed the National Student Conference Against Racism. The NAACP is the most influential Black organization in Boston and was the initiator of the suit that brought about the court-ordered desegregation plan. This is a significant breakthrough for the Student Committee. Attached is a letter from Peter Seidman which explains this in more detail.

Local areas report good progress in building the Feb. 14-16 National Conference in Boston. Many areas have held their first Student Committee meetings on campus while others are planned as soon as classes resume.

The Detroit Student Committee, for example, is setting up meetings with area student governments where a Student Committee representative will present a report on the struggle in Boston and seek their endorsement, financial aid and active participation. The Student Committee in Atlanta is sending a representative to visit campuses in Athens, Georgia, and Knoxville and Nashville, Tennessee. Members of the Ann Arbor Student Committee attended a Huron Valley AFL/CIO meeting which endorsed the conference and contributed \$250 to the committee.

The Student Committee has also received endorsements from several important national figures recently including Coretta Scott King and Congressman Ronald V. Dellums. Jonathan Kozol, the author, has agreed to speak at meetings organized by Student Committees in Chicago, Philadelphia, Cleveland and New York. Leaders of the Boston Student Committee will be speaking in several cities during the next three weeks.

As we discussed at the YSA convention, we want to make a special effort to reach out and involve Black youth. This includes putting a special emphasis on high school work. Detroit has worked out a campaign to directly reach out work at three area high schools.

The Boston Student Committee is printing 50,000 special conference student mobilizers. This four-page tabloid will reprint some of the speeches given at the Dec. 13 National Student Teach-in as well as news about the upcoming conference. These will be available to local committees during the next week.

The conference itself, including the Friday night rally, the plenary sessions and workshops, will be a very important educational experience for all participants. All of the important questions raised by this struggle will be discussed including the significance of Boston for the struggle against racism, why all opponents of racism must rally behind support for implementing court-ordered desegregation through busing, the relationship of busing to struggles for community control, and, of course, the strategy for defeating the racist movement. There will also be workshops on implementing the decisions of the conference including how to build local Student Committees and broader coalitions and how the work of these committees can be related to other local struggles against racism.

We want to mobilize as many activists as possible, including our own members, to participate in these discussions at the conference.

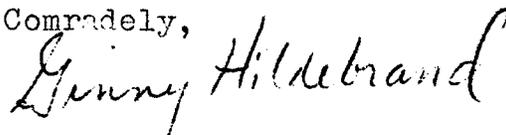
Many areas have also begun to organize post-conference meetings to discuss the conference decisions and to make local plans for building the actions called by the conference.

In the next few weeks, sales of The Militant and Young Socialist will be an important part of building the conference and discussing our ideas with supporters of the Black struggle. The Militant is running a series on the strategy to fight the racist attacks in Boston and the February Young Socialist includes several articles on different aspects of the struggle in Boston.

For the next three weeks, I'll be in Boston coordinating the YSA's national participation in conference building. Materials and reports from local areas should continue to be sent to both the YSA National Office and to myself or Maceo Dixon at the Boston YSA headquarters, 655 Atlantic Ave., Boston, Mass. 02111.

The Boston Student Committee has a new office: 720 Beacon St., Boston, Mass. 02215. The phone number is (617) 266-9665.

Comradely,



Ginny Hildebrand
YSA National Office