

Asian/Pacific Islanders Against the War
Coordinating Committee meeting 2/20/91

In attendance: Kazu Ijima, Sonya Zabala, Alex Hing, Joanie Chang, Margaret M. Chin, JoAnn Lum, Tsuh Yang Chen, Eulin Tung.

1. Assessment of 2/11 general meeting. People were very excited about the large turnout from diverse sectors of API people. However, the meeting dragged in the political discussion about U.S. intervention. Although there was a lot of discussion, there was not as great a participation by all who attended. It was suggested that people identify themselves and their organization, if any, when they speak (particularly when people are late). Some people who were lost in the discussion indicated that they may not return although they had initial interest. As much as possible, we should have discussion on our work rather than debate and we should focus on broad-based, unifying factors.

2. Amy should be commended for doing a good job on the minutes. The only corrections are: On page 1, there were 11 Columbia students and 25 New York labor busses. On page 2, we did not table the point calling for immediate ceasefire, but the discussion calling for U.S. withdrawal.

3. The draft statement was reviewed and the suggestions of the CC were incorporated in the updated draft.

4. The 2/17 demonstration was poorly organized, people were unable to hear the speeches. However, the Asians were well represented both in the Asian Contingent and throughout the march. There was extensive media coverage of the demo.

5. There was discussion on the National Campaign for Peace In the Middle East and the Coalition to Stop U.S. Intervention in the Middle East. We work with both groups and should have representatives to both groups. Specifically, we would like to have a representative at the national meeting of the Campaign in Washington, D.C. on 2/23. If no one else can go, Alex will represent us.

6. Future work. It was proposed and accepted that we focus our main work on the teach-in. It can be a means to pull ourselves together and give all the committees a focus. The people who signed up to work on the teach-in (four of whom are on the CC) by themselves are not enough to pull a large teach-in together. The entire body should be the teach-in committee and we should organize ourselves in order to pull off a successful event. It was suggested that we have the teach-in in one of our communities (Chinatown was a preference), and that it be a day-long affair consisting of 3 or 4 short plenary speakers and several workshops which would focus on issues of particular interest. Whoever can pull together a workshop should be encouraged to do so. It would be nice if we could record everything and put out a publication from the event. We would need a logistics committee, workshop

committees, entertainment committee, perhaps a food committee, as well as the publicity and research and info committees. It was raised that we need to be visible in all of our communities (native-language press releases and leaflets) in order to organize the anti-war sentiment.

7. We decided to rotate the co-chairs for the general meetings among the CC, but only one at a time for continuity. We also need to organize ourselves better so that we can do a mailing for each general meeting. For now, we will split up the sign-in sheet and phone people to mobilize for the next general meeting. It would be nice if Amy wants to continue with the minutes, if not we should have to choose a recording secretary for each meeting. Also, Bill needs help with the finances.

Proposed Agenda for 2/27/91 (total proposed time, 2 hours.)

1. Introductions. (5 min.)
2. Assessment of the war. (15 min.)
3. Approval of Minutes. (5 min.)
4. Approval of Statment of Purpose (and demands). (15 min.)
5. Coalition and Campaign Reports. (5 min.)
6. Teach-In. (1 hour)
7. Collection of finances, housekeeping. (5 min.)
8. Announcements. (10 min.)

Teach-In } 12-5
Plenary - 2 1/2 hrs.

March 16, Sat - Demonstration - N.Y.

" 19, Tues - Black Lobby Day - Albany

1. History of Gulf + the ME ^{Prof. Said} Coalition, Campaign to work with African Americans

2. U.S. Interventions in Asia

Thurs
April 4, 6, 7

3. How War Impacts on our Communities

African American Summit
African American Network

Palestine Solidarity
Comm.
Yasmin

April 4 -

Fast

" 6 -

Demonstration/Commemoration
to protest racism at the

" 7 -

Peace on Earth Sunday

5. Building an anti-war movement

4. Repression & Linking
it with harassment

Lin Soo Kim
5. Third World Work Shop