

Minutes of Executive Board Meeting
American Committee on Africa
September 12, 1960

9/12/60

Present: Donald Harrington (chairman) Nelson Bengston, Stanley Levison, John Murra, Bayard Rustin, William Scheinman, Adelaide Schulkind, Hugh Smythe, Hope Stevens, and Peter Weiss. Staff: George Houser, Chuck Stone, Catherine Raymond, Homer Jack.

The meeting was held in ACOA offices and began at 6 p.m.

Minutes: The minutes of the July 11th meeting were approved as mailed to Board members.

X Staff Matters: a. Chuck Stone, the new staff member, was introduced. b. A composite staff report was presented. It was agreed to try to mail these reports in advance of Board meetings. It was agreed that, in the future, there would be some disclaimer in mailing out pamphlets not published by the Committee. c. It was agreed that George Houser would reply in the negative to an invitation to become a sponsor of the Africa Service Institute. d. The ACOA reception for the Airlift was announced.

Finance Report: Reports of ACOA and of the Defense Fund were circulated. The cash position of ACOA as of September 1st was as follows: bills outstanding \$8,109, balance on hand, \$3,745, and current deficit, \$4,363. Expenses for September are estimated at \$8,000.

Tax Exemption: The ruling has been pending for four years. It was agreed to press for a decision, using, if possible, a number of friends of the Committee.

X Economic Development and Technical Cooperation Program of ACOA: Chuck Stone presented a preliminary outline of a plan. This is to survey employment possibilities in Africa for technicians, teachers, and administrators and the machinery available for processing such applications. An Advisory Committee was appointed, consisting of Peter Weiss and John Murra, to work with him in developing a proposal, the Committee having the prerogative to coopt non-board members.

Election of Board Members: Jeanne Noble and Victor Reuther were nominated by the Nominating Committee to be members of the Executive Board. They were unanimously elected by written ballot.

Defense Fund: After a lengthy discussion, it was recommended to the Finance Committee, as trustees of the Fund, that a sum be sent to Kenneth Kaunda of Northern Rhodesia in relation to other demands upon the Fund.

Sanctions Against South Africa: It was agreed to refer the monograph prepared at our request by Prof. Thomas Hovet, Jr. of New York University to the Steering Committee for general approval before being sent with a covering letter to all U.N. missions.

Michael Scott: A request was made to find him housing while he will be attending the 15th General Assembly and there was a short discussion of his visa problems.

X Diplomats from New African Missions to the U.N.: It was agreed to try to arrange a small social dinner sometime during the year for each permanent representative from the new African states at the U.N.

Congo Statement: It was agreed to refer the position paper on the Congo to the Steering Committee for further discussion and possible release in some form.

Literature Program: During the summer the Harris pamphlet on Mozambique was reprinted and "Action Against Apartheid" was published. A pamphlet on Angola is in press and it is hoped to reprint the one on South West Africa. A pamphlet on South Africa has been commissioned and one by Ambassador Espinoza of Mexico may be printed if a subsidy can be found. The finances for the pamphlet program are encouraging, in that the anticipated loss for the year will become a surplus plus. The budget for the first four issues of the new Africa Today shows that the deficit for 1960 in this category will be less than expected.

Speakers Bureau: Work is continuing on a list of ACOA speakers both on Africa generally and on South Africa. Also plans are continuing for nation-wide speaking tours of one or more persons during 1960-61.

X ACOA Fund-Raising Banquet: There was a short report of preliminary plans by the Finance Committee and staff to arrange a banquet early in December.

Next Meeting: This will be held on Monday, November 14th, at 5:45 p.m. in our offices.

Respectfully submitted,
Homer A. Jack