CONFIDENTIAL
Minutes: Southern Africa Committee, NSCF, October 15, 1965

The fourth meeting of the Southern Africa Committee of the NSCF was held at noon on October 15, 1965 in the fifth floor conference room of the Interchurch Center. Bill Minter, Chairman, outlined the agenda, which consisted of reports from the various committees.

CHURCH:
1. Bill announced there is to be a meeting with Dr. Hunter of the NCC on Monday, October 18, to discuss specific proposals to be made on Southern Africa at the General Board meeting of the NCC in December.

The International Affairs Commission plans to have a special representative on South Africa to the World Order Conference, and has passed a resolution on South Africa therefore it would be wise if we found out the general content of the resolution and the activities of the IAC (Dr. John Tomlinson, staff member of the African area is Chairman of the panel of experts preparing the resolution)

Our committee can work out various proposals and have them presented at the Board meeting via other contacts. These proposals should not just repeat the other policy directives we have given to the NCC but should be more specific; including:

a) Suggest ways for the NCC to become involved in Defense and Aid. Possible inroads might be made by the fact that the Commission on Religion and Race may evolve into a Human Rights Commission with broader scope and more possibilities to act in the realm of Defense and Aid, which seems to be the one area where the NCC has not acted fully as yet.

b) We could make proposals for the Church Treasurers Committee; Investment Consultation: Economic Responsibility of the Churches.

c) The Washington Office of the NCC could be influential in the political realm and help with the March emphasis of the Consultative Council.

d) Education thrusts should continue and expand within the NCC structure.

e) Help could be given by the NCC to the March Emphasis plans.

2. Other areas of Church concern include; investigating the WCC’s Emergency Program for Africa and concentrating on work with people in the denominations since we cannot expect everything to filter down from national organizations. We do have contacts with a number of denominations but these should be expanded.

Note: In a recent issue of World Outlook, published by the Board of Missions of the Methodist Church there is an article on South Africa by Amy Lee.

3. We must contact our representatives to the World Order Conference about the activities of the International Affairs Commission.

NON-STUDENT, NON-CHURCH:
1. March Emphasis: Bill met with George Houser and other members of the American Committee on Africa and presented our prospectus for the March Emphasis. It was received favorably, and concerning the Washington action Mr. Houser stressed a smaller conference with emphasis on congressional and executive briefings.
A meeting of the Consultative Council will be held the first week of November at which time a proposal will be made for a March Emphasis, hopefully by several groups concerned. Formerly he had met with NSA members - NSA is going to revise our prospectus and take the responsibility for preparing it. Before it is presented our Committee will be able to examine and approve it. The two NSA officers, Gil Kulick and Hal Kovacs are very interested in the project and have connections with the National Union of African Students.

NSCF and NSA will be jointly responsible for campus activities during the March Emphasis, including three main functions: information; fund raising; and a letter-writing campaign to government officials. The NSA is willing to publish a newsletter on Student Action and will do the major mailing for the March Emphasis to all concerned student groups. We will send them our address list. The NSA is not limited to working via student governments but is able to utilize any interested body on a campus. In this way it is hoped that the March Emphasis on the Campuses will be coordinated via the NSA.

We will conduct three stages of our own in relation to mailings and the March Emphasis that is sent out our initial mailings to our constituency; then the NSA mailing will be sent, and finally if we think a specific campus can act in a particular way we can separately urge them to do thus.

There was some discussion on the role of demonstrations during March; of the pros and cons of demonstrating against economic involvement of companies as opposed to those against the government's policy, and it was generally concluded that local demonstrations against US government involvement do not have the impact of those against specific companies. We do not have a large and strong enough constituency to organize a demonstration (s) ourselves, but we should look into certain interested members of SDS. NSA is still continuing discussions with Chase.

Judy Benion will meet with interested committee members on Tuesday, October 19, to talk about the ACCA sponsored summer research findings.

CONSTITUENCY:
Sharon Gorman talked about interested groups in the metropolitan area, such as New York chapter of SNCC; and others. We must find out about these groups and suggest to them what they would do in March. We should look into the Columbia Independent Committee on Vietnam, African Committee.

INFORMATION:
The material was sent to Mr. Van Voorhis, Secretary of the UCCF, in St. Louis. Hopefully we can utilize some of this printed material for March Emphasis information.

The next meeting will be held on Friday, October 22, at noon in the Sixth floor conference room of the Interchurch Center.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet I. MacLaughlin

SAC:bg
Oct.20.65