

Workers Solidarity Alliance

U.S. Section of the International Workers Association

International Secretary

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REPORT TO THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE DISCUSSION BULLETIN

Dear comrades:

Greetings once again! We hope that this report finds all of our comrades in the D.A.M. and the A.S.F. well and active.

Members of the W.S.A. have been keeping busy on a number of fronts since our last report. Let us reference to our Convention report (attached) for an overall view of what our membership has been up to over the last year. Below please find some supplementary comments and information.

Our membership since the last report has remained constant. WSA membership hovers around 35. But as a direct result of contacts made at the San Francisco general "Anarchist Gathering" this past July several new contacts have been made. New contacts have been by other local groups and individuals as well and we are hoping that our concerted 1990 membership drive net some new members as well.

Seperate from this (but hopefully there will be some residual effects) WSA members, at the Anarchist Gathering proposed the formation of a non-sectarian, multi-organizational "Anarchist Labor Network". This proposal was accepted, with others thinking along similiar lines, and there are currently 36 individual and organizations supporting the Network. Out of this formation has also come the "Anarchist Labor Bulletin" (formally "The Seditionist"-- P.O.B 210095, San Fransisco, CA 94121-0095, \$8.50 (US) yearly).

The purpose of the Anarchist Labor Network is to "... hopefully get anarchist unionists working together on projects of mutual concern and sharing advice and information." In some respects, though not all, this project has its roots in the previously proposed WSA "Common Program Initiative" which attempted to get anarchist and libertarian unionists to work together in an effort to combat bureaucratic unionism and promote ideas and activities from a class struggle libertarian basis. This project was still born and we hope that the Anarchist Labor Network will begin to get the scattered and diverse class struggle anarchists to minimally coordinate actives, where possible and carry out its stated objectives.

Missing from our Convention Report is the portion of our organizational discussion which dealt strictly with workplace organizing. Most agreed that it was a fruitful and productive (and thought provoking) discussion. Unlike either the A.S.F. or the D.A.M., the WSA does not have industrial commissions or active

industry-wide associations. Despite the fact that we have comrades active in a number of sectors.

We discussed and debated the merits and de-merits of "cold" organizing a shop, office or sector. "Cold" organizing simply means going to an unorganized establishment without any contacts or organic base. It was generally agreed that this is not the way to go about our work. It was agreed that organic ties need to exist in order to build some form of base.

The topic of whether the WSA is a union or could be a union was also discussed. It was basically agreed that this subject still needs more discussion but it was generally agreed that WSA's efforts should be directed at helping comrades to form independent organizations and networks in their particular industry or service. To this end, in part, it was agreed to list contacts in "ideas & action" for the electronics, office, health-care and production workers. It is also hoped that internally such WSA members will begin to network and develop ideas to get the word out within their particular field.

It is with pleasure to report that some of our comrades who are office employees have formed OFFICE WORKERS UNITED and are attempting to organize an independent union of office workers in San Francisco (see attachment).

Other WSA members are currently involved in fights, negotiations, and organizing campaigns among public workers, electronic workers and health care workers.

On the international scene New York and Indiana WSA played host to the IWA Secretary this past July. His visit to the US was both enjoyable and productive. Ralph was able to meet with some members of the IWW and he was assured by the IWW that they are not interested in joining any international formation sponsored by the SAC or Spanish renovados (CGT). The IWW, however, said that due to historical relations between them and the SAC that the IWW will maintain such relations and will probably send a delegate to the SAC's international conference to be held this year.

Also on the international scene, the WSA International Secretary has issued a new periodic publication called SOUTH AFRICAN NEWS. This publication deals strictly with labor events. Copies of said publication have been sent to your respective International Secretaries. Local groups/individuals may also receive SOUTH AFRICAN NEWS for \$10.(US) per year. IMO's or cash only (IMO's made out to "M.Miller").

Also on the publication scene, we continue to publish "ideas & action", (A) Solidarity Reminder (Tennessee WSA), our internal Discussion Bulletin(monthly), a periodic internal ORGANIZERS & ACTIVISTS BULLETIN and many leaflets published by local comrades.

Yours in solidarity,
WORKERS SOLIDARITY ALLIANCE
International Workers Association

WSA 1989 CONVENTION

Minutes

LOCAL REPORTS:

San Francisco — Members of the San Francisco group have been active on the Free Moses Mayakiso Committee and helped organize a fundraiser and demonstration. They have also been active in Neither East Nor West and have helped organize two fundraising events, with the proceeds going to Polish anarchist projects including "Spray Paint for Poland." They have also been busy with production of *ideas & action*.

San Diego — Bill has been working with Borderlands Antiauthoritarian Community. They have produced and distributed leaflets on Repetitive Stress Injury and sponsored monthly meetings to discuss various topics. They have also been working on the Daily Impulse and contributing to and helping to distribute New Indicator.

New York — Our four New York members have been issuing leaflets (some have appeared in past issues of the DB), doing strike support for the Eastern Airlines strikers, and participating in Neither East Nor West activities, the largest of which drew 50 people at the Polish consulate.

Groups/individuals not represented at the convention:

Denver — Gary Cox has been active in the IWW and Hormel support

Boston — has been sponsoring occasional forums, often in cooperation with the Socialist Party + IWW

Richmond — We have one active member who is involved in Central America support work and is planning on holding forums on Anarchism and Anarcho-Syndicalism.

Charleston, WV — Gordon has been active in supporting the miners strike and has been distributing literature on direct action, organizing strategies and anarchism.

Knoxville — The group in Knoxville has been quite active and have been holding regular forums, distributing literature, issuing leaflets, and have volunteered to host the next WSA national convention.

Texas — Vince attended the COB (Brazilian IWA affiliate) convention and has been making contacts with South and Central American anarchists.

Ft. Wayne — Nick has been active in a direct action oriented group opposed to "Opposition Rescue"; he also attended the Labor Notes conference and distributed WSA literature there.

Syracuse — Georgene has, after years of neglect by others, finally put the WSA financial books in order, for which she deserves copious thanks.

Following the reports from local groups and individuals, an International Relations report was given. Greetings to the convention were read from other IWA sections: ASO (Denmark), ASF (Australia), DAM (U.K.), and NSF (Norway).

Our most active members in the area of International Relations have been Mitch, who has been maintaining contact with other IWA sections, and Vince, who attended the COB convention and has made contacts with anarchists in Mexico, Uruguay and Argentina. Chez has also been maintaining contact with non-IWA anarchists and anarchist groups in Mexico and Britain. Mitch has also been xeroxing and mailing the IWA English Language Discussion Bulletin, a task which he will continue to do for logistical reasons.

The International Secretary then gave his report.

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Next was the National Secretary's report. Tom stated he's been getting out the Discussion Bulletin monthly, and has been responding to requests for information by sending packets of information which include "Where We Stand," "What Is Anarchist Unionism?" and other free information.

PAMPHLETS:

Discussion then moved to the possibility of producing WSA pamphlets. We have plenty of copies of "What Is The WSA?", are running out of "What Is Anarchist Unionism?", and "Free Time" is out of print. Due to lack of funds, it was decided unanimously that rather than reprinting either "What Is Anarchist Unionism?" or "Free Time," if members or groups want to distribute them, that they should write to Tom at the ideas & action address (P.O. Box 40400, SF, CA 94140) and he would send them a high quality xerox suitable for copying.

It was also decided unanimously that 1000 copies of a pamphlet containing the IWA Principles, "Where We Stand," the IWA principles and a WSA membership blank would be published. It was also decided that if funds permit the National Committee could, at its discretion, select and decide to print an additional pamphlet in the Fall of 1989. A motion was then made to make the selection of this second pamphlet subject to a referendum in the Discussion Bulletin. This motion was then voted down, 1-Yes 8-No. (The reason for the "No" votes was that submitting the question to referendum could delay the selection process interminably.) A compromise motion was then offered which stated that the question would be put to referendum if there was "severe disagreement" on the National Committee about the proposed pamphlet. That motion passed, 5-Yes 4-No.

Chaz pointed out that the San Francisco group has the facilities to do all of the pre-press work to produce pamphlets, and even books, so that the real roadblock to printing more WSA literature is the cost of printing. This could be gotten around if a WSA group or member were willing to learn to print and had a place to put a press. Chaz mentioned that this would be an excellent thing to do for one of our isolated members who is looking for a project; that the cost need not be excessive (he estimated that an adequate press and platemaker could be bought for between \$500 and \$1000); and that if someone were willing to take on such a project, it would be a good idea to perhaps subsidize the cost of buying printing equipment with organizational. There was agreement that having a member do our printing is highly desirable, but also that someone needs to step forward before any decision can be reached about possible use of WSA funds.

It was then agreed that the New York group will take over collection of materials for the English Language Discussion Bulletin and will also do its copying and mailing.

A proposal followed that it be permissible for WSA groups and members to reprint portions of the Discussion Bulletin for local distribution, as long as they had the permission of those whose material they wanted to use. It was decided that this decision be subject to referendum, with the convention recommending a "yes" vote.

WSA's participation in Neither East Nor West was then discussed, and it was agreed that it was a good idea to continue to participate in NENW, but that the lack of a labor focus in that group made it desirable for WSA to establish direct contacts and to give direct support to anarcho-syndicalists in Eastern Europe. So, it was unanimously decided to set up a WSA Eastern Europe Working Group with Mitch as contact person.

FINANCES:

It was decided that the \$2-per-member annual IWA assessment would be paid from dues collected prior to apportioning dues money to WSA activities and projects. It was also decided that there would be a reminder in the June DB asking members to pay a voluntary IWA assessment this year to help cover IWA operating expenses. It was also decided that a reminder would be printed in next year's April DB asking members to make a voluntary IWA assessment of at least one hour's wages.

It was then decided that dues would be apportioned over the following year under the following formula:

- 5% - Reserve Fund
- 17% - National Secretary (this will only cover about half of the NS's expenses)
- 8% - International Secretary (this will only cover about half of the IS's expenses)
- 55% - ideas & action
- 15% - printing of pamphlets and flyers

The budget passed, 8-Yes 1-No.

It was also decided that donations (over and above dues) can be earmarked by the donor for existing funds or for contingency funds.

A motion was then made that there be a dues amnesty for all unpaid dues prior to 1989 (if they pay the dues they owe for 1989), and that the National Treasurer send a reminder to all WSA members who have fallen behind on their 1989 dues. The motion passed, 9-Yes 0-No.

Another motion was then made that there be no general funds expenditures for the 1990 convention. The motion passed, 9-Yes 0-No.

A final motion was then made that the budget be submitted to the membership for referendum. There was substantial disagreement over this point, with those favoring the motion stating that it was too important not to be submitted to referendum, with those opposed holding that the budget was too noncontroversial to need to be voted upon by the general membership. The motion passed, 5-Yes 4-No.

FUNDRAISING:

The next item on the agenda was fundraising. Chaz, who operates See Sharp Press, mentioned that he was overstocked on two titles and would be happy to give WSA groups who sell literature up to \$150 or \$200 (cover price) of these titles. (They are "Astrology: Fraud or Superstition," a 12-page pamphlet which sells for 75 cents; and "An Understandable Guide to Music Theory," a 75-page softcover book which sells for \$7.95.) All he asks is that those wanting free copies to sell for fundraising reimburse him for the cost of sending the books/pamphlets. (Address of See Sharp Press: PO Box 6118, SF, CA 94101.)

He also mentioned that he could give WSA groups a 50% discount on See Sharp Press titles and a 40% discount on Freedom Press titles (about 35 in all), Ediciones Antorcha titles (Spanish-language titles, about 40 in all) and the half-dozen or so titles he distributes from miscellaneous publishers. (He also hopes to be distributing all of the Monty Miller Press (ASF press) titles within the next few months.) All of these would be sent postpaid.

Mitch said that he thought the convention should urge WSA groups/members to take advantage of this offer. There was general agreement on this, though no formal vote was taken.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS:

DAM PROPOSALS:

The next order of business was the DAM proposals to streamline procedures at IWA conventions. (See attached.) A motion was made that WSA endorse the DAM recommendations with the period in Section 1 of the DAM proposals changed to 12, rather than 18, months, and that the draft agenda should be sent out by the IWA secretariat at least six months prior to the IWA congress. The motion passed, 9-Yes 0-No.

It was then agreed that the International Secretary would send a letter to the DAM indicating our endorsement of their proposals and asking them to accept our modifications and to send the modified proposal to the ASF for endorsement. It was felt that if all of the English-speaking sections agreed on the proposals that they would stand a better chance of being accepted by the IWA as a whole.

The next item on the agenda was a motion that the duties of the International Secretary be split between the Secretary and two newly created working groups on Latin America and Eastern Europe. (These two groups were suggested because there is considerable interest within WSA in these two regions.) The International Secretary would continue to handle routine correspondence, with the working groups handling contacts in their specific interest areas. The motion passed, 6-Yes 3-Abstain. A motion was then made that the decision be put to a referendum. It passed, 9-Yes 0-No.

The next item was a request from the COB (Brazil IWA affiliate) that the WSA send letters to the Brazilian embassy in Washington, DC in support of a metal workers strike in Sao Paulo in which large numbers of workers have been sacked and replaced by scabs. The convention agreed that the International Secretary would write and send such a letter.

ECOLOGY ADDITION:

There has been considerable interest of late in adding a statement on ecology to the WSA Statement of Principles. No motion was offered, but it was suggested by several persons that anyone interested in writing an addition to the Statement of Principles do so for publication in the July issue of the DB. Tom agreed to do so, but also encouraged other interested members to also submit proposed statements on ecology.

1990 CONVENTION:

A motion was made that the 1990 convention be held over the July 4th weekend. The vote on the motion was 4-Yes 1-No 4- Abstain. (Those voting "yes" felt that July 4th was a good "traditional" time to have the convention, while the one person voting "no" felt that tradition was a lousy reason to do anything and that he would rather give up the Memorial Day weekend rather than the 4th of July weekend.) It was then decided unanimously that the question be put to referendum.

The next question was whether to adopt the time line suggested by the New York group on election of officers and referendums following the national convention. (See attached.) It was unanimously decided that the time intervals proposed by NY be adopted, but with specific dates depending on the date of the convention.

It was decided unanimously to accept the offer of the Nashville group to host the 1990 convention.

NATIONAL COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES:

A discussion then followed on the merits of electing national committee representatives on a regional or at-large basis. Those favoring regional representation said that having regional reps stimulates local activities, and that regional reps should be responsible for local (regional) affairs.

Those favoring at-large election of reps stated that the present regional system is undemocratic (because of widely differing numbers of members in different regions), it discriminates against minority viewpoints (because a minority probably couldn't elect a single regional rep, but could pool votes to elect an at-large national rep), and it discourages participation in elections because of nominees running unopposed.

A motion was made to change back to at-large representation. The vote was 4-Yes 3-No 2-Abstain. It was then unanimously decided that the question should be put to referendum.

Vince's proposal that the jobs of National Secretary, International Secretary, and National Treasurer be rotated from region to region on an annual basis, as in the CNT, was unanimously defeated on the grounds that at the present time we have only three functioning local groups (SF, NY and Nashville), all of which are relatively small and are busy with their own projects, so, at least for the present, it makes sense to continue to spread out the duties via national at-large elections.

A proposal was then unanimously passed that it be part of the National Secretary's duties to solicit a site for future national conventions at least several months prior to the previous convention.

The next item was a proposal that the prohibition against dual membership in WSA by national officers of other organizations (intended originally to deal with dual IWW/WSA membership) be repealed. The motion passed, 7- Yes, 2- Abstain. As a constitutional change, it must also be approved by referendum.

A motion was then made that a wording change be made in the constitution to change "commissions" to "working groups," and that "working groups" (e.g., on Latin America and Eastern Europe) have a minimum of two members. The motion passed unanimously.

It was then decided unanimously to publish a response form in the July DB for members interested in participating in working groups.

It was also decided that NY proposals 1, 3, 4, and 5, pertaining to Working Groups, (See attached.) be proposed as constitutional amendments.

IDEAS & ACTION:

The San Francisco group reported that the average time between issues of *ideas & action* has been decreasing, at least slightly. The financial situation of *i&a* is also improving due to donations, money from dues, and better distribution. (Close to 50 bookstores now distribute to *i&a*, and the paper is now handled by distributors in New York, Minneapolis, and the Bay Area.)

As a cost-cutting measure, the size of the paper will drop to 16 pages in future issues, and the price will be maintained at \$2, and copies mailed to subscribers will be sent by bulk mail.

Problems with *i&a* include that it's still difficult to generate enough copy, art work, and money to cover the smaller, but continuing, deficit. Specifically needed are smaller articles in the 1500-2500 word range; reviews of books, movies, television, etc.; shorts; more humor; editorials in the 500-1500 word range; a readers survey; information on WSA activities; a boxed announcement soliciting submissions; and a series of articles on possible anarchist futures, focusing on specific areas such as housing, crime, child care, etc.

The question then came up as to what audience *ideas & action* should be aimed at. Responses included: younger anarchists, rank and file workers, and persons without advanced schooling.

To keep the paper down to 16 pages while retaining a wide variety of materials in it, the following goals were then put forward as a motion: 1) To have only one article per issue in excess of 3,000 words; 2) Anything over 5,000 words

would be serialized (with each installment not more than 3,000 words); 4) One third of the space in the paper would be reserved for heads, pull quotes, and graphics. The motion passed, 8-Yes 2-Abstain.

It was then proposed that the duties of National Committee representatives include providing regional news, soliciting articles, writing editorials, and watch-dogging the copy and length of articles.

The next proposal was that a special 16-page issue of *ideas & action* be issued for the upcoming Anarchist Gathering in San Francisco in July. It would include an open letter to the anarchist movement on why anarcho-syndicalism is important, as well as "What Is The WSA?", "Where We Stand," and a membership blank. The motion passed, 9-Yes 0-No.

ORGANIZING:

There have been a number of recent suggestions that WSA establish a speakers bureau. Unfortunately, due to lack of funds WSA cannot pay for travel expenses of such a bureau. But it was agreed that regional speakers bureaus should be established, and that, due to the interest of the Knoxville group, WSA members willing and able to publicly speak should contact them to let them know of their willingness and of the topics on which they can speak. Following the compilation of a list of speakers, areas and topics, the material will be put in an announcements section of *ideas & action*.

Next on the agenda was the proposal of the New York group that regions have annual meetings six months after the national convention. A majority of those present felt that it's better to let the people in the regions decide if they want to hold regional conventions. So, the motion to mandate regional meetings failed, 4-Yes 5-No 1-Abstain. Those voting "no" said that they thought that time and energy could be better spent organizing forums and other public events.

Following the defeat of the NY motion, a compromise motion was offered stating that regional NC reps, or WSA groups in any given region, should poll members in their regions if they feel there should be a regional convention, and that if there is majority interest in holding such a meeting, the regional rep or the group making the inquiries should issue a call for it.

The convention then agreed that for organizing purposes it would be desirable for local groups to produce flyers on local situations, and for the WSA to produce flyers and leaflets of a more general nature—such as "What kind of unions do we need?"—for national distribution. The San Francisco group agreed to do the pre-press work on any such flyers and leaflets. (Local groups would be responsible for their own printing.)

ANARCHIST GATHERING:

There was quite a bit of discussion about WSA participation in the upcoming anarchist gathering. Members expressed their intentions to hold several workshops, specifically, "Why workers struggle is important," "What is the IWA?" and "Lessons of the Spanish Revolution," and "An anarchist labor network." We decided that due to our limited numbers, rather than present our own workshop on ecology, we would be better off participating in the other workshops to be held on this hot topic. We also decided to have a party on Sunday night, without live music in order to facilitate conversation.

The session on "An anarchist labor network" will actually be more a discussion than a workshop. So, we've come up with an agenda which we hope the other participants will find acceptable:

1) Organizing; 2) International solidarity; 3) Promoting libertarian unions; 4) Means of communication. We also plan to nominate Mike as facilitator of the session and to propose that all participants get a copy of the mailing list generated at the session.

MONTHLY ANARCHIST PAPER:

Over the last couple of years there has been a lot of discussion about publishing a monthly anarchist paper. In addition to many individuals, several groups have been involved in the discussions; they include the Revolutionary Anarchist Bowling League (RABL—Minneapolis), Mayday (Chicago) and the Revolutionary Socialist League (RSL). This would be a coalition effort, with different sections of the paper written by different groups and individuals.

The RSL has proposed that to participate in the project—i.e., to have a voice in editorial decisions—participants would have to contribute \$20 per month to the costs of producing the paper. There was a consensus at the WSA convention that that amount is excessive and would make participation difficult for low income persons, especially young persons at whom the paper will be aimed.

A motion was made that WSA endorse the proposed project and offer to produce a regular section on labor, that it be contingent on the paper adopting a policy of not publishing personal or sectarian attacks, and that participation of WSA members be on an individual basis. (That is, we cannot provide funds as an organization but we encourage individuals to participate.) The motion passed, 10-Yes 0-No. Tom and Mike said they would write a letter to the other interested groups and individuals setting forth the WSA position and a proposal to lower the per-month contribution to

\$5.

There has also been some discussion of a national anarchist organization, but nothing concrete has been proposed yet. The convention felt that at this stage participation in any proposed network should be on an individual basis. An Anti-Racist Network, however, has formed and it was decided that the New York group would act as the WSA contact for it and that the National Secretary would contact them to let them know of our interest in participation.

MEMBERSHIP:

Many of the problems that we have had have come from not having enough members. In order to increase our numbers, we decided that the *ideas & action* mailing list will be made available to WSA groups so that they can directly contact the persons on it inviting them to become WSA members. Tom and Chaz volunteered to write letters of invitation which can, if the groups so choose, be mailed to i&a subscribers in their areas.

NOMINATIONS:

The final order of business was the nomination of officers for 1990. They were:

International Secretary – Vince Williams

National Secretary – Tom Wetzel

Treasurer – Georgene McKeon

Northeast NC – Steve Rabinowitz

Southern NC – Brian Miller, Ben Trant

Midwest NC – Nick Kiern

Western NC – Bill Meyers

Ed Elhauge and Mitch Miller were also nominated for the National Committee, but they both declined the nomination.

- Submitted by Chaz Bufo.

Speaking of Action...

KNOXVILLE: Since the formation of the WSA East Tennessee Group in late 1988, the group's numbers have swollen to the heady heights of six members. The group has produced a bi-monthly newsletter ("Solidarity Reminder"), stocked *ideas & action* at various local stores, set up literature tables and produced various flyers. A well-attended benefit concert for *ideas & action* raised \$47.50 for the magazine. On June 17th the group sponsored a talk and slide show by Don Fitz, of *Workers Democracy* magazine, on the *Coordinadora*, Spain's independent longshore union that is run on anarcho-syndicalist lines.

The group has also been part of local efforts to defend abortion clinics from the fanatics of "Operation Rescue," participated in an anti-racist demo against a local all-white country club, as well as working on anti-militarist activities centered on continued nuclear weapons production at the Oak Ridge National Laboratories. The group is currently putting together an educational display on revolutionary unionism and its links to anti-militarism, to be a part of a Hiroshima Day demonstration at Oak Ridge. The group has recently also formed a Coalfield Citizens Support Committee, to support the Pitston strike and the developing wildcat strike movement that this strike has given rise to.

SAN FRANCISCO: Apart from putting out *ideas & action*, members of the WSA San Francisco Group have also been involved in two local solidarity committees, the Committee to Free Moses Mayekiso and Bay Area Neither East Nor West. **BANENW** is part of a network that is trying to forge links between dissidents in North America and those in the Eastern bloc. **BANENW** has had two fundraisers, the most recent on May 12th, which have raised \$317 (and 39 cans of spray paint) for liber-

tarian activists in Poland. The funds are slated to be used in setting up an alternative center in Gdansk. Contact: **BANENW**, c/o PO Box 6116, San Francisco, CA 94101.

With the acquittal of Moses Mayekiso and the "Alexandra Five" on April 24th, the Committee to Free Moses Mayekiso could legitimately claim a victory in its campaign. As an outgrowth of that effort, a new committee has been launched, the South African Workers Solidarity Committee. **SAWSC** is currently involved in building support for the BTR strikers in South Africa, who have organized cooperatives to aid the movement and survive the three-year-old strike. Jabu Ndlovu, a woman shop steward at BTR, was recently murdered (along with her husband) by Chief Buthelesi's Inkatha thugs. A report on the BTR strikers and a video ("Sisters of the Long March") will be presented at La Peña in Berkeley on Aug. 10 in the evening. Contact: **SAWSC**, PO Box 40338, Berkeley, CA 94704.

The group also will be participating in a public panel discussion on "The Crisis in China and the Soviet Union" on August 19th.

SAN DIEGO: WSA members here have been active around issues of workplace safety and the depletion of the ozone layer. The plans of Dupont (major manufacturer of ozone-destroying CFCs — "Freon" is Dupont's trade name for CFC) and the government to delay phasing out CFCs til the end of the century endangers the globe. Individuals who want to network around actions in defense of the ozone layer can write to: Ozone, c/o PO Box 8362, San Diego, CA 92102. San Diego WSA says, "Act now to convince auto dealerships that CFC-based car air-conditioning isn't worth the bad publicity!"

RICHMOND, VA: A Richmond, VA, university is attempting to take over a number of low-income neighborhoods in order to expand. A WSA member in Richmond is part of a group that is trying to organize a fight back.

FORT WAYNE: Our WSA member in Fort Wayne, IN, has been active in a local group that has been countering the efforts of "Operation Rescue" to harass local abortion clinics. To support the right of women to have access to abortion, the group has been escorting patients into clinics and taking action to prevent their closure. For info: Nick Keirn, 2431 Trentman Ave., Fort Wayne, IN 46806 (219) 745-3217.

NEW YORK: Over the last eight months the New York Area Group has sponsored a series of open discussions on subjects pertinent to anarchist unionism. Recent topics have included the social welfare system, the underground economy, and workplace organization. The series has been halted for the summer and will resume in the fall.

On Wednesday, June 28th, we initiated a first meeting of anarchists and libertarians to discuss organizing protests against the repression in China. Pickets at Chinese government offices, petitions and letter writing will follow. We would urge others around the country to do the same, and share information with us about what you are doing.

New York WSA also works with the Libertarian Book Club on organizing monthly anarchist forums and literature distribution. In May we also met with members of the local Neither East Nor West group, with whom we have worked in the past, to discuss ways in which we can better coordinate efforts around Eastern Europe solidarity. The WSA's working group on Eastern Europe will also be coordinated out of New York. □