

REB MEETING -- Nov. 4, 1964

Present: All.

Agenda: I. Philosophical Letters & Trip to New York
II. Nov. issue of N&L: Lead & Edit
III. Election and Civil Rights Activities
IV. Org. Secretary's Report. V. GAW

I. Raya said the only reason she is dealing with philosophical letters of Sep. 27 and Oct. 27th, which outline the book now tentatively entitled Philosophy and Revolution, and which are first to be discussed seriously after all REB has studied them—a month from now—is to have the proper framework for discussing the new dialogues we are beginning with intellectuals, in NY and elsewhere. Thus the 10/27 letter showed to one Hegelian got him bristling because of the section on Lenin. The 3 parts are: Marx's Indebtedness to Hegel; Lenin's ambivalence toward Hegel, and Shock of Recognition; Why Hegel? Why Now? The intellectual, a writer and specialist in the field, recognized that this was a very profound treatment, and also that, "historically", one could not "skip" an actual stage such as took place with Lenin's Philosophic Notebooks, and that, actually, this new book departed further than any one had done from the past, including not only VII but even Marx, since none could have dealt with problems of our age, but he would not let go of his own prejudices. The test of wanting to break "the conspiracy of silence", which the contact likewise took exception to, by calling it, instead, "total indifference", will be seen in practice, that is to say, whether he will actually go through with a review of M&P paperback in a leading journal. But, 1, philosophical dialogues have been started with two persons; 2, some old friends and subscribers were seen and \$75 contribution made to N&L, plus 3 M&P's sold; and, 3, Dick has undertaken not only to see about M.D. Manuscript and publishers, but to start again not only general activity but specifically through civil rights movements. Toward that end he brought a new subscriber and active member of CORE to see Raya, and have a lengthy discussion which might also lead to both a lecture and, above, all, actual discussion group on M-H composed of freedom fighters who now are asking philosophical questions, and where do we go next. Sami will follow up this trip to NY within 4 weeks; also is taking advantage of publicity around Sartre to send the Sartre article to a British publication.

13903