

P.O. Box 471 Cooper Station  
New York, N.Y. 10003  
January 21, 1976

TO ALL ORGANIZERS AND ANTIRACIST WORK DIRECTORS

Dear Comrades,

The NSCAR national coordinators have postponed the NSCAR national steering committee meeting to Saturday, February 21. The meeting will take place beginning 10 a.m. that morning at New York University, room 511 Loeb Student Center, which is located at LaGuardia Place and Washington Square, South. New York SCAR is also sponsoring a symposium on Friday night, February 20 at 7:30 p.m. It will take place at Baruch College, the 23rd St. and Lexington Avenue building, in room 4 North on the fourth floor. All NSCAR activists planning to attend the steering committee meeting are encouraged to attend the symposium as well.

We will have a fraction meeting on Saturday morning at 8 a.m. Comrades will be notified shortly about the location of the fraction meeting.

Perspectives for the Steering Committee

At this point the agenda for the steering committee meeting has not been finalized. Some of the points the coordinators plan to raise at the meeting include spring perspectives for NSCAR activities, the anticutbacks struggle, U.S. intervention in Angola, defense of victims of racist frameups, and NSCAR finances.

This national steering committee meeting will be the most important one NSCAR has held. There are important political decisions that must be made at this meeting -- decisions that will determine NSCAR's priorities for the coming year. Because of this, we want to help NSCAR to make this steering committee meeting larger and broader than these meetings have been in the past.

The steering committee meeting will be an opportunity to evaluate NSCAR's first year of activity -- a year in which it has shown itself to be the kind of organization that can effectively fight for Black, Puerto Rican, and Chicano rights. In many cities over the past year, SCAR chapters have made impressive contacts and won respect among student and Black leaders. SCAR has begun to set an example on the campuses and in some high schools of how to fight racist practices, cutbacks, and frameups. It has helped to demonstrate the kind of contribution students can make to building a movement around a broad social issue which is part of but not limited to campus life.

The steering committee meeting will be an opportunity to evaluate the current stage of the desegregation campaign. Milwaukee and Denver are just two cities which have recently made headlines because of the busing issue. At the end of January, Detroit's schools will begin implementation of a limited and inadequate busing plan that has been ordered for that city. NSCAR's coordinators plan to initiate a discussion on perspectives for continuing the campaign in defense of busing at the steering committee meeting.

NSCAR's role in the campaign to end U.S. involvement in Angola will also be determined at the meeting.

### Defense Cases

NSCAR's plans to continue its work in defense of the victims of racist frameups will be another important topic of discussion at the national steering committee meeting. The recent Martin Sostre and Robert F. Williams victories are important precedents that will benefit the cause of other victims of racist frameups. The cases of J.B. Johnson and of Hurricane Carter and John Artis are two of the most prominent defense cases in which NSCAR chapters are currently involved. Johnson supporters in St. Louis are planning a February 7 rally in that city to demand his freedom. Carter and Artis are in prison awaiting a New Jersey Supreme Court decision on whether they will be granted a new trial.

If this has not been done already, we want to encourage SCAR chapters to immediately solicit support messages from several prominent individuals on behalf of Johnson, Carter, and Artis.

Messages in support of Johnson should be sent to Honorable Courtney Goodman, County Courthouse, Clayton, Missouri, 63105. Copies should be sent to the National Committee to Free J.B. Johnson, P.O. Box 4713, St. Louis, Missouri, 63108. To date, few messages from organizations and individuals outside of St. Louis have been received for Johnson. We want to encourage SCAR chapters to view the February 7 J.B. Johnson rally in St. Louis as a target date for getting these messages sent. If this is done, they can be used at the rally to demonstrate national support for Johnson and to help win more local publicity and support for his case.

Messages demanding a new trial and clemency pending the trial date for Carter and Artis should be sent to Governor Brendan Byrne, Statehouse, Trenton, New Jersey with copies to both Rubin Carter, Drawer E, North Hall, Clinton, New Jersey, and Newark SCAR, 213 S. Harrison, #3N, East Orange, New Jersey, 02108.

The steering committee will also discuss NSCAR's role in helping to win freedom for Joanne Little. Little is in prison once again facing the breaking and entering charges that placed her in jail at the time that Clarence Alligood sexually attacked her.

### Building the meeting

The February 21 steering committee will be a national student and youth leadership meeting of all activists interested in planning how to carry the fight against racism forward. We want as many student and youth activists as possible to be there.

We want to encourage SCAR chapters to reach out to new activists who have not been involved in the antiracist fight and bring them to the steering committee meeting. We want to invite them to participate in the discussion there and share their views with other activists. We want to invite leaders of organizations which have supported joint activities with NSCAR over the past year but have not yet become part of NSCAR. We want to reapproach and invite leaders of Black student

groups, NAACP youth leaders, student government leaders, and others opposed to racism. We want to especially contact members and local chapters of the YWLL to get them to come to this important gathering.

As the only national organization that has carried out a consistent fight against racist practices over the past year, NSCAR has an important responsibility ahead of it to continue to lead struggles against racism in education and other areas and to win more activists and organizations to the leadership of the antiracist movement. We want to do whatever we can to help NSCAR make the upcoming steering committee meeting as broad and successful as possible so that the organization will be in the best position to carry out this work.

Anyone needing housing or other information on arrangements for the steering committee meeting should contact New York SCAR at (212) 866-8830.

Comradely,

*Nan Bailey*

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