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YOUNG SOCIALIST ALLIANCE

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CONTINENT WIDE DEMONSTRATIONS SET FOR SATURDAY, JUNE 22, AT
FRENCH CONSULATES IN PROTEST AGAINST DE GAULLE'S REPRESSIVE ACTS

Lew Jones, National Chairman of the Young Socialist Alliance, today urged massive support for continent wide demonstrations that have been scheduled for Saturday, June 22, to protest the de Gaulle regime's actions in outlawing French student organizations and revolutionary parties and banning public demonstrations.

Rallies are being planned in front of French consulates or information centers in New York, Chicago, Detroit, Philadelphia, Washington, D.C., Toronto, Vancouver, Montreal, Ottawa, as well as many other cities.

In New York a wide range of support has been received by the Ad Hoc Committee to Support the French Workers and Students. A partial list of sponsors includes: Linda Morse of the Student Mobilization Committee, Norma Becker of the 5th Ave. Peace Parade Committee, Dixie Bayo of the Puerto Rican Pro-Independence Movement, Tito Nolasco of the Dominican Patriotic Youth, the Columbia Strike Committee, SNCC, the National Black Antiwar Antidraft Union, Lew Jones of the Young Socialist Alliance, Fred Halstead, Presidential Candidate of the Socialist Workers Party, and others.

In his statement, Mr. Jones said, "The Young Socialist Alliance calls on American youth to join these actions in solidarity with the French workers and students against the repressive measures of the

French government. We appeal to all groups and individuals concerned with civil liberties to make public their opposition to the abrogation of basic democratic rights in France, and to join in defense of all persecuted organizations and individuals by participating in the demonstrations of June 22."

The French youth organizations that have been declared illegal are the Revolutionary Communist Youth (JCR), the March 22 Movement led by Daniel Cohn-Bendit, the Federation of Revolutionary Students, Workers Voice, the Revolutionary Group, the Union of Communist Youth (Marxist-Leninist), and the Liaison Committee of Revolutionary Students. In addition, four adult political groups were banned. They are the Internationalist Communist Party, the Internationalist Communist Organization, the Communist Party (Marxist-Leninist) and an anarchist group.

Flax Hermes, who was in France as a photographer for the YOUNG SOCIALIST, the monthly magazine of the Young Socialist Alliance, was arrested by French authorities and questioned for twenty-seven hours before being deported from the country. In addition, the editor of AVANT GARDE JEUNESSE, the publication of the JCR, sister organization of the YSA, has been arrested along with other revolutionary socialists in France.

Jones compared the current witchhunt in France to similar repressions in the United States. "The law that the French government has used as its lever in the crackdown is similar to the notorious Smith Act which has been used against revolutionary organizations in this country for many years. It is absolutely essential that all those who stand for civil liberties in the United States join in defending the rights of the French workers and students to freedom of speech, freedom of association, and freedom of the press."