

a larger and more diverse constituency? OR Should there be a major (leading) demand which most people can relate to and a series of subsidiary demands?

6. What is the role of Socialists and Marxists within such a movement?

7. What forums and focuses should demands have? How appropriate is a Congressional focus?

8. Should the movement work around these programmatic possibilities in the Fall:

—Organizing to oppose Rockefeller's confirmation as Vice President?

—Organizing local coalitions to define an independent "People's Platform" to present to candidates running for office?

—The organizing of Town Meetings and Community Forums on "The Crisis of Watergate, the Crisis of Our Society"?

—The organizing of a massive campaign to "Rescue the Watergate Grand Jury"?

—Organizing demonstrations locally or regionally for October 19th, the anniversary of the Saturday Night Massacre?

9. Organizationally, should the National Campaign:

—change its name?

—create an "Interim Committee", a decision-making body popularly elected (this would have to be coordinated with other regions)?

—make attempts to formally link up into some kind of coalition or federation with other organizations?

the national campaign to impeach Nixon
1404 m street, nw Washington, D.C. 20004

our organization agrees to Co-Sponsor the Organizing Conference and will publicize it among our contacts in the East.

I will be there! Add me to your pre-registration list and send all information & directions.

There will be of us coming from this area. Put us down as certain attendees & send information.

Enclosed are ideas and/or suggestions.

Name _____

address _____

phone _____

Post-Nixon Organizing WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

A Call for an East Coast Organizing Conference

from the national campaign to impeach Nixon

Dear Friend,

Nixon has been forced to resign. The man who vowed he would never quit decided to do just that when he was faced with a near-unanimous vote for impeachment in the House and certain conviction by the Senate.

We are glad he is gone. Most of his policies, however, are still with us. Gerald Ford has made that perfectly clear in his Inaugural remarks in which the theme of continuity was stressed over and over again.

Continuity with what? A rampaging inflation that is destroying the standard of living of the American people as it enriches the oil companies and other corporate oligopolies?

A military budget that remains exempt from cuts even as we are told that social welfare expenditures must be curtailed?

A policy of aid to and support of repressive regimes throughout the world?

Prosecution of the Wounded Knee defendants, Attica Brothers, draft resisters and other people struggling for peace, justice and liberation?

Pollution of air and water and rapacious consumption of our natural resources by a "free enterprise" system motivated by profit and not by human need?

IT IS TIME for us to move beyond the impeachment of Nixon to attack the root causes of injustice, war and Watergate. Public opinion polls show a pervasive distrust of government on all levels combined with fear of an impending economic collapse. American society may be heading towards a series of crises which could shake it to its very foundations. People will be anxious and confused. They will be looking for solutions to the American crises and alternatives to those posed by Ford and ratified by his allies in the "Honeymoon Congress".

It is our collective responsibility to help provide these alternatives. We would like you to join us in beginning this process by attending a conference we are organizing for the weekend of September 20th thru

the 22nd at Camp Kittatinny-Minnasink of the ORYM-CA (Orange YMCA) Camps near Blairstown, New Jersey.

The conference will be focused around the questions of what issue(s) an Independent People's Movement should organize around at this time and the strategies it should pursue to attain its demands. A more detailed description of some of the questions to be considered follows. We would strongly encourage your input as far as which of the questions are most important, other ideas for areas to be gone into, and people whom you would recommend for various topics, including yourselves. Send us your suggestions right away so that we can use them to draw up a tighter agenda.

The conference will be structured so as to combine plenary sessions with smaller workshops. For example, one plenary discussion might deal with the general question, "What Issues are the Key Ones in Building A Broad-based Movement Now?" That would be followed by workshops in areas of specific interest growing out of the plenary; for example, "The Importance of the Inflation Issue." There will also be provisions determined for voting based on a system devised by those organizations who decide to co-sponsor the conference.

Tentatively, we would see the weekend developing in the following way:

Friday night: discussion of the past year of Watergate, energy crisis, economic breakdown and growing defeat for imperialism has meant to the country and our movement.

Saturday: discussion of the issues and strategies and tactics most important to building the strongest possible movement in the coming months and years.

Sunday: programmatic and organizational decisions growing out of the Friday and Saturday proceedings.

We invite and strongly encourage other national and/or local organizations who have related to us to join in co-sponsorship of the conference. Co-sponsoring organizations will then meet in early September to firm

up an agenda and plan the necessary details to make the conference a well-planned success. You should contact us as soon as is possible if your organization would like to join in sponsorship. We plan to send out a final mailing with a proposed agenda and more specific details (and map) one and a half to two weeks before the 20th.

Please let us know as soon as possible if you will be able to attend. The camp-site which has been selected is not only in beautiful country next to a large lake; it is also well-equipped with cabins, bunk beds and other necessary facilities. A very reasonable \$10.00 fee will cover the cost of renting the campsite, housing and the five meals that will be prepared for us. Plan to be there. It should be stimulating as well as politically significant.

Strength through Unity,

Herb Epstein
Ted Glick
Laura Henderson
Mary McCall

Questions To Be Considered At the Conference

1. What have we learned from working in the impeachment movement? What concrete benefits did we obtain from our organizing experiences? Have we benefitted from associations with moderate/liberal groups? Did we accomplish anything politically after the Saturday Night Massacre? Why was The Movement by and large unwilling to get involved in any impeachment activity?
2. What was the political significance of Nixon's departure in terms of conflicts/cleavages that exist in the ruling class? What impact has it had on the people of the country? Of particular groups?
3. What do we see as the dominant political issue(s) in the country in the short-term? in the long run?
4. In the light of the direction in which the country is moving, what strategy should the left pursue in the next eighteen months? two years?
5. Should a popular movement be developed by involving large numbers of people in a series of demands/actions around one issue or a similar set of issues? OR Should it develop by advocating a wide series of demands on many issues, thus hoping to bring together