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7 July 1972

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*ppd H 17*

SPECIAL REPORT

DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION (DNC)

As the opening of the National Democratic Convention draws near, public interest and apprehension continue to mount. Press accounts reflect a widespread feeling that the Democratic and Republican Conventions will be the main focus of the antiwar movement. Protest organizers involved in drafting plans for the convention demonstrations have made a point of stressing publicly that the antiwar protest will be nonviolent; however, there is always the possibility that the new leftist position is merely an attempt to broaden their support by reassuring those who might be driven away by fear of violence. Whether their efforts in this regard will lead only to sporadic demonstrations or to something far more serious, only the future will tell. In any event, the threat of serious disruptive activity and the possibility of violence has been recognized by law enforcement agencies, and it is doubtful that radical elements will experience any success in lulling the authorities into a false sense of security.

*Guardian 28 June 72 Wash Post 29 June 72  
 Wash Post 29 June 72*

Recently George Rodericks, head of civil defense in Washington, predicted 6,000 non-delegates would attend the convention rather than the 50,000 to 100,000 that city officials and protest groups had originally forecast. Mr. Rodericks who is acting as a special consultant to Dade County manager Ray Goode has based his figures on 10 days of research and discussion with non-delegate leaders. Apparently many of the movement people are financially unable to attend both conventions and those who could afford at least one trip are placing a higher priority on attending the GOP Convention to be held later in the summer. Of the 6,000 Mr. Rodericks estimates will attend the convention, more than half have already reserved hotel rooms and an estimated 2,000 persons will be seeking the use of public campsites. The Miami Beach City Council originally refused to provide campsites in the immediate area of the convention, suggesting instead two locations some distance from the downtown area. After the protest leaders refused to accept these locations the Council reversed its decision and has now agreed to provide accommodations at a more convenient location a few blocks

*N.Y. Times 1 July 72*

from the convention site. The Council's last minute decision was reportedly based on its desire to do anything possible to ensure a peaceful convention.

*19 Jul 72 N.Y. Times*

The task of "keeping the peace" at the Democratic Convention has fallen primarily to Miami Beach Police Chief Rocky Pomerance. In addition to his own organization, Chief Pomerance can call upon other state and federal law enforcement agencies for assistance as well as federal troops who will be stationed outside the city. The Miami Beach City Council has also granted Pomerance the power to declare a state of emergency and/or establish curfews if protest demonstrations get out of control.

*read + star 9, 5 Jul 72*

Inside the Convention Hall itself, elaborate security measures will be implemented to guard against any hostile activity. Prior to the convention opening, a full-scale bomb search will be conducted beginning at midnight Sunday. Following the inspection, the site will be locked and not reopened until Monday afternoon (10 July 1972). As the convention is called to order some 400 unarmed guard-ushers will roam the Hall and bomb squads and plain-clothes police will be strategically placed throughout the building. Those seeking admission to the Hall will have to produce numbered and colored coded tickets and pass before metal detectors positioned in the vicinity of the gatekeepers. From all of the precautions that are being taken it would appear that convention officials are determined to ensure that the business at hand will be conducted in an atmosphere as free of illicit demonstrations and violence as possible.

*work stop 5 Jul 72*

Recently the San Diego Convention Coalition and the Miami Peoples Coalition merged to form the Miami Convention Coalition (a confederation of antiwar forces, women libbers, gay activists and others). Leadership of this coalition is calling for disruptive activity at the Republican Convention and low-key lobbying at the Democratic Convention. Coalition delegates have decided not to endorse any candidate but to formulate contingency plans in case Sen. George McGovern is not nominated. A number of organizations that have endorsed what are billed as low-key protests are PCPJ, National Welfare Rights Organization, SCLC, National Tenants Organization, Vietnam Veterans Against the War, and the National Coalition of Gay Organizations. The National Peace Action Coalition's (Trotskyite group) strategic view is that the antiwar movement should remain independent of positions taken by the Republicans and Democrats and

*Quaker 28 Jun 72  
" 31 Jun 72*

make their own antiwar views known to the people through the use of street demonstrations.

*Quentin 21, 28 Jun 72*

In and around the city of Miami there are more than 200,000 Cuban exiles that are anti-Communist, anti-Castro. In the past they have lobbied for support from the government for various schemes to destroy Castro's strength. A major question remaining is what action, if any, the Cuban exile movement in Florida will take during the convention.

*Wash Star 11 Jul 72*

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES RELATED  
to the  
DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION

National Tenants Association

The National Tenants Association has formed a coalition with the National Welfare Rights Organization and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and plan to hold a demonstration on July 8. The purpose of this demonstration is to protest mass evictions from public housing, and the costs and conditions of housing.

*FBI IN 647636  
22 Jun 72 N.Y. Times 28 Jun 72*

Zippies

The Zippies, a radical faction of the Youth International Party, reportedly have rented a house in Miami's Coconut Grove area, far from convention activities. On July 8 the Zippies have planned a smoke-in as their lobbying effort to legalize marijuana. The Zippies have not pledged they would try to keep the peace during the convention and, therefore, have been disowned by other protest groups for provoking trouble. Recently members of the Zippies defied a ban on camping out in Miami Beach and threatened to spend the night on a golf course.

*Daily Herald 10 Jul 72 with Post 5 Jul 72*

Youth International Party

Jerry Rubin and Abbie Hoffman, leaders of the Youth International Party, have been actively involved with negotiations for campsites and plans for what they call a nonviolent antiwar demonstration. During the Democratic Convention in Chicago in 1968, both radicals were charged with conspiring to incite riots. In recent weeks the Yippie Organization has tried to convince the public that they

*Daily Herald 10 Jul 72 Post 5, 3 Jul 72*

have gone moderately respectable. Reportedly, a spokesman for the Yippies announced that they would try to keep the peace during the convention. Recently some 600 senior citizens attended a picnic sponsored by the Yippies in the Miami area. The purpose of the so-called "free share picnic of the ages" was to reassure the elderly that the upcoming protest demonstrations during the convention would be nonviolent. The Yippies have announced another picnic will take place on 9 July. Jerry Rubin, Abbie Hoffman, and Stu Albert are planning a counterconvention which will be called the "Celebration of Change--Ten Days to End the World." During the Democratic and Republican Conventions protest marches will be held from the Yippie campgrounds to Convention Hall to protest the war. The theme of the "Celebration of Change" will be change in all areas of life by any means necessary. Major rock groups have agreed to appear as well as superstars, yogi and juggling acts. No rock festivals are as yet planned for this summer elsewhere, so Miami Beach could attract many young people. *Daily Planet 10 Jul 72 Part 3, 5 Jul 72*

#### Southern Christian Leadership Conference

The Rev. Ralph Abernathy head of SCLC has announced they will set up a Resurrection City II at Flamingo Park. The City Council allotted the 36-acre park to SCLC to act as an "umbrella" for other protest groups. The now famous mule train will be bringing people from Miss., Georgia, Alabama, Virginia, New York and from other parts of the country.

Recently SCLC has announced plans for a massive demonstration to be held in the afternoon of July 9 in Manor Park between 15th and 12th Streets in down town Miami. Other organizations that have endorsed the demonstration are VVAW; Cynthia Wedel, president of the National Council of Churches; Dave Dellinger; PCPJ; Dr. George Wiley, executive director of the National Welfare Rights Organization; Jesse Gray, executive director of the National Tenants Organization; Leon Davis, president Local 1199; Mrs. Coretta King; and Allard Lowenstein of Americans for Democratic Action. The purpose of this demonstration is to place before the delegates to the Democratic Convention the issues facing this nation in the 1972 elections. Reportedly, Abernathy has warned that if the Democratic Party refuses to accept 750 poor people as national convention delegates, they would crash the gathering and take the seats. *Daily World 23 Jul 72 Daily Planet 10 Jul 72 Part 6 Jul 72*

Vietnam Veterans Against the War

Recently 16 members of the VVAW left for Paris for a 3-day meeting with veterans of the South Vietnamese Liberation Front, North Vietnamese Army, the Pathet Lao and the Cambodian Liberation Government. This meeting was arranged by a group of left-wing French activists in an attempt to bring former enemies together to seek a mutual understanding about what can be done to end the war. There will be three VVAW members at the convention as delegates who will try to be heard by the convention. Officials of the VVAW are expecting 400 members, largely from Texas, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Florida, to attend the Democratic Convention. The VVAW has announced plans to participate in a demonstration on July 9 which is being sponsored by the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. The VVAW will hold a conference during the convention on racism, sexism, drug addiction and Veterans Administration benefits. During convention week the VVAW has announced plans to show air war movies, to schedule a candlelight march, and an indepth presentation of the winter soldiers theme and various forms of guerrilla theater. A representative of the Vietnam Veterans has been quoted as stating that there was a real possibility of pushing through a strong peace plank this year.

*27 Jun 72 Daily Planet  
10 Jul 72 Daily Planet*

National Welfare Rights Organization

The NWRO opened its national convention in Miami Beach on July 5. Reportedly some national convention delegates representing the NWRO hope to have the Democratic Convention adopt the poor peoples platform that calls for a guaranteed family income of \$6500 for a family of four. NWRO leaders have scheduled a demonstration on July 10 to focus on the poor peoples platform.

*Duckworth 28 Jun 72 10 Jul 72 Daily Planet*

Peoples Coalition for Peace and Justice

Reportedly, officials of the PCPJ have announced plans to sponsor a women's march on July 10 calling for an end to the Vietnam War.

*Handwritten note: 28 June 72*

National Coalition of Gay Organization

The Coalition represents over 500 Gay Activist groups from the four corners of America. This includes Mattachine people (the first national organization); Gay Liberation Front, Gay Activists, Radicalesbians, Gay youth and many others.

*Handwritten note: Daily Planet 10 Jul 72*

The homosexuals of Gay Liberation would like a campsite on the 21st street beach so they will be close to social and community gay life in Miami. Wherever the campsite is located it will be called the Barbara Beckman Memorial Campsite in honor of one of the founders of the Radicalesbians who was killed in an auto accident in April. Coalition leaders have scheduled a gay "kiss-in" for July 11, the day of the adoption of the Democratic platform.

During the convention members of the Coalition will buttonhole candidates and delegates in an effort to persuade them to include the Gay Coalition platform.

Chief Pomerance's office has notified the Coalition officials that men kissing each other on Miami Beach is illegal and they will be subject to arrest. However, it is not illegal for two women to kiss so only gay men will be arrested.

*Gay Press 10 Jul 72*

Black Panthers

The Black Panthers are organizing a whistle stop campaign train from Oakland to Miami in support of presidential candidate Mrs. Shirley Chisholm.

*Work part 2 Jul 72*

Underground News Media

Dispatch News Service, Liberation News Service, Unicorn, Underground Press Syndicate and many others are organizing to act as the protesters contact with the inner and the outer regions of the world. They have announced plans to send taped accounts of activities to radio and television networks all over the country.

*Daily Photo 10 Jul 72*

Americans Friends Service Committee

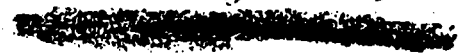
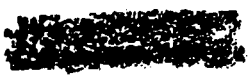
The AFSC (Quaker organization) has announced plans to hold workshops and also will support other groups in their actions. A public hearing at the main library will be held to develop a concise peace platform.

*Daily Photo 10 Jul 72*

Miami Convention Coalition

The MCC has announced they are planning an "Expose '72" campsite which will be a series of exhibits based on an anti-imperialistic theme developed by various antiwar and research groups.

*6 • Guardian 28 Jun 72  
Daily Photo 10 Jul 72*



The coalition is publishing a street journal entitled the "Carpetbag Express" which states that a low-key program aimed at the Democrats will be nonviolent.

*Austin 25 Jun 72  
Daily Planet 10/1/72*

SOURCE: Government and News Media

RELIABILITY: Probably True