A. J. MUSTE

TENTH FLOOR

(2/2) BEEKMAN STHEET, NEW YORK SS CORTLANDT 7-3261

June 28, 1965

Mrs. Lucy Montgomery 375 Bridlewood Road Worthbrook, Illinois

Dear Mrs. Montgomery,

I have been meaning for some time to call you or write you. However, after the Pentagon Speak Out I had to make a trip to the Wid-West, mainly to attend some institutes, and was not in a position to attend to other matters.

We regretted very much that you did not get to Washington, especially since it turned out to be quite a fabulous occasion and I think you would have been impressed and excited.

Not knowing how much of a report you may have had, I want now to write you in some detail both about the Speak Out and subsequent developments. The enclosed release issued by CNVA tells the story pretty well. In addition I am enclosing copy of a personal latter I received from a Navy man working in the Pentagon which may be an indication of the impact which the Speak Out made on individuals in that institution.

For several days after the Speak Out people like William Davidon, Barbara Deming, Staughton Lynd, etc. remained in Washington distributing leaflets in the Pentagon and trying to have conversations in depth with some of the employess in order to discover what impact may have been made. A number of such people will take turns in Washington during the summer making this kind of contact in other government offices as well as in the Pentagon itself.

However, this is not the most exciting development with which we are now confronted. You will probably recall that CNVA has been planning a demonstration at the White House on August fift. to which as many as possible of the Signers of the Declaration, past and to come, are being urged to attend. On the Saturday following the Pentagon Speak Out a meeting of something like 30 or 40 persons active in CNVA, SDS, SNCC, WSF and other such groups held a week-end session. The possibility, in fact the near-certainty, of a highly significant collaboration among the olif rights and the anti-war groups has come out of that meeting. We discussed the matter at the CNVA Executive Meeting just held and are moving into this activity with all the resources we can summon. The general plan, details of which will be worked out in the course of the week, is as follows:

You will not be surprised that this leads up to an earnest request of the CNVA Executive Committee to you to make a contribution toward this summer progra. Both for preparations for our own August 6th action and our contribution to the whole program, at least several thousand dollars are going to be needed. Some of this we need to have immediately in order that there may be no delay in getting things underway.

It may well be that you have suggestions to make about this whole development and we should very much like to have them.

With very earnest thank for your financial help and for your confidence in our work which means a great deal to me, I am,

Faithfully yours,

N.J. Musto

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P.S. In case you should wish to call me, I can be reached at my office, CO 7-3261, or during the mornings and evenings, at my apartment, AL 4-3833.

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