

What NSA did for freedom—and for me!

2. Travels to Zagreb, 1951

Barry Farber

University of North Carolina

Chair, NSA Virginia-Carolinas Region, 1951-52

NSA Delegate to 1951 Zagreb Peace Conference

When Dick Murphy told me, in the spring of 1951 on the campus of the University of North Carolina, that I'd been selected to be a delegate to the NSA Congress in Minneapolis late in the summer, my first thought was, "Which girls are going along?"

Can you blame me? "Student politics" to me meant sandbox politics: toy politics. Every year the honor students from all the colleges in central North Carolina would converge on the State Capitol in Raleigh, sit in the very chairs of the state legislators and "debate," exchange parliamentary jargon, and "pass bills." I figured NSA had to be something like that on a national level; so, even if the girl roster on our Carolina delegation proved lackluster, no big deal. There'd be a whole *nationful* of girls in Minneapolis.

The 1951 NSA Congress at Minnesota

To buttress my impression of NSA as trivia for student aristocrats, I recalled *Life Magazine's* condescending coverage of the previous NSA congress: the most memorable feature of which was our schoolmate and NSA President Al Lowenstein participating in something called a "Lion Hunt!"¹ The bus ride from North Carolina to Minnesota was uneventful. But a life-lifting kind of hell broke loose when I landed inside the real NSA and had those insulting impressions I'd gathered eliminated like a blow-torch eliminates cobwebs from the upper corners of a barn.

The venerable Harold Stassen, once-upon-a-time boy governor of Minnesota and persistent presidential aspirant, was the keynote speaker.²

The delegates from all those hundreds of colleges and universities were serious, relentless, idealistic, purposeful, and utterly focused on things I'd never really thought about: like academic freedom, students' rights, noncensorship of student publications, fair treatment of minorities on campus (those campuses that had minorities—down South, ours didn't!), and a galaxy of other issues you don't meet sitting in the seats



of the real state legislators or on a fantasy lion hunt.

The international front interested me so much that, like a drunk trying to pass himself off as sober, I had to fake interest in those domestic issues which, though I recognized as important, put my feet to sleep up to the hips. I was already fairly fluent in a dozen languages, had served in the Norwegian Merchant Marine, and attended the University of Oslo summer school. When I learned that the NSA was actively fighting the Moscow-sponsored International Union of Students I hungered to mount the free-

world student ramparts with a broken bourbon bottle and join the fight.

Social Security? Unions? Medical Care? Women's issues? As they say in Little Italy, "Forgeddaboutit!" Foil those egg-sucking Commie dogs, and we can work out all that other stuff nonviolently later on.

Helen Jean Rogers declines nomination for international post

The energy level at that NSA Congress was something new and praiseworthy to me. I'd never before met young people who could earnestly pursue the rescue of civilization all day and wage beer parties literally all night. I honestly remember thinking the girls from the Catholic colleges somehow gained a stamina denied to the rest of us by virtue of obligatory attendance all their lives at early mass.³

There was one incident that struck me as mysterious during that Congress. During the nominations and election of national officers somebody nominated a woman I'd never heard of, Helen Jean Rogers, as International Vice President. There was a rip-roar of huzzahs from the crowd and this tall, earnest-looking young woman took the stage and thanked her supporters but declined the nomination. The crowd would not be so easily denied. They roared their importunings that she accept the nomination and the office, which obviously would have been hers by acclamation.

Helen Jean just stood there for what seemed a parliamentary eternity—ten or twelve minutes—crying. She wasn't "weeping." She was crying, while the mob urged her to accept this high honor and office.⁴

She never did. She stood there and thanked everybody and cried and declined. The nomination and the office went to Avrea Ingram of Alabama, whose mysterious "suicide" a few years later to this day remains a blot on an otherwise beautiful NSA portrait, which I address elsewhere in this anthology.⁵ . . . [Excerpted]

Dentzer asks me to go to Zagreb—in 48 hours!

In October 1951, I was in Byrd Stadium on the campus of the University of Maryland at College Park. Our Tar Heel football team was playing the University of Maryland on a beautiful Saturday afternoon. Princess Elizabeth was a guest at the game. At halftime I went to the hot dog stand and to my stomp-down amazement ran into our NSA National President Bill Dentzer.

"Bill!" "Barry!"

He said he'd been trying to reach me for several days. I explained this was our big senior out-of-town football weekend and asked him why he was trying to reach me.

"The National Union of Students of Yugoslavia has invited us to send an NSA delegate to the Zagreb Peace Conference," Bill explained. "But I guess it's too late because the plane leaves Monday."⁶

"Bill," I said. "It's just Saturday. I'll go!"

"It's Saturday afternoon," Bill explained. "The State Department is closed so there's no way we could get you a passport."

In those days people didn't *have* passports. People *got* passports when they wanted to travel. I told Bill I *had* a passport left over from my summer at the University of Oslo the year before. . . . [Excerpted]

The Zagreb Peace Conference

The Zagreb Peace Conference I was to attend was a "Y'all Come" rally of every noncommunist and anticommunist leftist from Western Europe and the United States. Milovan Djilas, Tito's most trusted wartime lieutenant and later his most famous political prisoner, was the conference's official governmental host. Pastor Martin Niemoeller of Germany was there, a church-state celebrity who is credited with the oft-stolen-and-otherwise-misattributed quote:

When the Nazis came after the Jews. I wasn't Jewish, so I did nothing. When they came after the trade unionists, I wasn't a trade unionist, so I did nothing. When they came after the communists, I wasn't a communist, so I did nothing. When they came after Catholic clergy, I wasn't Catholic clergy, so I did nothing.

And when they came after me, there was nobody left to do anything!

Vladimir Dedijer, Tito's biographer and wartime lieutenant, was the official host to the American delegation. (Twenty-seven years later, he had defected to the West and appeared as a guest on my radio show! I had too much culture to remind him on the air that as a twerpy little kid back in Zagreb twenty-five years earlier I had told him all the fallacies of communism that he now so solemnly admitted in his weighty book.)

Obviously, the Zagreb Peace Conference was Tito's clumsy attempt to win allies in the West now that he had to redirect his entire nation in the opposite direction since he was no longer a Soviet satellite state. It was odd, much more than odd, to be in a classic dull, drab, gray, unsmiling, depressed, poor, and terrified communist country—*on our side*. [Excerpted]

BARRY FARBER

Early Years: Born 1930 in Baltimore. Graduated Greensboro High School in North Carolina. I graduated University of North Carolina in 1952. Before leaving college I was editor of a daily newspaper, a boxer, a wrestler, a steel-worker, a representative of American college students in Yugoslavia and Brazil, and an interpreter for units of the Chinese Nationalist Navy—and a Phi Beta Kappa student.

Career highlights: Since the age of twenty-one I have edited a daily newspaper and been a foreign correspondent, special assignments writer, and street reporter. My news coverage has taken me in and out of trouble spots around the world. I led Hungarians across the border after their revolution, and sped to Cuba after the fall of Batista, beating Fidel Castro to Havana by five days! I was reporting on the repression of Soviet Jews from the Moscow synagogue as early as 1956.

My nationally syndicated radio program, heard for three hours daily coast-to-coast over the Talk America Radio Network, won me the title of "Talk Host of the Year" in 1991.

My articles have appeared in *The New York Times*, *Readers Digest*, *The Washington Post*, *Saturday Review* and many other publications. I am a member of the Brotherhood Synagogue in New York and was twice elected to the board of the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry.

I ran for Mayor of New York City, bucking a liberal tide, and tallied a 40 percent-plus primary vote.

I discovered early on the power of language to get a story, and I speak Spanish, French, German, Italian, Portuguese, Dutch, Norwegian, Danish, Swedish, Russian, SerboCroatian, Indonesian, Hungarian, Finnish, Yiddish, and two dialects of Chinese.

Family: I am married and have two children.



Barry Farber is a nationally syndicated talk radio host. He has edited a daily newspaper, been a foreign correspondent, and writes a nationally syndicated general interest newspaper column. He speaks sixteen languages.

Establishing beachheads before the civil rights movement

2. Leadership in a Southern Black Catholic College

Norman Francis

Xavier University, Louisiana

Delegate, NSA Third National Student Congress, 1950

President, NFCCS Southeastern Region, 1951

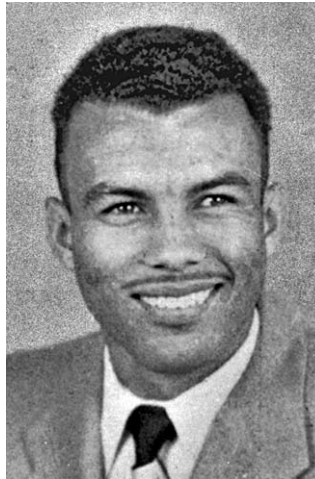
Xavier University of Louisiana occupied a unique place among Catholic colleges in the forties and fifties. It was black, it was coeducational, it was in the Deep South, and it was cosmopolitan. While recently recognized on the national scene, it had almost been a well-kept secret for many years. Throughout those years Xavier was a ground-breaking force in many ways, furnishing authentic, well-educated and well-rounded black leadership in Deep South student, educational, and civic organizations and helping pave the way for the civil rights movement within and outside of the Catholic Church.

During my student years, I was a participant and witness in particular to our role as a Southern black college anchor for the National Federation of Catholic College Students (NFCCS) as well as for the National Student Association. Xavier maintained active membership, lent prestige and recognition to student participation in regional and national NSA and NFCCS programs, and furnished outstanding leaders to both organizations.

In this memoir, I want to try and bring alive some of the background that nurtured our unique college community and some of the events of that energetic and purposeful post-war period.

The founding of Xavier in 1925

Our founder, Katharine Drexel, was a great visionary. Not only did she open an uptown New Orleans university in 1925 for young blacks to get a Catholic liberal arts education equal to that which was offered at all-white Loyola, but she opened Xavier's college of pharmacy because Loyola had a college of pharmacy that did not admit blacks. The irony is that today Xavier has the only college of pharmacy left in the city of New Orleans. Loyola left pharmacy. Tulane left pharmacy. And now about 20 percent of our college of pharmacy is white. (The total pharmacy enrollment is 500, and the total



for the university, primarily in the arts and sciences, is about 3,800.)

When our foundress left our original uptown New Orleans campus in 1932 and bought our current campus, what they didn't sell her is the land that fronts on Carrollton Avenue, the major thoroughfare bounding the campus and a canal that runs alongside it. About 75,000 cars now pass there each week, and if you keep going, you'll hit Loyola and Tulane. Yet, the only way you could get to us four years ago, until we acquired that strip, was to come off the two small bridges crossing the canal.

But the point is that her act was dramatic. She was breaking ground in the culture to open a Catholic college for blacks. *Time* magazine, in 1932, had an article about this white nun opening this Catholic college, and the locals were upset because she was spending all of that money to educate blacks when she should be giving it to the poor.

To underscore her intent, she purposely had the original main building designed in the limestone "Ivy League" mode so that when you drive by, it looks exactly like Tulane. She was saying to the South and to the New Orleanians, you may not know what I'm going to do inside, but you'll know from the outside that I'm investing in the best possible kind of a building, which will last forever. So that if a beautiful building marks a good school such as Tulane, I'm going to have the same kind of building marking Xavier.

Developing fortitude through segregation and speaking French

I was born in 1931, and I grew up in a segregated town, Lafayette, Louisiana, where everybody said you were inferior. But your parents were able, as the best psychologists in the world, to say no, don't let that faze you, because you're better than that. In fact, you're as good as anybody else. And they were able to do that when everything around you was saying

something different. It's like keep your eyes on the prize. How do you do that? I still have no answer, except that for those of us who grew up in the Judeo-Christian and Catholic background, I say to people, it is because God gave us more faith than other people—to believe in what we were being told and be encouraged to be educated.

Most of my early life was in the segregated South. I went to a segregated Catholic elementary school, as well as a Catholic high school. The city of Lafayette was a typical small country town. But there was something very unusual about it, in that both whites and blacks spoke a common language. It wasn't English—it was French. There was a bond somehow in this French language that was different from what I suspect lots of other cities faced, although the rules of segregation were quite clear, as clear as they were in any other places. We followed them rather strictly, and they were strictly enforced. Everybody knew what his or her place was, whether they were black or white. . . . *[Excerpted]*

Xavier, NSA, NFCCS, and the “Red Scare”

I was President of my class for four years, and I sat on the student council the entire time. I chaired the council in my fourth year. That's how I got involved with NFCCS and NSA. I attended the National Student Congress at the University of Michigan in summer 1950.

On the regional level, I became a delegate to the NFCCS in 1949, and to NSA in 1950. I was preceded by a number of outstanding Xavier delegates. Our first delegation head was Harry Alexander, who, as I mentioned earlier, went on to become a federal judge. It was Harry's letter to LSU in March of 1947 requesting Xavier representation at the first La-Ark-Miss Regional Meeting following the Chicago Student Conference that led to the area's first integrated student government meeting that spring, as well as to a vigorously contested referendum (which preceded the meeting) favoring an interracial meeting on the LSU campus.¹ Harry was also later elected Regional Chairman.

During 1949-1950 Aaron Henry was Chairman of our Student Activities Committee, and he headed our delegation at the Illinois Convention of NSA in the summer of 1949. Although not a Catholic, he was president of his Junior and Senior classes and President of the Xavier Student Body in his Senior year, in 1950. Aaron went on to become a state legislator, a nationally renowned leader in the Mississippi civil rights movement and head of the state National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) in 1960.² . . . *[Excerpted]*

By 1950, when I was active in NSA, no white Catholic or private colleges in the Louisiana Region belonged to NSA.³ Tulane did not belong to NSA. I think some students

there wanted to join. However, they ran into all kinds of problems. As I recall, they participated in some local meetings, but it was during that time that NSA in particular was labeled by some in the South as a communist organization. The worst thing you could do at that time was to call somebody a communist.⁴ . . . *[Excerpted]*

NORMAN C. FRANCIS

Early Background and Military Service. Dr. Francis was born in Lafayette, Louisiana, where he attended Catholic elementary and high schools. He served in the Third Armored Division of the U.S. Army from 1955 to 1957.

Education. Bachelor of Arts, 1952, Xavier University of Louisiana, New Orleans, LA. Doctor of Jurisprudence, 1955, Loyola University Law School, New Orleans, LA.

Career. During his thirty-one year tenure as President of the nation's only predominantly Black Catholic college, since 1968, the University has more than tripled its enrollment, broadened its curriculum, and expanded its campus.

Dr. Francis served in an advisory role to four presidential administrations—including the historic National Commission on Excellence in Education, whose findings, published in the work *A Nation at Risk*, created a sense of urgency for bringing about educational reform in the nation's school system. He has served as Chairman of the Member President's Council for the United Negro College Fund, President of the American Association of Higher Education, Chairman of the Board of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, and as Chairman of the Board of the Educational Testing Service.

He has provided leadership for civil rights, educational, civic, and religious organizations throughout his career. He serves as Chairman of the Board for the Southern Education Foundation in Atlanta. He is a member of the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity, the National Science Foundation 2000 Advisory Committee, and a number of boards, including the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, the National Foundation for Improvement in Education (NFIE), and the American Council on Education. He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (Cambridge, MA). He holds honorary degrees from twenty-five institutions of higher education. . . . *[Excerpted]*

After becoming, in 1955, the first Black to receive a law degree from Loyola University, and then completing military service in 1957, Dr. Francis returned to Xavier. There he held the positions of Dean of Men, Director of Student Personnel Service, Assistant to the President for Student Affairs, Assistant to the President in Charge of Development, and, in 1967, Executive Vice President. He became Xavier's first lay, male, and Black head in 1968. Its previous Presidents were Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament, its founding order.

Family. Married forty-five years to Blanche Macdonald Francis. He is the father of six children and grandfather of eight.



Since 1968, Norman C. Francis has been President of Xavier University in New Orleans, the only U.S. Catholic university with a predominantly black enrollment. He is Chairman of the Board for the Southern Education Foundation in Atlanta, and has served as President of the American Association of Higher Education and as Chairman of the Board of the Educational Testing Service.

Note: Hurricane Katrina in 2005 devastated Xavier, now re-opened and rebuilding at Dr. Francis' helm. (www.xula.edu), Dr. Francis was also appointed by the Governor as Chair of the Louisiana Recovery Authority.

A prewar teenage activist leads a wartime student movement

4. Origins of the United States Student Assembly (1943-1947)

Mary Lou Rogers Munts

Swarthmore College, 1941-44

First President, United States Student Assembly and International Student Assembly, 1943-44

I grew up in the Chicago area, initially in Whiting, Indiana, where my father worked in the research laboratory of the Standard Oil Company of Indiana (now BP-Amoco), eventually becoming its director of research. My father, a southern Democrat, encouraged my early interest in politics. Being a Democrat was a matter of family pride, as my Kentucky grandmother bragged that she had even voted for Al Smith. By 1932, when I was eight, Roosevelt was my political idol.

Living in the Depression years left a lasting impression on me. Whiting was less severely affected, being a company town of Standard Oil, but unemployment devastated the nearby steel towns of East Chicago, Indiana Harbor, and Gary. I was deeply shocked by the poverty of homes I visited at Christmas with canned goods and toys from my church. My developing social conscience was also piqued because I sensed how unjust it was that I got more attention from a teacher than a child of immigrant parents who started school speaking little English.

Moving to Chicago and growing political interests

In 1937 our family moved to Chicago to give me the challenge of the University of Chicago High School (the lab school). My interest in politics became more intense. Our lively Hyde Park neighborhood elected Paul Douglas, a university professor, to the City Council, where he became the lone reformer. Because he had a cabin at the Indiana dunes, as we did, I took a strong personal interest in his career, which culminated in his election to the U.S. Senate in 1948.

I showed my political pragmatism early by being the sole volunteer willing to debate in my social studies class for the reelection of Mayor Kelly, despite his being the boss of the corrupt machine. My best argument was that the Republican candidate would throw great numbers of people off the welfare rolls, a talking point I picked up from the director of a



Chicago neighborhood house, as it appealed to my sympathy for the underdog.

As the war in Europe loomed, my passions were aroused by the isolationist-interventionist debate, which split the University of Chicago community. Robert Hutchins, the president of the university, and a leader of the America First Committee, was squared off against Quincy Wright, a political science professor, a leader of the William Allen White Committee to Defend America by Aiding the Allies. The raging controversy about Lend-Lease hit home when the League of Women Voters, in which my

mother was active, supported the legislation. To my great consternation, my father, disillusioned by World War I, was an isolationist, opposing both Roosevelt's bid for a third term and Lend-Lease. The family dinner table saw heated debates between us which strengthened both my Democratic and interventionist allegiance and my ability to defend my views.

Entering Swarthmore in 1941

As a freshman, I could not have found a better hall assignment to further my activism. A neighboring group of junior women, leaders in the Swarthmore Student Union (SSU), took me under their wing and soon had me involved up to my ears. Part of my training was sitting at the feet of my mentors to learn the dramatic history of the SSU and the American Student Union (ASU). The Nazi-Soviet pact had led many ASU leaders in other colleges to follow a series of gyrations as the "party line" changed. After a convention at Madison, WI, in December 1939,¹ it became clear that the communists had gained the majority, and chapters like ours resigned in protest.

Our independent chapter then played an important role in trying to rebuild a noncommunist student movement. Our SSU and the Harvard Liberal Union, also a former ASU chapter, took the lead with similar former ASU chapters at

Radcliffe and Mount Holyoke to form the Student League for Progressive Action (SLPA) at a meeting jointly sponsored by International Student Service and the National Student Federation of America in December 1940.²

Although I was told about the SLPA by my Swarthmore mentors, there was little evidence of its development, as it lacked money and staff. However, the SSU and the Harvard Liberal Union continued to maintain very close ties until its leadership was absorbed by the war. Some of its leaders stayed in touch and attended the United States Student Assembly (USSA) convention in May 1943 in uniform. The formation of USSA was the fruition of the dream that the Swarthmore SSU and Harvard Liberal Union leaders had for SLPA—to initiate a noncommunist liberal student movement. My choice as president of USSA probably owed something to the strong role Swarthmore had played after the demise of the ASU in keeping this dream alive.

At the end of my freshman year (1942) I was astonished to be selected to attend the second (and last) Leadership Training Institute sponsored by International Student Service (ISS) at Campobello Island in the Roosevelt home. I had been recommended by my SSU mentors to Joe Lash, ISS general secretary, for selection and found myself the only freshman among a group of student council presidents and college newspaper editors.³

By the time the institute took place, Joe Lash had entered the army and Molly Yard took his place as director of the student program. I soon found a friend in Molly, who had gone to Swarthmore. My admiration knew no bounds as I learned that she had led the efforts to abolish sororities at the college in the early thirties. I was thrilled when I learned that Molly had just moved to Philadelphia, which led her to play a continuing role as a mentor for me. (Molly became a dear friend for life, with whom I shared many a discussion about her distinguished career as a leader in Democratic politics in Pennsylvania, in Americans for Democratic Action, and as president of the National Organization for Women.)

The perils of the 1930s United Front

Molly recounted for me a great deal of the history of the ASU and the American Youth Congress (AYC), the organization that Mrs. Roosevelt befriended and that ultimately betrayed her loyalty and caused her bitter disillusionment. Molly, along with Joe Lash and many other young socialists, joined the United Front of the thirties; this led to a close working relationship over a broad political spectrum, which included a strong communist element both in the ASU and in the AYC. Joe Lash served as general secretary and Molly Yard as treasurer, organizational secretary, and, finally, chairman of ASU.

The Nazi-Soviet Pact in August 1939 was the seminal

event that revealed the extent to which communists had gotten themselves in key positions in the leadership of both organizations, leading to the groups' destruction. It was Molly's tutelage about these events, together with that of my Swarthmore mentors, that made me so wary of a repeat performance in the United States Student Assembly that I was to chair. . . .*[excerpted]*

MARY LOU (ROGERS) MUNTS

Education: Swarthmore College, 1941-44; University of Chicago, M.A. in Economics, 1947, Phi Beta Kappa; University of Wisconsin Law School, J.D., 1976.

Highlights: Mary Lou Rogers was born in Chicago, IL, on August 21, 1924. She attended Swarthmore College, where her passion for politics began. She quit college in her senior year to run the student campaign for a Swarthmore professor running for Congress. She later transferred to the University of Chicago, where she received her master's degree in economics and married a fellow student, Ray Munts, in 1947.

The Munts's early years were spent in Paris and Wilkes-Barre, PA, where Lisa and Roger were born. They came to Madison in the mid-fifties, where Polly arrived. In her "spare time" Mary Lou threw herself into the exciting efforts to build a new Democratic Party. The family then spent ten years in Bethesda, MD. Here Andrew completed the Munts family. Mary Lou's activist side was expressed in pioneering work in civil rights to pass a public accommodations law and to found a fair housing organization.

In 1966 the Munts family returned to Madison. The death of their son Roger, a year later, affected Mary Lou profoundly. Struggling to come back to life, she entered law school in 1970 and then ran successfully for the Assembly in 1972. Mary Lou became a legislative legend as she shepherded through one piece of legislation after another. She ended her legislative career as the first woman co-chair of the Joint Finance Committee and then was appointed the first woman member of the Public Service Commission and later its chair.

A year after her retirement in 1991, Mary Lou was devastated by Ray's death. Her recovery was assisted by her three children and seven grandchildren and by her passions for gardening and travel. She also pursued her interests in political and energy issues by joining the national boards of the Energy Foundation and of Common Cause. Currently she co-chairs Wisconsin Common Cause and is a founding member of Madison's award winning Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center.



Mary Lou Munts is co-chair of Wisconsin Common Cause. She served in the Wisconsin Assembly for 12 years, and was the first woman member and then chair of the Public Service Commission.

END NOTES

[Excerpt from notes]

¹ The attack of the USSR on Finland in November 1939 led to the final schism within the ASU, when it became completely apparent that the communists had gained control of the organization. Delegates at the Madison convention voted overwhelmingly, 322 to 49, to reject the condemnation of the Soviet invasion of Finland. Joe Lash, general secretary of the ASU and Molly Yard, its chairman, did not run for reelection at the convention.

PART 1. LAUNCHING NSA: CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

SECTION 8

NSA's Fourth Year, 1950-51

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Shirley Neizer Tyler, *Simmons College, MA. NSA Executive Secretary, 1950-51* [Head of School, Grace Episcopal Church, Alexandria, VA]

283 3. Allard K. Lowenstein: A Legacy

Recollections about Allard K. Lowenstein, University of North Carolina. NSA President, 1950-51 [Member, U.S. Congress (NY). Recipient, Eleanor Roosevelt Peace Award]

286 Vision: "We Shall Learn to Build Better Bridges and to Live with One Another"

Allard K. Lowenstein, *University of North Carolina. NSA President, 1950-51*

289 Background: "NSA Has Departed from Its Founding Principles of Peace and Internationalism" (Address to the NSA Congress)

Robert Fogel, *Cornell University, Labor Youth League* [Professor of Economics, University of Chicago. Nobel Laureate in Economic Science, 1993]

291 Roster: Staff, Advisers, Regional Chairs, Colleges, 1950-1951

293 Milestones in the News: 1951 Background: NSA 1950-1951 Budget

294 Background: "LIFE Goes to a Collegiate Convention" (*LIFE*, September 18, 1950)

The NSA staff that was elected at the Michigan Congress, headed by Allard K. Lowenstein (University of North Carolina), entered a year when most undergraduate veterans on the GI Bill had left the campus and moved on to work and family or graduate school. The theme of the Congress was "The Role of the Student in the Educational Community."

The Korean War loomed over the Congress agenda, and over the report of the dramatic experiences of Robert L. West, NSA's 1948-49 International Vice President and NSA observer team member at the International Union of Students (IUS)-sponsored Second World Student Congress in Prague. The memorable speech that he delivered in Prague appears in Part 3.

Lowenstein, a popular and charismatic spellbinder, who later attained national prominence as a Congressman and leader of the "Dump Johnson" movement during the Vietnam War, changed the course of the association's policy toward the IUS in his controversial speech delivered in Stockholm that December (detailed in Part 3), criticizing Soviet imperialism and proposing more effective collaboration among noncommunist national student unions.

What had been tensions of management style among the prior year's staff were exacerbated by policy and program differences among the new staff. These are reported as part of the overview of that year presented by Joan Long Lynch (Marylhurst College, OR), 1950-51 Staff Associate, as well as in the recollections of Shirley Neizer Tyler (Simmons College, MA), Executive Secretary.

Leadership role among NSA's staff is debated

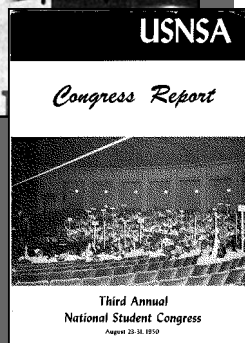
Both writers discuss how, on opposite sides of the issue, Elmer Brock (LaSalle College), Vice President for Student Life, and Herb Goldsmith (University of Wisconsin), Vice President for Educational Affairs, voiced the split over the meaning of NSA's recently adopted policy that among its elected officers the president was "the first among equals." Until that year the elected officers largely maintained autonomy in their respective program areas and reached consensus through collaborative relationship. Both Lynch, in her memoir in this section, and International Vice President Herb Eisenberg (Massachusetts Institute of Technology), in his memoir in Part 3, report how this balance was strained, if not ruptured, in the articulation of NSA's "foreign policy." Nonetheless, Lowenstein voiced a passionate vision for his generation that "we shall learn to build better bridges . . . and to live with one another." His presidential speech to the Michigan Congress is presented here.

LIFE magazine, in its picture story of the convention, highlighted the appearance of Cornell student Robert Fogel (later a Nobel Laureate in Economics) as representative of the communist-oriented Labor Youth League, who was given floor time to present his argument against U.S. engagement in the Korean War, which appears in this section.

Attendance at the Congress included 780 delegates and observers from 232 colleges and also 100 administrators and press.

THE MICHIGAN CONGRESS

is addressed by Allard K. Lowenstein (U. of North Carolina), newly elected fourth NSA President.



1950-1951 ALBUM

The Michigan Daily

Latest Deadline in the State

YOU WILL BE HOST: Annual NSA Congress To Arrive Next Week

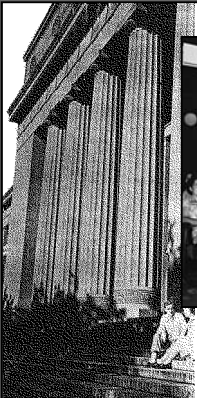
Third annual National Student Congress will bring more than 800 college and university students and educational campus friends to the University of Michigan campus from all over the United States. The hosts are sponsoring the annual National Student Congress on the campus.

Student Mobilization Urged By Speakers At U-M Parley

Rapid mobilization of American students for war and peace was urged today by three student leaders attending the third annual National Student Congress on the campus.

Students Urged To Fight For Intellectual Freedom

The kind of intellectual freedom needed in American colleges extends far beyond book learning, the third annual National Student Congress was told last night at its opening meeting on the campus.



(Cappell Hall, University of Michigan)
Third Annual National Student Congress
Aug. 23-31, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan
"The Role of the Student in the Educational Community"



The Cold War and Korea

Wars, cold and hot, captured headlines and attention, as NSA moved into its fourth year with a strong sense of its role "as the voice for American students" (Lowenstein) but "drastically underfunded" as programs became "more numerous and complex" (Lynch). The third Congress was welcomed to Ann Arbor (above) by the *Michigan Daily* (8/13/50) and the *Ann Arbor News* (8/26, 8/27/50). Photos above: Left: Jack Shaffer, USC observer, wife and child. From top right: (1) Elmer Brock (La Salle C, PA), V.P. Student Life; Gordon Klopff (U. WI), Chairman, National Advisory Council; Allard K. Lowenstein (U. of NC), President; Herbert B. Goldsmith (U. of WI), V.P. Educational Problems. (2) From left: Shirley Neizer (Simmons C, MA), Executive Secretary, Merrill Freed (U. of Chicago), Chair, Illinois Region; Joan Long (Marylhurst C, OR), Staff Associate. (3) Left: Herbert W. Eisenberg (MIT), V.P. International Affairs with Paulo Martins, President of the Brazilian National Union of Students.

World Student Congress

THE National Student Association is now in the process of forming a delegation to the second World Student Congress to be held in Prague this summer. This congress, sponsored by the Inter-

exhausted our postwar dreams of full employment smashed. To the ever louder demand of our youth for jobs, all Wall Street can answer is "Join the Army!" A report of this festival elicits an an-



U-M Parley Hears How Reds Rigged World Student Meet

An eyewitness report of the Com-rigged sessions, the U. S. students

The NSA News

United States National Student Association
VOL. IV, NO. 3 DECEMBER, 1950

19 Student Unions Hold Conference at Stockholm

Leaders of 19 national student unions will meet at Stockholm, Sweden, this month to discuss proposed multi-lateral working arrangements between their organizations.



Local Great Debate
Students from 9 Colleges Attend NSA's Weekend Peace Program
Delegates from nine colleges attended an NSA sponsored inter-collegiate student conference "By What Means Peace?" at the University Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

NEW YORK
Tribune Late City Edition
Picture of Dejection
550 Are Stranded, Student Tour Ship Held as 'Fire Trap'

Third Student Congress Discusses Korean Battle
The Korean War complicated with many problems for the attention of the Third Annual National Student Congress in August at Ann Arbor.

Vol. CX No. 37,842
Korea Reds Open Attack On South Korea, War On U. S. Takes Case to U.N.

NSA Congress Considers Aggression, Academic Freedom, Discrimination
Ann Arbor, Mich. campus problems for more than 800 American students at the Third Annual NSA Congress.

LA SALLE COLLEGIAN
NSA Backs U.N. Korean Stand; Federal Aid To Education

Loyalty Oaths in Universities denounced at NSA Convention
The holding of academic sessions interrupted, disorganization and the affixing of loyalty oaths to more than 300 A.S.S.A. members and prominent faculty members.

SQUARE BULLETIN
Published By The Students Of Washington Square College, New York University
MORNING, SEPTEMBER 18, 1950

Third National Student Congress Supports UN Resolutions On Korea
6,000 STUDENTS ENROLL

THE IUS HELD ITS SECOND CONGRESS in Prague. NSA sent three observers. Middle photo: Robert West (Yale, Pt. 2, S. 2) addresses the Congress. Bottom photo: Gene Schwartz (CCNY) and Bill Holbrook (U. Minn), 3d and 2d from right, deliver report to NSA staff. (Clips: *Mich Daily* 6/21/50, *Ann Arbor News* 8/28/50). Bottom: Alternate conference to IUS called for Stockholm.

World's Students Divide

STRANDED STUDENTS SHARE HEADLINES.

Clips, right, from top: *New York Herald Tribune* 6/23/50, 6/25/50 ("Korea Reds"). See "Student Ships" Pt. 2, S. 5. *Temple University News* 5/9/51. *The Technique* 10/17/50, *GA Tech, La Salle Collegian*, 10/4/50, PA, NYU, *Square Bulletin* 9/18/50 ("Aggression") 10/13/50, *Columbia Spectator* ("Loyalty Oaths") 10/2/50. Photo: Unidentified delegate at NSA 3d Congress (SHSW).



A Renewed "Hot War" Focus