

FLF Joins United States Youth Council

Neil Salonen
June 23, 1973
From *The Rising Tide*

The Freedom Leadership Foundation was voted into the membership of the United States Youth Council at the Council's annual meeting on June 23. The Youth Council is composed of representatives from a variety of moderate youth-oriented organizations.

The stated purposes of the Youth Council are: "To represent the interests and concerns of the youth of the United States to those of other nations through participation in international affairs and membership in the World Assembly of Youth To serve as a medium through which the views of the member organizations on national and international issues of concern to youth may be jointly formulated and communicated nationally and To provide channels for the exchange of information and for cooperation on policies and programs among member organizations."

FLF President Neil Salonen was elected to the Selections Committee, which is responsible for choosing delegates to represent United States Youth in international programs.

At the outset of the meeting, Youth Council President David Dorn highlighted the Council's current concerns, including its role in voter registration programs and its technical assistance to West Africa. Mr. Dorn stressed the importance of U.S. -- European affairs, stating that we are seeing the most significant realignment in Europe since World War II and pointing out the need for greater education among young people about the upcoming MBFR and SALT talks.

A recent delegation to Vietnam, India, Indonesia, and Bangladesh opened the meeting of the International Affairs Commission with reports and recommendations concerning possible Youth Council projects in East Asia. According to the delegates, prospects for programs were most promising in Indonesia; they will draw up a proposal for programs there.

Also discussed at length was the Council's technical assistance program to West Africa. With the help of the African-American Labor Center, the Council is coordinating a five-year work-study program with several West Africa countries. The Council has been providing skilled agriculturalists, medical workers and journalists on a volunteer basis from several months up to a year.

Also discussed were the possibilities of an exchange program in South America and a series of seminars, given nationally, on international affairs. In the plans for 1973 -- 74 are a seminar and tour in the U.S. for delegates of the German Youth Council and a U.S. study program to Europe. The study program, to be sponsored by Youth for Federal Union, will focus on U.S. European -- Soviet relations and youth organizations in Europe.

The United States Youth Council was founded in 1946, then becoming a vehicle for introducing German youth to democratic techniques. It is anti-totalitarian, encouraging young people to participate in democratic institutions. FLF is anticipating active participation in the Council.