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[for the Political Committee]

Houston, Texas  
October 23, 1975

John Barzman  
Chicago, Ill.

Dear John,

I recently had the opportunity to read the documents of the IT internal discussion leading up to the Spring 1975 convention. I've also had the chance here in Houston to see the ITNF comrades in their day to day work of building the Party as well as have had discussions with them on political and organizational questions as relate to the functioning of the IT in relation to the SWP over the past 2½ years.

It has also come to my attention that my resignation letter of February 1975 has been used in a factional manner by the SWP leadership as a way of attempting to grill and intimidate ITNF comrades re-applying for SWP membership in various parts of the country.

Therefore, I'd like to make clear to you that based on my understanding of the ITNF's positions, that is, based on the documents authored by yourself and others who supported the ITPC majority, including the Balance Sheet, my characterization of the IT as "anti-party" does not and cannot in any way or manner apply to the ITNF. The tendency has shown its ability to recognize the SWP as the revolutionary party in the U.S. and its own role as a loyal faction of the SWP in support of the FI majority and has in real life carried out this correct orientation. The evolution of the IT majority has been in a most positive direction and if the Party leadership is sincere in implementing the IEC decisions, as we should assume they are, then I look forward to a re-integration of all who have re-applied in the near future, so that we can continue the necessary work of building the SWP and the Fourth International.

Comradely,  
/s/ Peter Gellert

cc: SWP N.O.

November 1, 1975

To Political Committee members:

We'll discuss the letter below at the next Political Committee meeting. You have already received a copy of Gellert's letter.

Doug Jenness

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14 Charles Lane  
New York, N.Y. 10014

Stu Singer

Houston

Dear Stu,

Enclosed is a copy of a letter the Political Committee received from Peter Gellert, a former member of the Houston branch who has applied for readmission to the party.

Comrade Gellert inquires about the party's policy in respect to the distribution of our press. We decided at our convention to launch a sales campaign and sub drive for the Militant and support the Young Socialist Alliance's efforts to increase the circulation of the Young Socialist. We reaffirmed the responsibility that we've accepted since 1963 of making Intercontinental Press widely available, thus making its publication economically feasible.

This is the only national policy we've established. Concrete division of labor in carrying this out is of course a branch decision. Any proposals of Comrade Gellert for most effectively implementing this policy would be more properly made to the Houston branch leadership.

Comrade Gellert raises the question of Inprecor. None of our bookstores have refused to carry Inprecor, the number depending on the demand. In addition branch bookstores often have copies of several publications of the world movement available.

The decision of the Houston branch to utilize a publication of one of the Mexican sympathizing groups of the Fourth International to reach Spanish-speaking readers isn't against any national decisions or policies. To the contrary, we salute your initiative and look forward to a report on the results we can share with the other branches that are in areas with a large Spanish-speaking population.

If it would be helpful, I suggest that you show Comrade Gellert this letter the next time you meet with him.

Comradely,

s/Doug Jenness  
for the Political Committee

Houston, Tx 77019  
October ~~21~~ 23, 1975

Political Committee,  
Socialist Workers Party  
14 Charles Lane  
New York, NY 10014

OCT 29 1975

Dear Comrades,

Several weeks ago I noticed that the comrades of the Houston branch were selling and distributing copies of El Socialista, organ of the Mexican Liga Socialista, as part of the branch's campaign work.

Since there has been "problems" in the past with distribution of the press of other sections and sympathizing groups, including the distribution of Inprecor, the official organ of the United Secretariat of the FI itself, I inquired of Stu S, the branch organizer, 1) who made the decision to distribute El Socialista, the branch or the National Office 2) whether comrades could similarly distribute Bandera Roja, organ of the GCI, also a Mexican sympathizing section of the FI 3) whether comrades who support the positions of the FI, as adopted by its 10th World Congress and its leadership bodies would be required to circulate El Socialista, inasmuch as this is obviously a way of building the prestige and influence if not the actual organization of the LS (a goal I'm not particularly keen on devoting myself to, given a far better alternative, the GCI)

His answers were (respectively): the branch had made the decision, comrades could NOT distribute BR, and that if requested to, comrades supporting the FI majority would be expected to distribute El Socialista. He added that this is not being done as a factional act or a way of denigrating the GCI but that the branch felt the need for Spanish language papers from Mexico given the interest in Mexican politics in the Chicano community and that the SWP agrees with the analysis of Portugal contained in that particular issue of El Socialista.

In July 1974 when I was attempting, as a member of the branch sales committee, to get the branch to distribute Inprecor, which again, is the official organ of the FI and moreover, was voted for by the SWP's fraternal representatives on the FI leadership bodies, I was told that only the National Office could make such a decision.

Which in fact is the case? What is the policy of the Party towards the distribution of the press of other sections? Are IMT comrades in Houston expected to carry bundles of El Socialista with them as other comrades do?

Finally, as an enthusiastic reader of Inprecor, I'd very much like to see its circulation increased in the U.S. I am not aware of any policy by the Party leadership forbidding its circulation by SWP members, just as I am not aware of any decision by the Party to organize its sale and distribution. Therefore, could you inform me if any decision has in fact been made on this question. If none, I would like to request permission to sell and solicit subs for Inprecor, as part of my regular sales of The Militant.

As you know, I am still not a member of the SWP, however since I'm attempting to operate under the direction and discipline of the Party, I am following this procedure as the correct way as I understand it.

Comradely,

c.c. Inprecor, GCI, IMT

Peter Gellert

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Revolutionary Marxist Organizing Committee  
[address in original]  
Los Angeles, CA

October 27, 1975 [postmarked Nov. 17, 1975]

Socialist Workers Party  
14 Charles Lane  
New York, N.Y. 10014

Dear Comrades:

On October 25, 26, representatives of the Internationalist Tendency (IT), Baltimore Marxist Group (BMG), Socialist Union (SU) and Revolutionary Marxist Collective (RMC) met in Baltimore. On the basis of general agreement with the documents of the Tenth World Congress, the Building a Revolutionary Party in Capitalist America of the IT, and the IMT positions on Portugal, particularly "In Defense of the Portuguese Revolution", the IT decided to recruit the members of the SU, BMG, and RMC, and to adopt the name Revolutionary Marxist Organizing Committee, (RMOC).

It is the opinion of the RMOC that all Trotskyist forces in the U.S. sympathetic to the Fourth International should be in a single organization. We therefore request collective admission into the SWP.

If accepted, we would, of course, abide by party discipline. We would also exercise the full rights and responsibilities of an organized tendency or faction.

We are prepared to discuss these matters with you.

Comradely,

Revolutionary Marxist Organizing Committee

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Excerpt from the IT (New Faction) Newsletter of November 28, 1975, concerning the Revolutionary Marxist Organizing Committee

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### 3. Briefs

#### Once Again on the Analysis of the SWP

The United Secretariat of October 4 and 5, received a telegram from a new group in the USA, which includes a few former members of the IT, inviting the IMT to attend its conference in Baltimore. No objections were made by the observing representatives of the SWP to a proposal to send an IMT representative to this conference to explain the IMT's support of the SWP, and the need to join the SWP and build it under the discipline of its leadership. This trip was made by Cde Livio at the expense of the group. However, the group proceeded to establish a new organization called the Revolutionary Marxist Organizing Committee with headquarters in Los Angeles, and did not adopt any new analysis of the SWP which would have reversed the incorrect sectarian stand on the nature of the SWP defended by the leaders of this group in the IT pre-conference discussion of last April. An application for collective admission in the SWP (most members of RMOC have never been in the SWP) was adopted by this group, admittedly as a formality. The group decided to continue not to collaborate with the SWP. Following the conference, the IMT representative gave a report on it to the SWP leadership. At its meeting of November 19, 1975, the IMT Enlarged Bureau decided to continue to have no relations with this group. It is to be hoped that the SWP leadership will assume its responsibilities as the leadership of a fraternal group of the FI to have a discussion with the comrades of the RMOC and try to win them over to the SWP.

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