

14 Charles Lane  
New York, N.Y. 10014  
July 3, 1975

TO ALL COMRADES

Dear Comrades,

The attached article "Argentine Terrorist Ring Broken Up" entered by Birchite Congressman Larry McDonald in the June 27 Congressional Record is based on a long public report of the Argentine police which was published in the daily press in Buenos Aires. The comrades did not send us a copy but we know of its existence from a summary in the May 23 issue of La Opinión, an Argentine daily we receive in New York. McDonald is a notorious conduit for the FBI and CIA.

As to the alleged facts.


We have had no report on what the fate of these arrested comrades is or what they have said. We assume they are being held incommunicado and were subjected to brutal torture. Intercontinental Press has published all the material available thus far on their case.

The other so-called facts are a combination of garbled quotations, pure police inventions, and some items that are public knowledge.

This is part of the FBI's continuing attack on the SWP as they try to invent some cover for their provocative Cointelpro-type activities that our case keeps bringing to light. These frame-up efforts to cook up a case to charge the SWP with violating the reactionary Voorhis Act have been exposed in articles in the June 20 and June 27 issues of the Militant.

This law, passed in 1940 in preparation for American entry into World War II, imposes prohibitive restrictions on organizations subject to "foreign control." It is the law that, for example, prevents the SWP from maintaining anything more than relations of fraternal solidarity with the Fourth International, the worldwide Trotskyist organization it helped found in 1938.

Comradely,

  
Jack Barnes  
National Secretary

"Argentine Terrorist Ring Broken Up"  
by Hon. Larry McDonald of Georgia

from Congressional Record, June 27, 1975

Mr. McDONALD of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, the Argentine federal police have broken up a Trotskyist terrorist organization with links in the United States and Europe. The terrorist group, called the Revolutionary Communist League, is affiliated with the Fourth International, a worldwide Trotskyist movement. The Socialist Workers Party is the affiliate of the Fourth International in the United States. I note that the SWP has complained, in the June 27 issue of its newspaper, *The Militant*, about my earlier exposure of SWP contacts with foreign terrorists (Congressional Record, February 19, 1975, page E571.)

The police investigation and raids that broke up this terrorist ring began in December 1974, with a raid on a so-called "people's jail," where the Trotskyite terrorists kept kidnap victims. An extensive investigation revealed the participation of this organization in numerous kidnappings and other terrorist actions.

The Revolutionary Communist League was formerly called the Red Faction of the Revolutionary Workers Party PRT, of Argentina. The PRT was the official section of the Fourth International in Argentina until early 1973 when it broke with the International. The PRT, through its armed section operating under the name of Revolutionary Army of the People, ERP, carried out most of the terrorist attacks in Argentina during the past five years.

Many millions of dollars in ransom money have been paid to these Argentine Trotskyite Communists by major corporations including EXXON as ransom for corporate executives kidnaped by the terrorists.

In early 1973, the PRT/ERP broke with the Fourth International during a faction fight.

The Red Faction of this movement remained with the Fourth International and in March 1974, changed its name to Revolutionary Communist League. In August 1972, Mario Roberto Santucho, the leader of the ERP, led a number of his members, who had been captured during terrorist operations, in a prison break from a military prison in Argentina. He fled to Chile where he was greeted by officials of the Allende regime. He subsequently went on to Cuba where he again received a warm welcome from the officials of that Communist government.

After leaving the ERP, the Red Faction decided to kidnap Aaron Bellinson, an Argentinian business executive. He was kidnaped on May 23, 1973, and a demand of a million dollars was made for his release. The ransom was paid and he was released on June 3, 1973. Of

the \$1 million in ransom, a \$100,000 was given by the Red Faction to Livio Maitan, a leader of the Fourth International. Half of the money was assigned to the financing of the Fourth International and the other half was presented to the MIR, the Communist terrorist movement in Chile.

Maitan, an Italian, is in charge of coordinating Trotskyite terrorist activities throughout Latin America. He received the \$100,000 from Flavio Koutzii and Paulo Antonio Parangua, who are leaders of the Red Faction. In August 1973, shortly after receiving the ransom pay-off money, Livio Maitan entered the United States to attend the 1973 convention of the Socialist Workers Party where he spoke extensively in defense of terrorism as a useful revolutionary tactic now.

The leadership of the Socialist Workers Party opposes terrorism at this time, arguing that they do not have either the manpower or the facilities to carry out such operations. They do, however, argue that terrorism may be an appropriate tactic in the future. According to Socialist Workers Party officials, Peter Camejo, in a secret document distributed only to members of the Socialist Workers Party--

"In the process of an insurrection, terrorist acts may be advantageous to the Workers movement."

But he says that such acts should not be isolated from the mass armed struggle at that time. *International Internal Discussion Bulletin*, June 1973, page 11.

About 10 percent of the members of the Socialist Workers Party support the proterrorist majority of the Fourth International. They have been organized into a group called the Internationalist Tendency. In July 1974, most of the Internationalist Tendency were expelled from the Socialist Workers Party, not because they advocated terrorism, but because they had violated some of the party's organizational principles.

Some of the proterrorists remain within the Socialist Workers Party, the rest, organized under the leadership of William Massey and John Barzman, have asked for reaffiliation with the Socialist Workers Party and are in constant contact with the leadership of the Fourth International, Ernest Mandel and Livio Maitan. The headquarters of the Internationalist Tendency is Chicago, Ill.

In August 1973, Danial Bensaid, a French official of the Fourth International, arrived in Argentina, met with the leaders of the Red Faction and invited them to send

six delegates to the World Congress of the Fourth International to take place in Sweden in February of 1974. The six delegates chosen were:

Paulo Antonio Parangua--party name "Saul"--who is presently under arrest. He was the leader of a group of Brazilians assigned to the Fourth International in 1971-72 to work in Argentina;

Flavio Koutzii--party name "Rene"--Brazilian, now under arrest;

Manuel Rallis--party name "Beto"--now under arrest;

Maria Regina Pilla--party name "La Negra"--Brazilian, now under arrest;

Mario Vencente Rodriguez--party name "Gallego"--killed in a shoot out with the police in December 1974; and

Klachko--party name "Pelado"--who now heads a rival terrorist group called the Communist League. He is still a fugitive from Justice although some members of his group are in custody.

At the World Congress of the Fourth International, Parangua made the majority report on Argentina under

the party name "Saul Lopez." Among the speakers at the congress who discussed terrorism in Argentina were Rodriguez under the name "Gallego," Jack Barnes, the national chairman of the Socialist Workers Party, under the name "Hans," Klachko under the party name "Pelado," Livio Maitan under the party name "Claudio," Rallis under the party name "Beto," Koutzii under the party name "Rene," and Ernest Mandel, the world leader of the Fourth International, under the party name "Walter." All supported continuing the terror in Argentina except Barnes.

Massey and Barzman, the two leaders of the Internationalist Tendency also attended the World Congress of the Fourth International where they collaborated with Maitan, Mandel, the Argentinian Red Faction, and other supporters of "terrorism now." After returning from the World Congress the Red Faction continued the kidnappings and terrorism.

Mr. Speaker, there are no laws on the books which prevent foreign terrorist leaders such as Livio Maitan from entering the United States and meeting with their American supporters. He is only one of many. Our colleague, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. Ashbrook), has introduced a bill to curb terrorism which includes a section which would ban foreign terrorists from entry into this country. That bill is now pending before the Judiciary Committee but hearings concerning it have not been announced.