

Rawfachaw
Rofugha

(1)

;) great pleasure to bring // on behalf of USFI

- warmest res greetings

- best wishes for a successful
convention

This gathering = quite an achievement

- for you

- for int'l as a whole

We know, from much experience, how
difficult it is to build a cadre
in conditions of repression and exile

To have done what you have done

- to have brought together a
cadre of this size, &

~~- of and not only of this size,~~

~~of other~~ under the conditions in
which you are forced to work

and, then, to consider the potential

lying before you -- ~~because that is~~
~~others who want to join you~~ --

(2)

- This is something you have every right to be ~~the~~ proud of

You are already the largest Trotskyist group in the Middle East

and you are a key part of the process that is going on right now of building the FI in Asia

where in recent years -- though not always -- we have been weak

Of course, you are still a small group,

But the discussion you have had, indicating that there are some signs of openings for our movement inside Iran itself -- is also very significant

harbingers of things to come

for when the ^{mass} movement really rises, and the opportunity does come -- as it inevitably will -- to throw the bulk of our forces into ~~our~~ political work inside Iran you will have the opportunity to take the cadres you have developed and multiply them many times and become a serious factor in the W.C.

(3)

So, all of this is an ^{opportunity} ~~achievement~~
that must be called to the
attention of the world movement
as a whole



I'd like to speak briefly about
some aspects of where we stand today
in the construction of the FI.

Usually such reports deal with
the quantitative growth of our movement

-- growth of our sections

-- expansion into new countries

(4)

Here we can point to some
progress

~~a couple of ^{extra} ~~days~~~~
Among the examples to single
out would be Spain, where our
comrades of the LCR -- who had
been developing a nucleus over the
past several years under the dictatorship,
have been able to take advantage
of the legal openings ^{to really move in these openings} -- and
grow ~~to a size~~ ^{to a size} -- if we count
youth and sympathizers -- of several
thousands.

(5)

In Latin America, we have
^{in several countries}
suffered blows due to the repression,
~~propaganda and election~~
~~in South America~~ but have made
headway elsewhere -

Mexico - recent fusion of
LS with PRT
has brought all the
T's -- previously divided
into 4 groups -- together
into a party of ~~in~~ the
range of 1,000

Colombia

- recent fusion of 3 groups
to form LCR
new committee
- and growth of Bloque Socialista
now called PST
which has had a big
conf & then
puts our forces in the same
range

(6)

and we hope that they can find
a way to unite

~~we've also expanded geographically
in Central America and the
Caribbean -~~

small nuclei - but many
countries

~~But one of the most significant areas
of development for the FI has been
internally. -~~

That is, we are in the
process of overcoming some of
the ~~damaging effects~~ ~~damaging effects~~ of a long

int'l faction fight -- at least the
IMF-CTF aspect

(7)

In speaking of The initial faction
fight, of course

- - I can't speak as a neutral
- above the fight

so some of the views I express
here are my own - // not ~~was~~ shared
by others on USFI re specific pts
- ~~but~~

But at same time - I think
that there would be agreement in some of
the broad general considerations

—

The Faction Fight was a
real test to the FI

- - came at a time

- of growth, opportunities

- but of new, young sections

^{inexperienced}
- both LTF & INT were tested

(8)

and there was a big danger
all through the fight — that
the ~~the~~ really sharp drifts ~~would~~
not be contained, and would
lead to a split

The list of the new movement
~~has~~ has unfortunately included a
lot of unjustified splits —

~~of them~~ } that is — politically
unjustified }

→ there was an ever-present
danger ^{of this} in the recent fight
This would have been a real setback ^{to the FI} ^{right at a time} ^{to big opportunity}
SO FI as a whole — was tested
— both LTF + INT were tested

(9)

From The point of view of The LTF
What we always said was that we
feared that the majors ~~would~~ ^{was} tending
to see us as The problem

- the fact that we had
diffs - was a problem
getting in their
way
- preventing them
from carrying out their
line

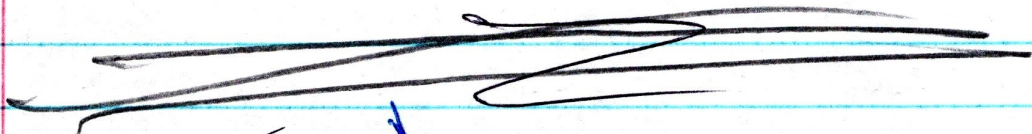
and that everything could be solved
Simply by getting rid of us ~~so was very important~~ and we called attention
to this danger

-- There was also a danger
on our side

- and ^{of} walking away
- rushing to characterize
majors
- exaggerating diffs
- writing off fact as limited

(10)

and we ^{consciously} ~~sought~~ ^{sought} to ~~overcome~~ ^{prevent} any tendencies in this direction



Today ~~As~~ we are seriously of overcoming ~~these~~ this factor right

LTF has dissolved

IMT Steering Committee is meeting right now

and will, in all probability decide to dissolve

(11)

What led to this?

a) Most important — ^{were the} ~~political~~ changes
(moves to) deep diffs over
— overcoming the Latin America

— the impact of new Q's &
further disc of old Q's
began to make it clear that
the old factional lineups
were an obstacle to
political discussion

on Q's
like

- women's liberation
- socialist democracy
- Eurocommunism
- anti nuclear

— we either had diminishing diffs
or diffs that cut across
old lineups

(12)

So ~~with~~ it became clear that

The worst thing in the world would be

to assume that the same divisions

would repeat themselves

or to perpetuate the factions

and put an objective pressure

~~on~~ comrades to line up in

their original camp

o.o need to break up the old line ups

— move to a free disc.

b) Not that difts have disappeared - but will take place in a new framework

Second factor leading to factions ↓

= overcoming worst aspects of

org. Q's

~~key~~ ^{most imp} = splits overcome

(13)

Canada

Mexico

Australia — ^{early Jan conf.} common paper

Spain — this weekend
LC

also note steps to overcome ~~the~~ effects related ^{to} Iran, as
~~with that~~ reflected in a sort of separate
development of ^(Iranian) comrades in
Europe & USA

I think = A ^{very} big positive step that there
are ^(Iranian) comrades here from Europe
and that an ^(Iranian) IWT supporter in
the US is also here

And I hope that in the period ahead
you can establish ongoing collaboration

(15)

And in ~~the~~ ^{that can} ~~section~~ now -

∩ general agreement on pol. resolu.
- ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~parliament~~ dissolved
for not 2's of

Examples like this can be repeated elsewhere

(a) All of these are ~~the~~ important signs of the trend in FI today

~~This is very~~

I think we can say that although many problems remain
the danger of ^(an LTF-DNT) split has been overcome

(16)

= a very important fact
re our internal, qualitative
progress

~~I think = UNprecedented~~

I think = unprecedented that a
fight of such depth, scope +
duration — did not end
in a split

Key for future

— to grow we will
have to include many
views

— our capacity to do this is
tested today in how we handle diff.

(17)

~~Well, there is a point in~~
~~all this that I wanted to~~
~~make in relation your convention~~
(to return now to what)

~~when~~ I said earlier that I
wished you success in your convention ||
I didn't mean it in just a

platonic way =
what I meant was that

I hope that in this convention

and in the period ahead you
will succeed in accomplishing
several of the ~~key~~ ^{real} tasks ahead of
you — including those that have arisen due
to the internal diffs that have developed

(18)

So the wish for success includes

~~that~~ that you achieve clarity

on - what the ^{real political} differences are

^{clarity} on which are big differences and which small

~~that~~ - on which require sharp debate, and which can be handled calmly

- that you come out of this convention with a clear line of activity that will be implemented by all the comrades

- that, despite the ^{sharp} ~~diffs~~, you find a way to collaborate together on all levels of work and ~~leadership~~ ^{with leadership} responsibility

(19)

This will require consciousness ^{and} effort
on all sides. But

If you can do this, then
this convention will indeed mark
a big step forward

And you will be ~~proving~~
~~today~~ ~~in~~ ~~life~~ ~~your~~ ~~capacity~~

giving proof today of your
capacity tomorrow to live up
to the historic tasks before
you.

Long live the Sattan League

Long live the ~~Iranian~~
Socialist Revolution
in Iran