

POLITICAL COMMITTEE MINUTES, Number 19, January 8, 1971

Present: Barnes, Breitman, Britton, DeBerry, Dobbs, J. Hansen, Horowitz, Lovell, Novack, Ring, Sheppard, Stone, Waters

Visitors: Boehm, Bolduc, Camejo, Crandall, Kent, Kerry

Chairman: Lovell

AGENDA: 1. Membership
2. Militant
3. World Movement

1. MEMBERSHIP

Britton reported on recommendation of Oakland-Berkeley Branch to readmit F.G. to party membership.

Motion: To concur with the recommendation of the Oakland-Berkeley Branch.

Carried.

2. MILITANT

Barnes reported.

Motion: To collaborate with the YSA in a spring subscription drive for 7,500 new Militant readers and 1,250 new International Socialist Review readers.

Carried.

Motion: To raise the single issue price of the paper to 25¢.

Carried.

Motion: To assign Mary-Alice Waters as editor of the paper.

Carried.

Motion: To assign Harry Ring to establish a Southwest Bureau of the paper resident in Los Angeles. That we implement this as early as practically possible.

Carried.

3. WORLD MOVEMENT

Waters, Sheppard, J. Hansen, Horowitz and Barnes reported.

Discussion.

Meeting Adjourned.

Horowitz

January 4, 1971

To the editors of the periodicals
and PC members

I'd like to call your attention to an exchange of letters between Charles Bettelheim and Paul Sweezy under the title of The Transition to Socialism in the December Monthly Review. The title doesn't really convey the subject, which is about the class character of the state after the revolution.

Besides being economists Bettelheim and Sweezy are what can be called sophisticated Maoists or Mao sympathizers. What they have done is go the long way around to the discussions we had in the 1950s about the class character of the Soviet state, and have come to the conclusion that it is not a workers state (because the workers or their vanguard don't have control). They call it a bourgeois state, not bureaucratic collectivism or state capitalism, although they might get around to the latter label yet. It is inspired by the Maoist evaluation of the Soviet Union and represents an effort to supply a theoretic_{a1} justification for it.

I think a serious analysis is warranted, not only to provide a useful weapon against Maoism but also to influence many young radicals who are not Maoists, are disturbed by the reactionary role of the Kremlin in world politics and reluctant therefore to think of the Soviet Union as any kind of workers state.

Comradely,

George Breitman

Herowitz

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295 Huntington, Room 307
Boston, Mass. 02115
Jan. 20, 1971

Dear Jack,

Would you please convey the following to the Political Committee.

Article IV, Section I states that "A branch shall consist of not less than 5 nor more than 50 members. When a branch achieves a membership of 50, it shall be subdivided into two branches. Exceptions can be made only by permission of the National Committee." The Boston branch has been in violation of this section of our constitution for about six months. Our membership is now 73. Neither the leadership of the branch nor the membership feel that we are in a position to subdivide the branch at the present time. We are therefore asking that an exception be made. Since the constitution specifies that the National Committee must make the exception, it may be necessary to do this at the upcoming plenum. But on the other hand, I suppose the Political Committee also has the power to authorize such an exception.

Speaking personally, it seems to me that consideration might be made to revising or deleting this section of the constitution. Several branches are now over 50 and more should be reaching that size in the next few months. Simple size does not seem as though it should be the sole criteria in determining subdivision. Just as important should be geographical, financial, and personnel decisions. When a branch becomes so large that full utilization is not made of all members, that is a key indicator that it is time to begin thinking about dividing the branch. We have seen locally how such a division can help in the YSA in terms of efficiency of work and in the rapid assimilation of new members. However, because of the dual apparatus and dual assignments necessary when a branch is divided, especially when the YSA has just divided and everybody is stretched out anyway, it would be disastrous to divide at 50. Just on numerical considerations 100 or 150 would probably be a more generally applicable number.

Comradely,

Dave Wulp, Boston SWP Organizer

14 Charles Lane
New York, N. Y. 10014

January 28, 1971

TO ALL SWP ORGANIZERS AND NC MEMBERS

Dear Comrades,

The case of Angela Davis and Ruchell McGee has developed into the biggest defense case in the United States in many years. The opposition to this witchhunt prosecution has won wide support from the student, Black and women's liberation movements. Defense groups have sprung up in virtually every area of the country. A few of the other indications of the breadth of support to the case are the size of rallies calling for Davis' freedom; the NAACP statement on the case; the fact that figures like Minister Farrakham of the Nation of Islam and Ralph Abernathy, head of SCIC, have spoken or have agreed to speak at defense rallies; and the demonstration by Black GIs in Saigon.

The breadth of support for the defense effort is another indication of the fact that anti-Communism is losing the effectiveness it once had for the rulers of this country. The case is likely to continue for some time, and we can expect that the defense will broaden and deepen as the case develops.

As a result of this spontaneous upsurge of support for the defendants, the campaign has become the biggest public activity in which the Communist Party has engaged for many years. Through this campaign many Black people, especially Black students, are being drawn around the Angela Davis Defense Committee and consequently into the CP milieu.

What the SWP Can Do

In accord with its principled stand on civil liberties issues the SWP will be among the most active defenders of Angela Davis and builders of this effort. Because of the CP's unprincipled factional attitude toward Trotskyists, our efforts to participate in defense committees will be obstructed where the CP has control. This same factional blindness has led the CP to reject the necessary policy of building the national defense on a broad and non-exclusive basis uniting all who wish to defend Angela Davis. Wherever they can the Stalinists are running the defense committees as CP fronts. We strongly disagree with the CP's crude handling of the defense. However, the axis of our work should be positive proposals and actions to build the defense and support of Angela Davis in spite of obstacles interposed by her party. We do not plan at

this stage to engage in a public debate with the CP on defense policy. The key task right now is to defend her against the capitalist persecutors who have engineered what appears to be a monstrous frameup. In the course of that effort, occasions will in due course arise for appropriate discussion with others helping in the defense effort about the incorrect CP policy.

The following are suggestions for the branches to begin work in the Davis defense effort:

1) Branches should hold forums on the case. If possible, involve representatives from Black and women's groups in speaking at the forum, and invite a speaker from the Angela Davis Defense Committee.

2) Initiate and help build united front rallies and meetings on campuses. Articles on the case can be written for campus newspapers.

3) Urge women's liberation groups to sponsor actions and meetings in defense of Davis.

4) In building united front activities in defense of Davis, we should approach the local Davis defense committees for support. We should investigate the local Davis defense committees, find out what they are doing, how many people they are involving in their work, etc. In these ways we will have the opportunity of meeting and informally discussing with members and supporters of the CP and YWLL, and their periphery questions of correct policy in the defense efforts. Reports on the activities of the Davis defense committees should be sent into the National Office.

5) Defense of Davis should be part of SWP election campaigns. Candidates should issue public statements, and a point on the defense of Davis, along with other important cases, should be included in campaign brochures.

6) Money raised for the defense should be sent to the National United Committee to Free Angela Davis, 555 N. Western Ave., Los Angeles, California, which Davis has authorized to collect funds for her defense.

7) Each branch should write to the National United Committee for literature on the case.

8) The Militant will be giving the case constant coverage. An important part of this coverage will be reports from the local areas on defense activities in each area. Branches should make sure that articles covering local defense work are sent into The Militant.

Comradely,

Barry Sheppard
Barry Sheppard
National Office

14 Charles Lane
New York, N. Y. 10014

January 28, 1971

TO ALL SWP ORGANIZERS AND NC MEMBERS

Dear Comrades,

In order to keep you informed of the activities of the
ULSA Justice Committee we are enclosing three of its recent press
releases.

Comradely,

Barry Sheppard
Barry Sheppard
National Office

UNITED STATES COMMITTEE FOR JUSTICE
TO LATIN AMERICAN POLITICAL PRISONERS (USLA)
P.O. Box 2303, New York, N.Y. 10001

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

January 5, 1971

A Reuters dispatch from Lima, Peru, dated December 22, announced that Hugo Blanco was among "about 100 political prisoners" freed that day. The dispatch was a very short one. It mentioned no other names than that of Hugo Blanco, and it was given hardly any publicity in the United States. Even the New York Times printed it only in an early edition.

Through its own connections, the USLA was able to verify the report. A friend of the USLA in Lima mailed newspaper clippings, and finally one of our supporters called in to tell us that he had been able to talk with Hugo Blanco on the telephone.

The government of General Velasco Alvarado signed an amnesty December 21. Besides Blanco, it included the well-known revolutionists Hector Bejar and Ricardo Gadea.

The Lima daily Correo of December 23 listed the following, in addition, as having been freed:

Gerardo Benavides, Pedro Candela, Armando Freyre, Omar Benavides, Antonio Meza, Adolfo Calderon, Miguel Tauro, Abelardo Collantes, Mario Calle, Marcelino Fonken, Elie Pertocarrero, Cirilo Mendoza, John Suarez, Mario Cossi, Eduardo Espinoza, Ernesto Alvarez, Oscar Ramos, and Sandro Mariategui.

At least fourteen political prisoners are still being held, including an Argentine revolutionist Eduardo Creus, now recovering from an illness that required his being transferred to the prison hospital at Callao, Lima's port city.

Creus was arrested in 1962 on charges connected with the holdup of a bank in Lima by students seeking to raise funds for the guerrilla struggle in Peru.

The defendants in the bank holdup case were not brought to trial until July 1967. Although convicted, most of them were immediately released since they had been held in prison for periods of time equal to their sentences.

Creus, however, had been sentenced previously for his involvement with Hugo Blanco in organizing peasant unions in the valley of La Convencion. Therefore, he was not freed with his codefendants in the bank case.

Over the telephone, Hugo Blanco said that he heard of the amnesty from other prisoners after it had been announced on the radio.

At first none of the prisoners believed the news. Blanco himself thought it might be a cruel joke.

(OVER)

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On the morning of December 22, Blanco was still not prepared to believe it. His wife, Blanca, and his seven-year-old son, Chaupinayo, came to visit him and tell him the good news.

Hugo was cross with his companion. "Why did you have to tell that to the boy . . . They'll suddenly not let me go, and he'll suffer a lot."

Right after that, the order came to bring those named to the Palace of Justice.

The political prisoners in El Fronton affected by the amnesty were taken to the dock of the island prison.

There a crowd of prisoners shouted farewell and good wishes to them as they boarded a launch. The launch took them to Callao, and from there to the small jail of the Palace of Justice. From the jail they were taken to Lurigancho prison where they were released later in the day.

Blanco went immediately to the central prison office in Lima to ask about his comrade Eduardo Creus and why he, too, had not been freed.

The authorities told Blanco that Creus would not be released, because he was "not a political prisoner."

Blanco also went to the Ministry of the Interior to take up the question with the higher authorities, but they refused to see him.

A defense committee was thereupon set up in Lima for Creus and others still being held and it immediately began distributing literature describing why they were political prisoners and why they, too, should be granted an immediate amnesty.

Blanco attributed the amnesty, which was opposed editorially by some bourgeois papers (notably La Prensa), to the international campaign in defense of the political prisoners.

An immediate factor, he said, was the desire of the Velasco government to gain popular support from the Peruvian masses. This could be done more cheaply by releasing political prisoners than by granting wage increases or other economic concessions.

The revolutionary fighter asked that the following message be forwarded to the USLA and all its supporters:

"I want to thank all the organizations and individuals who joined the many years' campaign for my freedom. They saved my life at the time of my trial and now they have won my release. I ask that all those to whom I owe gratitude now open up a campaign for Eduardo Creus and the others who are still in prison. I ask them to fight the same way they fought to win freedom for me."

3.

The December 24 issue of the Lima weekly magazine Oiga carried an interview granted by Hugo Blanco to Federico Garcia.

Oiga's correspondent was interested in how Hugo Blanco felt after seven years and seven months in prison, part of it in solitary confinement.

"In the first place," Blanco said, "you have to understand that I am absolutely disoriented. My world, my whole world, was reduced to the prison. It is difficult to regain the feeling of being free. Everything seems new, different."

This sensation seemed to grow as Blanco talked. It became more and more difficult for him to speak. Nevertheless, he repeated his basic conceptions with the greatest firmness.

"I believe only in the socialist revolution," he said. "I am a militant in the Trotskyist movement; and I probably always will be."

Hugo Blanco, continued Garcia, was especially grateful for the solidarity that had been shown toward him both in Peru and internationally.

"This solidarity shown by the popular organizations in Lima as well as in London or Paris helped me overcome the feeling of loneliness and the difficult hours. It's extraordinary to get messages of support and even checks from people you do not know, written in foreign languages, making you realize that you are not alone. It's like a handshake coming through a letter. The conscious solidarity of the workers is a great and beautiful thing!"

Asked about his plans, Hugo Blanco responded:

"I am not going to return immediately to Cuzco. I have to get over this feeling of disorientation which is almost a physical pain.

"Although it may not seem to you that I'm telling the truth, I am learning all over again how to see, to hear, to cross the streets.

"All I feel like doing right now is to appeal for freedom for Creus and the other five comrades who are still in. Also I want to add my voice to the worldwide campaign seeking to rescue the Basque patriots from the clutches of Franco. In Mexico, too, there are political prisoners, like Jose Revueltas, and all kinds of patriots rotting in the prisons of the military dictatorships in Latin America."

As for the position of the political tendency he represents in Peru, Hugo Blanco said:

"My political group has made an analysis of the national situation. I hold to its conclusions. Nevertheless, it is necessary to recognize that a change has occurred in the situation so that

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it could now well be designated capitalist reformism: "I can't attempt a definitive judgement because of this syndrome of disorientation that makes it difficult for me to coordinate my views. I have the sensation of having just arrived from the moon and of discovering this planet all over again."

The Comite de Defensa de los Derechos Humanos (CODDEH - Committee for the Defense of Human Rights), which directed the campaign in Peru for the prisoners' release, was jubilant over the great victory that had been scored.

The amnesty, CODDEH pointed out, was unconditional. The decree itself stated:

"Amnesty and pardon is granted to all those accused, indicted, or sentenced for crimes defined as political, social, or of a related nature."

CODDEH sponsored a giant fiesta in Lima December 30 to celebrate the victory.

Some 10,000 persons attended and heard speeches by the freed prisoners.

Hugo Blanco talked about the problems of the peasantry and the need for a genuinely thoroughgoing agrarian reform.

He then talked about his cellmate and comrade, Eduardo Creus, and the other political prisoners still suffering in the dungeons of Peru, and called for their release.

He received a huge ovation and was carried off in a triumphal march on the shoulders of the cheering crowd.

USLA urges you to add your voice to Blanco's by demanding amnesty for Eduardo Creus and all those who are still in prison. Send telegrams and letters to: General Juan Velasco Alvarado, Presidential Palace, Lima, Peru.

We request that you send copies of your statement to USLA, P.O. Box 2303, New York, N. Y., 10001.

UNITED STATES COMMITTEE FOR JUSTICE
TO LATIN AMERICAN POLITICAL PRISONERS (USLA)
P.O. Box 2303, New York, N.Y. 10001

January 21, 1971

Dear Friends,

As the enclosed press release indicates, it is important that you add your voice to the growing demand for amnesty for the Mexican political prisoners. We urge you to send a telegram or registered letter appealing for amnesty to President Luis Echeverria right away. Please send a copy of your message to the USLA Justice Committee, as we will want to publicize this campaign as much as possible.

Included in the press release is a list of the political prisoners held in the Federal District around Mexico City which we were able to get in as a result of a recent visit to Mexico City by a representative of the USLA Justice Committee. We also have the correct addresses of these prisoners. One of the projects we would like to organize is regular correspondance between the prisoners and their supporters in the United States.

If you would be able to participate in this project by writing to one of the prisoners, please inform the Committee, and we will send you the necessary information. Please include whether or not you can either read or write Spanish.

(Some of the prisoners can read and write English).

Yours sincerely,

Candida McCollam

Candida Mc Collam

UNITED STATES COMMITTEE FOR JUSTICE
TO LATIN AMERICAN POLITICAL PRISONERS (USLA)
P.O. Box 2303, New York, N.Y. 10001

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

January 19, 1971

USLA JUSTICE COMMITTEE CALLS UPON SUPPORTERS OF CIVIL LIBERTIES IN THE UNITED STATES TO ADD THEIR VOICES TO RISING DEMAND OF AMNESTY FOR THE MEXICAN POLITICAL PRISONERS.

MEXICAN POLITICAL PRISONERS DENOUNCE PRESS LIES ABOUT "RELEASE" OF 58 POLITICAL PRISONERS HELD SINCE 1968 STUDENT MOVEMENT.

There is a growing campaign inside Mexico demanding that the new President free the political prisoners arrested as a result of the 1968 student movement. President Luis Echeverria Alvarez is coming under pressure from important government-subsidized magazines like Siempre and figures like Pablo Gonzalez Casanova, rector of the National University, to release the political prisoners in a general amnesty. The recent amnesties granted political prisoners in Peru and Bolivia are putting additional pressure on the Mexican government to do likewise.

The expressions of support for the political prisoners from within the Mexican establishment itself indicate that the government is affected by this pressure. When a representative of the United States Committee for Justice to Latin American Political Prisoners visited Mexico recently, it was apparent that also among the people there is wide support for the amnesty demand. It is important that North Americans who believe in justice and democracy add their voices to the rising tide of protest in Mexico, writing directly to Echeverria and demanding that the prisoners be released.

The 162 students, professors and workers held in Mexico City's Lecumberri prison were arrested during the 1968 student upsurge. One of the key demands of the 1968 movement itself was the release of previously-arrested political prisoners. The massive 1968 movement, which grew to such proportions that it began to mobilize broad sections of the population of Mexico City, was crushed in blood in the infamous massacre at Tlatelolco Plaza Oct. 2, 1968.

MEXICAN POLITICAL PRISONERS....2

On that day, a force of some 14,000 police and army units surrounded a peaceful rally of about 10,000 people in Tlatelolco. The rally organizers, fearing a provocation, decided to call off a scheduled march, but before they could disperse the crowd, the police and army attacked. For two hours, automatic weapon fire hit the crowd from all directions. While many managed to escape in nearby housing projects and by hiding in excavations of Aztec ruins in the Plaza, some 2,500 were wounded and 500 killed in the brutal assault.

When the butchery was over, the army rode tanks over bodies of dead and wounded in the plaza, partly to prevent identification of the dead. The dictatorship prevented relatives from receiving information about persons missing as a result of the attack, and clamped a tight censorship on the press concerning the massacre. The government attempted to minimize the scope of the killing claiming that 49 people died.

Then, making the victim into the criminal and the criminal into the victim, the government arrested leaders and supporters of the student movement on crude frame-up charges. In violation of the Mexican constitution, those arrested were not brought to trial for two years. Finally, in the fall of 1970, they were given "trials" of a completely farcical nature. The only "evidence" presented against them was police testimony concerning the political beliefs and associations of the accused. Stiff sentences were handed out.

The demand for amnesty has won such wide support that the government recently attempted to create the impression that an amnesty had been granted. Headlines in the Mexico City dailies Excelsior and Novedades on Dec. 16 and 17 respectively announced that "All the Prisoners from the 1968 Disturbances May be Released," and "Eight Free on Probation from the 1968 Riots." A banner headline in the Dec. 16 Ultimas Noticias stated: "Fifty-Six of Those Jailed for Their Part in the 1968 Disturbances Can Get Out: Eight Acquitted and Forty-Eight Given Suspended Sentences."

MEXICAN POLITICAL PRISONERS.....3

The Novedades article reported that the 48 persons given suspended sentences of one to two years were also fined 500 pesos for alleged damage done to four buses during the 1968 demonstrations. They were also charged 2,000 pesos to cover bail for the period of their sentence.

A paragraph further on in the story gives an indication of the undemocratic practices continuing in political trials under the new President Luis Echeverria:

"Eighteenth Penal District Judge, Licenciado Rafael Millan Martinez, the investigating judge in this trial, pointed out in pronouncing sentence that commission of the alleged acts had been fully proved. This was true, he noted, even though the representative of the Ministry of the Interior, Licenciado Joaquin Garcia Luna y Cana, had pointed out that there was no convincing evidence to assign responsibilities in the commission of these acts. As a result of this fact, the defendants were accused only of complicity."

On Dec. 17, the political prisoners in ward M of the Lecumberri prison released the following statement:

"Today, the newspapers of this capital published an article according to which 56 of the prisoners arrested as a result of the 1968 movement had been released.

"This news is totally misleading, as not a single one of the 162 political prisoners has been released in recent months.

"The persons so cleverly referred to by the dailies have been out on bail since 1968. Their situation has not been changed in the least. The fact that after all this time they are only now being sentenced reveals yet another violation of the constitution, whose provisions require that sentence be pronounced within 12 months after the initiation of court cases."

Appeals on behalf of the Mexican political prisoners should be sent immediately to President Luis Echeverria, Palacio Nacional, Mexico 1, D.F., Mexico.

The USLA Justice Committee requests that copies of statements be sent to the USLA Justice Committee, P.O. Box 2303, New York, N.Y. 10001.

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Following is a list of the political prisoners being held in the Federal District of Mexico, together with the charges against them and their sentences.

For inciting to riot; criminal association; sedition; damage to personal property; attacks on public roads and tracks; petty theft; looting; storing weapons; murder; injury to public officials. Sentenced to 17 YEARS IN PRISON and a fine of 6,000 pesos or 120 days more in prison:

1. CARLOS MARTIN DEL CAMPO PONCE DE LEON, student, Facultad de Filosofia y Letras de la U.N.A.M.

For the same above crimes. Sentenced to 16 YEARS IN PRISON and a fine of 6,000 pesos or 120 days more in prison:

2. SOCRATES AMADO CAMPOS LEMUS, student, Escuela Superior de Economia del I.P.N.
3. JOSE CARLOS ANDRADE RUIZ, student, Facultad de Derecho de la U.N.A.M.
4. JOSE PINEIRO GUZMAN, student, Facultad de Derecho de la U.N.A.M.
5. GILBERTO RAMON GUEVARA NIEBLA, student, Facultad de Ciencias de la U.N.A.M.
6. FLORENCIO LOPEZ OSUNA, student, Escuela Superior de Economia del I.P.N.
7. MARCO ANTONIO AVILA CABENA, student, Escuela Superior de Economia del I.P.N.
8. LUIS OSCAR GONZALEZ DE ALBA, student, Facultad de Filosofia y Letras de UNAM
9. FELIX LUCIO HERNANDEZ GAMUNDI, student, Escuela Superior de Ingenieria Mecanica y Electrica del I.P.N.
10. SALVADOR RUIZ VILLEGAS, student, Facultad de Ingenieria de la U.N.A.M.
11. PABLO GOMEZ ALVAREZ, student, Escuela Nacional de Economia de la U.N.A.M.
12. RAUL ALVAREZ GARIN, student, Escuela Superior de Fisica y Matematicas del IPN
13. JOSE REVUELTAS SANCHEZ, novelist
14. JOSE TAYDE ABURTO, student, Escuela Nacional de Agricultura, Chapingo
15. ANTONIO PEREZ SANCHEZ, student, Facultad de Derecho de la U.N.A.M.
16. RODOLFO ECHEVERRIA MARTINEZ, student, Escuela Nacional de Economia de la UNAM
17. FAUSTO TREJO FUENTES, professor
18. FRANCISCO NATIVIDAD COLMENARES CESAR, student, Escuela Nacional de Economia de la U.N.A.M.
19. JESUS GONZALEZ GUARDADO, student, Escuela Vocacional No. 5 del I.P.N.
20. BERNARD PHILLIPS AMES, US citizen
21. JOSE SERVANDO DAVILA JIMENEZ, student, Escuela Superior de Economia del IPN
22. ROBERTO AVENDANO MARTINEZ, student, Facultad de Derecho de la U.N.A.M.
23. ANA IGNACIA RODRIGUEZ MARQUEZ, student, Facultad de Derecho de la U.N.A.M.
24. MIGUEL EDUARDO VALLE ESPINOZA, student, Escuela Nacional de Economia de UNAM

For inciting to riot; criminal association; sedition; damage to personal property; looting, and petty theft. Sentenced to 10 YEARS IN PRISON and a fine of 6,000 pesos or 120 days more in prison:

25. ELI DE GORTARI DE GORTARI, professor
26. NICOLAS MOLINA FLORES, professor
27. ADELA SALAZAR DE CASTILLEJOS, lawyer
28. CARLOS SEVILLA GONZALEZ, student, Facultad de Filosofia y Letras de la UNAM
29. ARMANDO CASTILLEJOS ORTIZ, lawyer
30. MARTIN DOSAL JOTTAR, student, Escuela Nacional de Comercio de la U.N.A.M.
31. ROMEO GONZALEZ MEDRANO, student, Facultad de Ciencias Politicas y Sociales UNAM
32. LUIS TOMAS CERVANTES CABEZA DE VACA, student, Escuela Nacional de Agricultura, Chapingo
33. MANUEL MARCUE PARDINAS, journalist

For criminal association; sedition; damage to personal property; attacks on public roads and tracks; storing arms; murder, and injury to public officials. Sentenced to 14 YEARS IN PRISON and 6,000 pesos fine or 120 days more in prison:

34. ARTURO MARTINEZ NATERAS, student, Facultad de Ingenieria Mecanica y Electrica de la Universidad de Nuevo Leon.

For damage to personal property; attacks on public roads and tracks; sedition, and criminal association. Sentenced to 8 YEARS IN PRISON and 6,000 pesos fine or 120 days more in prison:

35. ARTURO MARTINEZ NATERAS

36. ARTURO ZAMA ESCALANTE, (plus 9 years), student, Facultad de Derecho de UNAM

37. FELIX GODED ANDREU, (plus 9 years), student, Escuela Nacional de Arquitectura de la U.N.A.M.

38. RUBEN VALDESPINO GARCIA, student, Facultad de Derecho de la U.N.A.M.

39. GERARDO UNZUETA LORENZANA, (plus 9 years), journalist

40. MARIO HERNANDEZ HERNANDEZ, railroad worker

41. FERNANDO GRANADOS CORTEZ, worker

42. GILBERTO RINCON GALLARDO, lawyer

For sedition; damage to personal property, and attacks on public roads and tracks. Sentenced to 7 YEARS IN PRISON and 5,250 pesos fine or 105 days more in prison:

43. JESSAI DIAZ CABRERA, high school student

For damage to personal property and attacks on public roads and tracks. Sentenced to 6 YEARS IN PRISON and 5,250 pesos fine or 105 days more in prison:

44. ARTURO ORTIZ MARBAN, (plus 9 years), worker

45. ROBERTO MINON CORRO, (plus 9 years), worker

46. AGUSTIN MONTIEL MONTIEL, (plus 9 years), worker

For inciting to riot and sedition. Sentenced to 6 YEARS IN PRISON and 5,000 pesos fine or 100 days more in prison:

47. JAIME GODED ANDREU, student, Facultad de Ciencias Politicas y Sociales, UNAM

48. FRANCISCO LINO OSEGUEDA CACERES, student, Facultad de Medicina de UNAM

For inciting to riot and sedition. Sentenced to 6 YEARS IN PRISON and 5,250 pesos or 105 days more in prison:

49. JOEL ARRIAGA NAVARRO, professor of the Universidad de Puebla

For damage that occurred during fighting between students and the police, army, and riot troops. Sentenced to 5 YEARS AND 3 MONTHS IN PRISON:

50. JOSE LUIS NUNEZ CASTILLO, high school student

51. ROBERTO VASQUEZ CAMARANA, high school student

52. RAFAEL SERVIN, high school student

For criminal destruction of property. Sentenced to 12 YEARS IN PRISON and 65,000 pesos fine (\$1 US equals 12.50 pesos):

53. ANGEL JUAN HEREDIA ESPINOSA, student

54. ANTULIO FERNANDEZ MALDONADO, student

For criminal destruction of property. Sentenced to 15 YEARS IN PRISON and 85,000 pesos fine.

55. CARLOS CABAGNE LOPEZ MENDOZA, worker

For involvement in the 1968 popular-student movement. SENTENCES RANGING FROM 7 to 17 YEARS IN PRISON:

56. RAYMUNDO ARANDA VELAZQUEZ
57. MIGUEL BEJARANO GARCES
58. HEBERTO CASTILLO MARTINEZ
59. RAMON DANZOS PALOMINO
60. FEDERICO EMERI ULLOA
61. PEDRO ESTRADA VEGA
62. CABRERA JESSAI DIAZ
63. JOSE MANUEL IREN TELLES
64. LEOBARDC LOPEZ ARRETICHE
65. NICOLAS LOPEZ MARTINEZ
66. CARLOS MEDINA SEVILLA
67. ADOLFO MEJIA GONZALEZ
68. ERNESTO OLVERA SOTRES
69. ALEJANDRO RAUL ORTIZ CAMACHO
70. JOSE LEON PAMANES GONZALEZ
71. IGNACIO ALFONSO PLATA DIAZ
72. ROBERTO RAMIREZ PEREZ
73. GARCIA RAFAEL JACOBO
74. ADELA SALAZAR CARVAJAL
75. MANUEL VARGAS CARDENAS
76. ALFONSO SAUL ALVAREZ MOSQUEDA
77. JOSE LUIS BECERRA GUERRERO
78. LUIS GONZALEZ SANCHEZ
79. ANTONIO MORALES ROMERO
80. RAYMUNDO PADILLA SALAZAR
81. MANUEL RODRIGUEZ NAVARRO
82. MAURC RODRIGUEZ SIERRA
83. FEDERICO GUADALUPE ROSAS BARRERA
84. AMERICO SALDIVAR VALDEZ
85. FELIX SANCHEZ HERNANDEZ
86. PRISCILIANO TORRES PRIETO
87. JOSE LUIS VAZQUEZ BUSTAMANTE
88. SALVADOR ZARCO FLORES
89. AMADA VELASCO TORRES
90. JORGE ORTEGA RODRIGUEZ
91. GERMAN ALVAREZ DIAZ DE LEON
92. EDUARDO MONTES MANZANO
93. JUAN ROBLES ARMENTA
94. JOSE REFUGIO MORA FOL
95. CARLOS GARCIA GUTIERREZ
96. JAVIER RAMOS RODRIGUEZ
97. MANUEL CUELLAR CASTANEDA
98. RIGOBERTO VALENZUELA YEPEZ
99. TAURINO URIAS JIMENEZ
100. ARMADO ENRIQUE TAKESHI SAIKI SHIRAI
101. RAFAEL VILLALOBOS SAUZ
102. FERNANDO RIVERA HERRERA
103. ARTURO SALAZAR GARCIA
104. CALLETANO ORTA TELLO

105. RUBEN SILVA MONTANO
106. JUIS JORGE PENA MARTINEZ
107. JORGE ABAROA CORONA
108. JOSE ALEJANDRO RESENDIS
109. ALFONSO BARRIOS ROMAN
110. ALFREDO CABRERA FLORES
111. FELIX RODRIGUEZ FLORES
112. SALVADOR MARTINEZ DE LA ROCA
113. JOSE ANTULIO FERNANDEZ MALDONADO
114. ANGEL JUAN HEREDIA ESPINOSA
115. CARLOS CABAGNE MENDOZA
116. PEDRO CASTILLO SALGADO
117. PRISCILIANO PEREZ ANGUIANO
118. EDUARDO DE LA VEGA DE AVILA
119. FIDEL VALDOBINOS VAZQUEZ
120. ROBERTO ALCALA ROSAS
121. LEONCIO TORRES SANCHEZ
122. ROSALBA ROBLES DE MUNGUIA
123. JUDITH LEAL DUQUE

Held since 1966 and 1967. SENTENCES RANGING FROM 5 TO 25 YEARS IN PRISON.
For conspiracy, criminal association, destruction of property by explosives,
inflicting personal injuries.

- | | |
|---|--------------------|
| 124. OSCAR JOSE FERNANDEZ BRUNO | 8 years, 6 months |
| 125. ADOLFO ATILIO MALVAGNI GILLY | 6 years, 3 months |
| 126. EDWIGES TERESA CONFRETA DE FERNANDEZ | 5 years, 3 months |
| 127. ANTONIO GERSHENSON TAFELOV | 25 years |
| 128. MARIO RECHI MONTIEL | 18 years |
| 129. LUIS ENRIQUE GERARDO DEL TORO Y NAJERA | 18 years |
| 130. FRANCISCO LUNA LEAL | 17 years |
| 131. ENRIQUE CONDES LARA | 17 years |
| 132. FAVIO ERAZO BARBOSA CANO | 20 years |
| 133. GERARDO PELAEZ RAMOS | 15 years |
| 134. JUSTINO JUAREZ MARTINEZ | 13 years, 6 months |
| 135. VICTOR RICO GALAN | 8 years |
| 136. GILBERTO BALAM PEREYRA | 8 years |
| 137. MIGUEL CRUZ RUIZ | 8 years |
| 138. GUMERSINDO GOMEZ CUEVAS | 8 years |
| 139. ROLF MAINERS HUEBNER | 8 years |
| 140. ISAIAS ROJAS DELGADO | 8 years |

UNITED STATES COMMITTEE FOR JUSTICE
TO LATIN AMERICAN POLITICAL PRISONERS (USLA)
GPO Box 2303, New York, N.Y. 10301

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

January 26, 1971

EDUARDO CREUS AND OTHER REMAINING POLITICAL PRISONERS RELEASED IN PERU--
NEW VICTORY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEFENSE MOVEMENT FOR LATIN AMERICAN
POLITICAL PRISONERS.

HUGO BLANCO, RECENTLY RELEASED POLITICAL PRISONER FORMERLY HELD IN
EL FRONTON PRISON IN PERU, RECEIVES GOVERNMENT THREATS AND RESTRICTIONS
ON HIS MOVEMENTS.

The United States Committee for Justice to Latin American Political
Prisoners (USLA) has confirmed through direct communication with the
Comite de Defensa de los Derechos Humanos (CODDEH--Committee for the
Defense of Human Rights) in Peru that Eduardo Creus, political prisoner
held on the island prison of El Fronton, has been released by the Peruvian
government and deported to his native Argentina. Reports from Argentina
confirm that he has arrived safely.

Creus was released at 11:30 a.m. on January 20, turned over to
security police, and deported to Argentina that afternoon.

Peruvian President Velasco has also announced that 71 peasants, held
for activities in defense of their rights, have been freed. Velasco said
that there may be other political prisoners still in jail, but that all
will soon be freed.

In December, Hugo Blanco, Hector Bejar, and Recardo Gadea, along
with other political prisoners, were freed under an Amnesty and Pardon
Decree-Law. Others, however, including Creus, remained behind bars.
These prisoners who were released launched a campaign to free those still
incarcerated (see Intercontinental Press, Jan. 25, pg. 53), and the USLA
Justice Committee responded by organizing a supporting campaign in the
United States. The newly announced amnesties represent a victory for
this defense effort.

* * * *

The USLA Justice Committee has also learned of an ominous develop-
ment concerning the rights of Hugo Blanco. On January 16 the Ministry
of the Interior called Blanco in, and forbade him to travel to the city
of Cuzco. This city is in the region where Hugo Blanco led the organi-
zation of peasant unions, the work for which he was arrested in 1963.
Blanco was also told that he is being watched, and that he must get per-
mission from the Ministry of the Interior to travel outside of Lima.

He had previously publicly announced his intention of visiting Cuzco, and told the ministry that "all my actions are completely open and public."

Newspapers in Lima on January 21 carried an interview with General Armando Artola of the Ministry of the Interior. The interviewer asked General Artola why Hugo Blanco could not go to Cuzco. He replied that Blanco could travel "anywhere" but "not if he is going to interfere with the agrarian reform." This refers to the fact that peasants in the Cuzco region are dissatisfied with aspects of the new agrarian reform law, which attempts to impose upon the peasants the necessity of paying for land they seized during the movement organized by Hugo Blanco.

The USLA Justice Committee urges that supporters of civil liberties wire the Peruvian government immediately, expressing concern about this attempt to intimidate Hugo Blanco, and requesting that government place no restrictions on his movements.

Messages can be addressed to: Presidente de la Republica del Peru, Gral. Juan Velasco Alvarado, Palacio Gobierno, Lima, Peru.

14 Charles Lane
New York, N.Y. 10014
January 31, 1971

TO ALL FINANCIAL DIRECTORS AND BRANCH ORGANIZERS

Dear Comrades,

January 1971 Financial Notes

Over the past few months we have had more and more national party speakers getting honoraria from universities and colleges around the country. There has been a lack of clarity about the national office policy in such cases. After a discussion with the comrades involved in organizing the speaking tours and lectures, we have drafted the following statement of our present policy on this question:

All money obtained by national party speakers (comrades who work fulltime for national departments and who are financially dependent on the party for their subsistence) which is gotten from universities (honoraria plus travel and other expenses) should come to the national office, minus travel quotas (amounts listed as "tour quotas" on mimeographed sheets for speaking tours), minus travel expenses within the region. Other money raised in the course of a tour from receptions, cocktail parties, contributions from sympathetic professors or others, forums, collections at public meetings, etc. stays in the branch or local to be used as the local comrades see fit.

This policy flows from the relationship between the branch or local and the party as a whole with respect to speaking tours. The comrades in the local area have the opportunity to make political gains through contacts, recruitment, propaganda, literature sales, etc. as a result of having our foremost propagandists speak in their area while the N.O. receives income to defray the costs of sustaining the comrade speaking and to help the party balance its running budget.

There are some exceptions to this relationship, however. The travel quotas we assign each area on a tour as well as travel expenses (which we did not calculate in our travel quotas) for meetings arranged within the region can be deducted from the fees the speaker(s) receives. All other expenses to build meetings should be absorbed by the branch or local.

* * *

Further notes on tours: the California branches have blazed the way in using local party and YSA speakers to raise money through honoraria for local branch and YSA activities. The state campaign in California for 1970 was heavily financed through the honoraria earned by the candidates and campaign supporters.

All branches should begin to explore opportunities in this sphere to raise money for local work.

With the Linda Jenness tour, we will begin requesting that branches and locals fill out standard tour report forms for the national office so we will have the information we want on the results of each speaking tour at our fingertips. Linda will give these report forms to her tour director in each area. Financial directors should collaborate with tour directors in planning tour budgets and filling out report forms which will include information on tour finances.

* * *

Recently we have had some graphic examples of the impact of a regular, well-organized forum series on branch finances. During 1970, for example, Boston netted an average of \$37/mo. from forums; Detroit averaged over \$54/mo. while some branches have only been able to count on forums breaking even (usually because they are not regular, weekly events or because too many out-of-town speakers are invited). Being able to count on clearing \$40 or \$50 a month from forum income would go quite a long way toward cutting back or eliminating operating deficits in some branches.

* * *

Raising the cover price on the paper to 25¢ has helped close the gap in the national office running budget. The increased size of the paper and staff additions to write and promote a bigger paper with a larger circulation would have cost the party an additional \$1,200/mo. if we hadn't raised the cover price. What we're doing, in essence, is taking some of the burden of financing the paper off the branches and placing it on the total readership of the paper.

Even so, the budget we have drawn up for the first four months of 1971 will only balance if we continue the slow but steady forward progress on increasing the per capita pledges to the national office. In addition to the growth in membership we expect during the next four months (which would result in an increase in the total sustainer income to the national office in and of itself even if no progress were made on per capitass), we are depending on the branches to do their utmost to move up a notch or two on per capita pledges to the party nationally. In a branch of 35 members, an increase of \$1 per capita pledge to the N.O. only means an additional expense of \$35 per month, but if each branch can make a small increase like this, it will enable us to move forward nationally with the paper, the magazine and other plans we are projecting to build the party nationally.

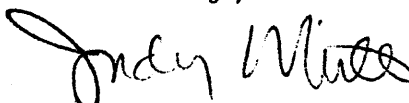
* * *

Attached is a chart showing the year's progress on the sustainer system in the branches. One significant fact that shows up is that in virtually every branch the per capita pledge to the branch has increased over the past year. This increase should be translated into increased pledges to the national office as well as into increased local activities.

* * *

In preparation for the mid-March party plenum, we are compiling some information on branch financial functioning over the past year. We need year-end reports from all branches to give us a complete picture. These reports should be a summary of the years income and expenses in all fields, including, if possible, figures on branch bookstores and election campaigns. Annual totals and monthly averages on forums, Militant and ISR sales, etc. will be useful to provide the party leadership with a feeling for the financial scope of our work during 1970. Please draw up this information by February 15 and airmail it to the national office.

Comradely,



Judy White
National Financial Director

PROGRESS REPORT ON SUSTAINER SYSTEM SINCE JANUARY 1970

<u>Branch</u>	<u>Per capita pledge to branch</u>		<u>Per capita pledge to national office</u>		<u>% total sustainer pledged to N.O.</u>	
	<u>1/70</u>	<u>12/70</u>	<u>1/70</u>	<u>1/71</u>	<u>1/70</u>	<u>12/70</u>
Boston	18.95	26.20	8.33	14.00	44%	53%
Chicago	30.00	31.53	15.00	10.00	50%	32%
Cleveland	16.67+	*	8.33	8.00	-50%	*
Detroit	22.18	26.70	8.54	12.00	38%	45%
Los Angeles	21.37	22.00	15.00	16.00	69%	73%
New York	23.59	21.93	13.21	14.00	56%	64%
Oakland-Berkeley	30.29	26.47	7.45	10.00	25%	38%
Philadelphia	27.28	23.00	10.87	10.00	40%	43%
San Francisco	30.83	23.22	13.00	10.00	62%	43%
Seattle	18.89	21.29	10.00	10.00	50%	47%
Twin Cities	22.19	22.45	11.22	10.25	51%	46%
Atlanta	28.25	32.42	7.50	7.50	27%	23%
Austin	10.44	21.17	15.00	5.00	100+%	24%
D.C., Washington	---	37.28	---	7.50	---	20%
Denver	---	21.07	---	5.00	---	24%
Houston	---	27.69	---	10.00	---	36%
Portland	14.14	18.62	6.86	6.00	49%	32%
San Diego	unk	*	4.20	3.33	unk	*

Averages	22.82	23.96	10.80	11.11		

* no recent figures available