

14 Charles Lane
New York, N.Y. 10014
July 11, 1973

TO NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Dear Comrades,

Attached are copies of recent correspondence concerning the Internationalist Tendency.

Comradely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lew Jones".

Lew Jones
SWP National Office

COPY

COPY

COPY

14 Charles Lane
New York, N.Y. 10014

June 20, 1973

CHICAGO

Debbie Pope

Dear Comrade Pope,

We are in receipt of your statement attached to the June 6, 1973, Chicago branch minutes. In your statement you request "clarification from the National Office on general policy" in regard to executive committee minutes and you "appeal to the National Office to reverse the undemocratic situation presently existing in Chicago."

Minutes of an executive committee are kept in order to record the proceedings of executive committee meetings for the benefit of the committee as a whole and its individual members. The decisions of the executive committee are regularly reported to the branch in the form of executive committee reports. Since the executive committee is subordinate to the branch, the branch may decide to utilize the minutes in other ways as well, if the branch so chooses. The branch can also decide to elect a new executive committee, instruct the executive committee to carry out certain activities, to co-opt an individual member and so on.

The minutes of the meeting of the Chicago branch which you question show that the executive committee recommended that "the executive committee minutes are for EC members, the NO and the organizers." Comrade Massey made a countermotion that "the EC minutes be open to all branch members." After a discussion in the branch, the branch voted to adopt the executive committee recommendation and to reject Comrade Massey's proposal.

In as much as the Chicago branch membership has entertained countermotions on this matter, held a discussion, and taken a democratic vote to decide the issue, there does not appear to be an "undemocratic situation presently existing in Chicago" which the national office ought to reverse.

Comradely,
s/Lew Jones
SWP National Office

cc: Pearl Chertov, Chicago