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New York
Sept. 28, 1973

Tom Q.
Sel B.
Marilyn L.
Chris M.
Kathy K.

Dear Comrades,

The Political Committee considered your communication of Sept. 20 dealing with the incident of SWP membership participation in the Sept. 15 Washington, D.C. protest demonstration against the recent military coup in Chile.

According to your own admissions there is no apparent difference over the essential facts: i.e., that a group of party members met, discussed what action to take, reached a decision and proceeded to act on that decision without consultation with or approval by the party branch and its elected leadership. This constitutes a gross violation of party organization principles and procedure.

To compound this violation, present at the discussion with party members and participating with them in the action were YSA comrades not members of the SWP.

Questions raised in your communication objecting to current party policy in relation to the Chilean developments are irrelevant to the issue involved.

We call your attention to the document: The Organizational Character of the Socialist Workers Party: Resolution Adopted by the 21st National Convention of the Socialist Workers Party, September 1965. It is published in the July 1970 Education for Socialists Bulletin and is available to all party members. The first paragraph on page 4 reads:

"The party is guided by the concept of democratic centralism in regulating both its public activity and its internal affairs. Full rights are accorded to minorities as conditioned by the democratic principle of majority rule. Minority views may be presented in internal discussion at the proper time and in an appropriate manner as determined by the party. Once a decision has been made on disputed issues the minority is subordinated to the majority. All members are required to subordinate themselves to the policies and decisions of the party. Official party bodies determine what is correct procedure, and no individual or group can arrogate that right."

Were your action violating fundamental party procedure deliberate the Political Committee would have no alternative but to impose the most drastic disciplinary measure. However, believing that what is involved in this incident is more ignorance than design the Political Committee warns against

any repetition of such conduct under penalty of immediate and drastic disciplinary action.

Comradely,

s/Lew Jones
for the Political Com-
mittee

CC: B. Myers - Washington D.C. organizer
YSA N.O.