

14 Charles Lane
New York, N.Y. 10014
August 29, 1972

TO MEMBERS OF THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE

Dear Comrades,

This is a report from Mary Lipman, acting organizer of the Boston branch, concerning some of the members of the Leninist Tendency.

Comradely,

Bev

Bev Scott

Boston Branch Aug. 23, 1972

Mary L.

Conversation with Joe A., former member of YSA

Joe attended Spartacist League forum at Boston Univ., Terrace Lounge, George Sherman Union, on Friday, Aug. 18, 1972. Speaker - Joseph Seymour, Nat. comm. member of S L. About 50 in attendance.

Following comrades there: Dave E., Pam E., Peter Go. Kathy P., Jon G., Peter Gr. IMG, also Peter Go.'s sister and a friend of Dave and Pam.

Before the forum Dave and Pam had conversation with Joe saying they heard Joe had resigned from YSA. Joe said yes but that he expected to be back within a year. Dave said that he didn't feel he would be there when Joe got back. Told Joe that a Leninist faction had been formed in SWP and that there was a lack of democracy in the party - that the leadership hides certain things and there could be a split in the International and no one would know what happened. Dave suggested that Joe read some of the S L documents for sale at the forum.

After forum - Peter Go., Kathy P., Jon G. and Peter's sister left.

In a discussion after forum in Zisken Lounge including Dave E., Pam E., their friend and two S L'ers (Joseph Seymour and Vincent who didn't participate too much in conversation) Joe asked Dave to be more explicit about lack of democracy in SWP. Dave said that the SWP is a reformist party and the Faction agreed that they felt closest to the IMG on this position; that the IMG is or has already prepared a document on the SWP being reformist. David went into the criticisms of the IMG such as failing to come to grips with Pabloism. That the general trend of IMG was good. Criticized Wolfworth.

Dave -

Sparks had a good position on Black Nationalism and that Joe should read S L document on Blk Nat.

Feminism is anti Marxist, that this was the first thing that brought the grouping together.

That the SWP's role in A/W movement was the creation and propagation of the popular front.

Dave said that he was the ~~author~~ anonymous author of the discussion letters that the Bulletin has been printing. He was indignant that the Bulletin was printing this material, had not sent it to them, just to those in faction. Indignant about Bulletin printing it because it made the faction look disloyal. Dave stated that Robertson's position that the general attitude in SWP that formation of factions in party is disloyal is how he feels. Very critical of all left groups and especially SWP in particular - Not S L.

Pam quite nervous about Dave talking so much to Joe but did say that they will be able to talk more freely soon and might also have own paper.

The faction had been in contact with Alan Jones, (IMG) about distribution of factions documents for the World Congress; Jones would try to help but thought chances were slim about faction getting a fair break.

Dave said that Stephanie's presentation at the IMG's conference about the importance of peace in Vietnam proved their point that we were involved in popular frontism.

that Ali's call for 2-3 many more Vietnam's brought thunderous applause.

Joe said that they did not try to recruit him to there faction or suggest that the join S L.

Joe had told them he would not discuss this matter with us, but felt loyalty to the YSA and felt that Dave W. as Organizer of the Trotskyist movement in Boston should know what members of the party were doing.

Joe and I went over the notes I took and he said that this is the way it all took place and would be willing to discuss this further with Dave W. when he returns.

I've kept a copy of this for Dave W. and also the written notes taken during the dicussion.

I just want to reemphsis that Joe feels that they did not try to double recruit him but that ~~at~~ after the discussion on all of the left parties, the inference is to join S L.

Comradely.

Mary

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