

Horowitz

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14 Charles Lane
New York, N.Y. 10014
May 15, 1971

Dear Pat,

Thank you for your letter of May 6. I received it yesterday. We never received your letter of March 10.

I will circulate your letter to the Political Committee and we will await the reply to our communication of February 8 that you are working on. I can appreciate the pressure of work due to the IMG annual conference. We have the same problem mounting here now ourselves.

We will try to increase the exchange of material that you suggest. It would be a help if we had a more exact idea what you already receive. We will begin immediately sending you an airmail copy of our internal discussion bulletins as they come off the press. It would be very helpful if you would do the same. We do not have a set of the preconference discussion material of the IMG that is now coming out.

There are no special problems with security. If I remember correctly, Joe's "violent" reaction had to do with material for the SWP being addressed as such to ICP's box number. There's no problem with sending any of the material you want directly to the SWP at 14 Charles Lane.

We're surprised that any material was sent to your old address at Toynbee St. The comrades from the national office and the offices of our publications have not done so. They have sent all the material to Pentonville Rd. Would you please send us a list of all the material that came to 1 Toynbee St. and the date that it was mailed, if you can make out the postmark. That's the only way we can actually track down the error.

The Political Committee is planning to send a representative to observe your conference. He will be able to clarify any remaining triangular problems of bulletin bills that exist between ourselves, yourselves and Martine.

Comradely,
s/Jack Barnes

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Harowitz
IMG.,
182 Pentonville Rd.,
London N.1.
Britain.
6/5/71

Jack Barnes,
SWP.,
14 Charles Lane,
New York City,
N.Y. 10014
USA.

Dear Jack,

Your letter of the 30th ult., received yesterday, acknowledged.

We did, indeed, receive your communication of February 8th. We sent you on March 10th an acknowledgement and the text of a resolution passed by the IMG National Committee on March 7th. The resolution reads:

"(1) That our reply should be more in sorrow than anger, regretting very much that relations between the SWP and the IMG have declined;

(2) That we suggest some measures to improve matters, e.g., more exchange of materials and informal discussions. A start could be made by exchanging minutes and for the two organisations to send each other all documents, circulars, etc.;

(3) We have to insist that a correction on questions of fact is sent to all those people who received Joe Hansen's memoranda;

(4) We have to protest against the way that the IMG was tried and found guilty of undemocratic procedures (and a general question of democracy in the IMG was raised) without any chance to defend itself (nor for that matter even knowing that such charges were going to be raised)."

Passed 14 for, 2 against 1 abstention (on the grounds that the letter was not strong enough).

Another minute is of interest:

"Asked whether she would deny the fact that IMG paid £192 for the books received from Pioneer Books, Williams answered negatively." I have not drafted the above mentioned reply because of pressure of work due to the IMG annual conference.

Please let us have your reaction to the suggestion of the exchange of more material. At present we receive SWP branch circulars and a host of material from the YSA. We do not receive SWP national committee minutes nor those of your political bureau and similar committees. Please instruct us on matters of security, etc., we remember full well Joe's violent reaction on the occasion of some material being sent to the wrong address.

Please arrange to have sent to us by airmail one each of your Discussion Bulletins, we already receive the Information Bulletins. Please inform comrade Judy White that we have paid £40 to Martine for International Information Bulletins, this negates the invoice she sent us. We are selling the Bulletins and our practice will be to pay this money to Martine, about every other month. This is in keeping with a decision of our Political Committee. We realise full well that payment for SWP Discussion Bulletins should be made to the SWP -- we hope that this will clear up any confusion on this matter.

We have received from the Spartacists a request to advertise the issue of their paper giving a "report" on the differences in the United Secretariat. In view of the lying and dishonest nature of that report we are not proposing to print the advert.

We have sent to you under separate cover a copy of our pamphlet on Bengal -- we hope you can find it useful.

Since your move there has been some material sent to us at our old address (1, Toynbee St., London, E.1.). It would appear that this mistake has been discovered because the mail stopped being re-directed from that address as mysteriously as it commenced -- however, you might care to mention it to who ever is in charge. Re-directed mail is a convenient way for the cops to get a set of our material.

Revolutionary greetings,

s/Pat Jordan

14 Charles Lane
New York, New York 10014

May 10, 1971

TO ALL ORGANIZERS AND NC MEMBERS

Dear Comrades,

Our attention has been called to a number of arrests in Spain of militants who have been attracted toward the Fourth International. In some instances it involves persons who consider themselves to be members of the Fourth International. In other instances it appears to involve persons who have only heard about the Fourth International, but from what they have heard consider that to be the organization they were looking for even if they have not been able to get in touch with its representatives.

An instance is the following account that appeared in the April 13 issue of a Spanish newspaper called LaVanguardia:

"Bilbao 12 -- Four minors, all of them high-school students, have been arrested in Bilbao. They are charged with belonging to a clandestine group of 'Trotskyist' persuasion and of having committed various subversive acts.

"On March 25, a group of youths threw stones at the windows of a branch of the Bilbao Bank, and another group broke the windows of the Municipal Savings Bank, both located in the Recaldeberri area. On March 1 a group of the same type had appeared in front of the Provincial Union Headquarters and, after breaking the windows in the doors, threw an incendiary device inside, which burned out without doing much damage.

"On both occasions the actions were carried out by youths of both sexes, some of whom were even carrying their school books, from which it was concluded that they were studying for examinations. On the first occasion, they fled quickly; but on the second, two of them were caught. They were both sixteen years old, high-school students who used as their battle names 'Uxai' and 'Quique.' The two admitted having been directly involved in the actions both at the Provincial Union Headquarters and the two banks in Recaldeberri.

"Two other youths were then arrested, 'Chavi' and 'Manolo,' both eighteen years old, also high-school students. The four, having confessed and been convicted were turned over to the judicial authorities.

"It was learned this morning from informed sources, that the four youths had declared that for the past three or four months they had joined other high-school students of both sexes in various official and private schools in forming groups of a clandestine organization controlled and led by older students, said to be of Trotskyist persuasion whose objective is to establish a dictatorship of the proletariat in Spain. The political group that controls and leads these students from the university is called 'Communism'; but, the better to carry on their agitation and subversive activities, they divide up their tiny groups and orient them toward work in the labor field and among high-school and university students. Each group puts out leaflets bearing such names as 'Proletarian,' 'Red University,' and 'Barricade.'

"About a month ago, according to the same sources, the police arrested two women university students, members of the group called 'Red University,' who were carrying propaganda that led to them being turned over to the judicial authorities. Two other university students were arrested a week ago on charges of belonging to the 'Communism' group. One of them was turned over to the judicial authorities while the other was released for lack of evidence.

"Full declarations were made by the prisoners, enabling the police to identify a great number of students implicated in these actions. Some of them have gone into hiding, abandoning their homes and classes in order to avoid arrest."

Another dispatch dated April 19 from Barcelona, which appeared in a different Spanish paper that we have been unable to identify carried the following item:

"Between 6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. last Saturday, various illegal actions were carried out in Sebadell, Tarrasa, and Rubi. This consisted of distributing illegally printed leaflets and pasting up bulletins of similar content.

"The leaflets, according to Europa Press, were signed by the so-called 'Liga Comunista Revolucionaria' of Trotskyist persuasion."

A third item appeared in the Paris daily Figaro of April

"Demonstration in Barcelona of three hundred youths identifying themselves as belonging to the 'Revolutionary Communist League' (Trotskyist), Friday evening, in Barcelona. The demonstrators distributed numerous leaflets, and shouted slogans."

These items were sent to Intercontinental Press with the request that for the time being no publicity be given them save for mentioning the demonstration in Barcelona. IP's correspondents added that some genuine Trotskyists were among those seeking to avoid arrest and that their situation is rather difficult for the moment because of lack of funds. They wondered if word about their plight could be passed on to persons in the United States who might be especially interested in Spain -- whether because of past associations as in the Spanish civil war or because of interest in current developments that have been undermining the Franco regime -- in the hope that they might make a financial contribution.

We are complying with this request and calling it to your attention so that you can mention it to anyone especially interested. Since we do not want to cut into other fund-raising activities, we suggest that perhaps the simplest thing to do -- since a large sum is not involved -- is to simply pass the hat for any voluntary contributions some of the comrades may wish to make and send this in to us.

Comradely,

Jack Barnes

Jack Barnes
Organization Secretary

14 Charles Lane
New York, N. Y. 10014

May 12, 1971

TO ALL ORGANIZERS AND NC MEMBERS

Dear Comrades,

The attached correspondence is for the information
of organizers and NC members only.

Comradely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jack Barnes". There is a small mark at the end of the signature that looks like "r.s."

Jack Barnes
Organization Secretary

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295 Huntington Ave.
Boston, Mass. 02115
April 27, 1971

NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL DIRECTOR

Dear Gus,

I received your suggestions on the two points suggested for inclusion in the summer school syllabusses today.

For the second or third year in a row this comes after the summer school has already been discussed and decided upon by the branch that I have been in. The middle of April is too late in my opinion for the branches to be beginning a discussion of this matter. In order to motivate people coming in from the region we have to have the information in their hands by this time so they can make plans (financial and otherwise) to come to the regional centers. Of course one can, and we have, motivated them as much as possible to come in for the (abstract) summer school but it helps a lot if you have the concrete subject matter to excite them with. That's a chronic gripe that I have had for several years.

The second point that I want to raise is one of the specific subject matters that is suggested, namely 1.) "A study of the basic dynamics of the current radicalization..." You say this is to be carried out "in correlation with preparations for the party convention...", but it seems to me that this question and the lack of clarity within our party is at the heart of the differences that are raised in the McCann et.al. document and that anywhere that such a syllabus is implemented where there are any supporters of this position the summer school will inevitably become a part of the pre-convention discussion without the proper safeguards for a free and full discussion of the issues in an organized fashion. I might add that to a lesser extent this is also true about the study of revolutionary socialist electoral policy. In Boston, both these matters will be a part of the pre-convention discussion and that, in my opinion is how they should be organized, not as part of a summer school.

Comradely,

s/Dave Wulp, Boston organizer

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14 Charles Lane
New York, N.Y. 10014

May 7, 1971

Dave Wulp
Boston

Dear Dave,

Your criticism about the lateness of the communication about the summer schools is well taken. This is something that we should improve upon.

As far as the content of the summer schools overlapping with the pre-convention discussion, this is something that can never be avoided during a convention year. If the summer school is not to be vague and abstract, it must take up discussion of the central ideas that are already included in the party's program. In this regard, the proposals for the summer school this year are not out of line. They only include subjects that have already been discussed and decided upon at previous conventions of the party. It is the duty of the party educational department to plan education of the party membership on these basic political points.

Any time a convention comes along, it means that all aspects of the party's program are up for discussion, including policies that have been previously decided upon. It does not follow from this that the summer school must refrain from taking up previously decided issues, no more than it means we should avoid forums on these subjects during pre-convention periods.

Comrades who want to re-open these questions during the pre-convention period have a perfect right to do so, but only through the proper channels of internal discussion: pre-convention discussion bulletins, branch pre-convention discussion, and the convention itself. Public forums or educational classes are not the proper arena for such internal discussion.

If a particular branch feels that the pre-convention discussion on a given subject will be so thorough that it is unnecessary to take up this subject in the summer school too, then that is a perfectly good reason for taking up other subjects in the summer school. But if it feels that educational classes on some aspect of previously decided upon party policy will inevitably become transformed into an unauthorized pre-convention discussion period, then a different question is involved: the right of the party to regulate its internal functioning. The educational classes are not the form for pre-convention discussion, and the party has every right to enforce the conduct of all its members in this regard.

Comradely,

Gus Horowitz