

Houston SWP
3311 Montrose
Houston, Texas 77006

2/12/75

SWP NO
14 Charles Lane
New York City, N.Y. 10014

Dear Comrades:

Enclosed is a statement by Betsey Farley and a copy of a letter David Rossi of the ITP delivered to Jim, the YSA organizer, and me at the hall. I mentioned this to Bev on the phone the other day.


After the incident mentioned in Betsey's statement, Bill Rayson, the YSA campus fraction head, talked to Fred Brodie who was sitting behind an "Impreccor" table at the University of Houston. Brodie confirmed that the ITP was trying to get the YSA thrown off campus.

A few days later, Jim received a call from Danny Laird of the ITP. Laird said essentially the same thing that appears in the letter. We received the letter a week after the phone call.

We reported on these incidents at both the branch and YSA meetings, and indicated we took this threat seriously and would scandalize the ITP if they went ahead with it. We also pointed out that in spite of their decision to back off, the incident indicates a political evolution - de-
volution - at least on the part of Peterson and Brodie.

These reports were made after the phone call, but prior to receiving the letter. It is conceivable that our view of the seriousness of this incident was communicated to the ITP by Debby Leonard who heard the report at the branch meeting. She openly associates with them quite a bit. But I am just speculating; there is no other evidence of this.

Comradely,


Stu Singer

On Thurs., Jan. 30, I was present when Bill Peterson, a member of the Internationalist Tendency, inquired of the secretary to the University of Houston student government president how he would go about filing charges against a student organization. I asked him who he wanted to file charges against, and what for. He said he was filing charges against the Young Socialist Alliance to have their campus charter revoked because the YSA had "expelled" him and doesn't allow him to attend membership meetings. I asked him why he thought the policy board would be able to kick the YSA off campus, and didn't the YSA have the right to decide who its members were? He said that according to the rules for campus organizations, all groups and all meetings must be open to anyone. I asked him why he had chosen the YSA, rather than the BSU or MAYO to try to get thrown off campus since he couldn't join either of those organizations because he is white. He answered that he didn't have anything else to do and he thought he would have some fun today.

To my knowledge, he has not filed any charges yet, and I don't know what he or other members of the I.T.P. have planned.

Betsy Farley
1/31/75

February 8, 1975

Jim White
Organizer
Houston YSA

Dear Comrade White;

We wish to make known our feelings concerning a recent incident which involved an irresponsible action on the part of two of our comrades.

It has come to our attention that conversations took place recently between two members of our faction and comrades of the local YSA majority, in the course of which these same comrades of the IT made comments to the effect that they felt justified in challenging the YSA's right to its campus charter because of the YSA majority's previous actions against the IT. We wish to state categorically that these statements represent neither the feelings of the comrades involved, nor those of the IT as a whole; a fact which was relayed to you informally by one of our members on Sunday, Feb. 2. We wish to assure you that these threats were entirely verbal and that no such action has been, or will be taken by the IT or any individual member of the IT.

The position of the IT in regard to its relationship with the YSA and the SWP majorities is that we consider the IT to be an unjustly expelled tendency of the YSA and SWP. Our primary concern and perspective is to fight through all existing channels nationally and internationally to bring about our full, collective reintegration into the SWP and YSA.

The comments of these comrades can only be explained within the context of the extremely dangerous situation, principally the threat to unity of the Fourth International (from which the YSA and SWP are barred by reactionary legislation) which has been exacerbated by the continuing factional actions of the YSA majority toward the IT.

We sincerely regret any disruption that the unserious comments referred to above may have caused the work of the YSA. Furthermore, should there arise in the future any threat to the YSA charter on campus, we pledge our unconditional defense of the YSA's right to function as a legitimate campus organization.

Comradely,

Houston IT Steering committee
Houston IT

cc: File
Stu Singer
PC IT
K.

4660 Maryland, #12
St. Louis, Mo. 63108

April 18, 1975

Barry Sheppard
National Office
New York, N.Y.

Dear Barry,

This is to inform you of a meeting I had with a representative of the Internationalist Tendency Party. Pete Kirchner, representing himself as the coordinator of the IT here asked to set up a meeting with me to discuss joint activity in light of the January I.E.C. resolution on reintegration. I met with him on Friday, April 11.

He made a number of proposals: that members of the IT sell the Militant; that they work on SWP election campaigns; that the IT and the SWP collaborate on Boston, J.B. Johnson Defense, and Vietnam solidarity work. He also proposed that this could best be done through joint fractions.

On sales of the Militant, I told him that this would be a good week to begin regular sales as we had just received a bundle of 1000 for the target week sale. Kirchner indicated that he would urge IT members to sell on Saturday, the day SWP'ers mobilize for sales in the St. Louis branch in order to get a jump on the bundle for the week. None showed up for Saturday sales. One IT'er sold 10 Militants -- their total sales for the week.

On the campaign, I said the branch would welcome help in publicizing and building the Camejo-Reid campaign. Kirchner said that the IT in St. Louis felt they had "missed the boat" on Barbara Bowman's campaign for President of the St. Louis Board of Aldermen. The election was April 1. He said there were "many problems, or we would have helped out.

On joint fractions, I explained that I felt at this time there was no basis for working in joint fractions.

I informed Kirchner of the new Party Building Fund that was just launched to take advantage of the tax rebates and that the branch here was approaching sympathizers and supporters as well as members of the SWP for pledges of all or part of their rebates.

According to Kirchner, their major activity over the last months has been a Marxism class. (brochure enclosed) He said that 8 people usually attended the classes including all of their members (probably

2/

4), 2 members of the Class Struggle League, and one or two students from Washington University.

Three IT'ers attended our April 11 forum on Vietnam -- the first public activity of the party any IT'er attended in 4 or 5 months. One of their members has been active for 6 or 7 months in the J.B. Johnson Defense Committee. Another in the Student Committee Against Racism in Bowton.

There is one IT member in Kansas Ctiy, Mo.

Kirchner told me that there were about 50 people at the IT conference in Chicago over the first weekend in April.

Comradely,



Barb Mutnick
Organizer

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(Lenin)

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APR 29 1975

APR 29 1975

Jeanne Shaffer
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THE MILITANT
Business Office
14 Charles Lane
New York, N.Y. 10014

Dear Friend,

This letter is to inform you of our desire to begin receiving a regular bundle of thirty copies of the MILITANT. If you feel that it will be necessary for us to pay for the bundles in advance please inform of this and we will be willing to comply. If this will not be necessary, however, we would appreciate it if you could begin sending the bundles immediately along with the necessary information regarding payment. All bundles should be mailed to the above address.

Fraternally,

Danny Laird

Danny Laird for the Houston Internationalist Tendency

John Barzman
Coordinating Committee
Internationalist Tendency (new faction)
1450 W. Belle Plaine
Chgo IL 60613

May 4, 1975

Attn: Andrea Morell
Socialist Workers 1976 National Campaign Committee
14 Charles Lane, New York, N.Y. 10014

Dear Andrea,

Thank you for your letter of March 29, 1975. The clarifications you made regarding the status of financial contributions are very welcome. Individual members of the IT have and will continue to make individual contributions to the campaign at different fund-raising events, and through other means. The use you made of the enclosure of \$40.00 in our last letter, i.e. applying it to The Militant's reprint, is quite welcome.

Our coordinating committee here will not be ordering material for the whole IT. We wish to avoid as much as possible the duplication of functions already performed by the SWP or by committees in which the SWP is active, and to avoid investing efforts into creating an apparatus to could implement these functions. Therefore, we are recommending to all ITers that the contact the local SWP branches, YSA locals, and campaign committees so that they may participate in their activities and obtain the necessary material from them. If additional materials are needed, they will get in touch with you directly, rather than going through this address.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Comrade Barry Sheppard.

Comradely,

John Barzman

