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12/17/79

December 8, 1979
446 S. Van Ness Ave.
Los Angeles 90020

Arnold Weissberg
The MILITANT
14 Charles Lane
New York 10014

Dear Arnie,

This is an informal informational letter to you and the Socialist Workers Party to notify you about the Presidential Preference Primary in California next June.

The Peace and Freedom Party of California expects to have several entries in its June 3, 1980 primary in the nonbinding Presidential preference section. (Another section is to elect delegates to a national nominating convention. Actual choice of Presidential candidate on Peace and Freedom ticket in California is made in August 1980 by Convention of the State Central Committee which is also elected at the June primary.)

Names already submitted to Peace and Freedom Party State Chairperson Maureen Smith for submission to Secretary of State March Fong Eu include Gus Hall of the Communist Party, USA, and Deirdre Griswold of the Workers' World Party. Other left groups which are fielding Presidential candidates are also welcome to enter, including Socialist Workers' Party candidate Andrew Pulley. Others who may be on the primary ballot, as present speculation indicates, Barry Commoner of the Citizens' Party, David McReynolds of the Socialist Party, USA, and possibly a "favorite daughter or son" candidate of the Peace and Freedom Party.

The point of such a primary in the Peace and Freedom Party is to build a constructive dialogue among the serious parties of the Left. This is in keeping with our belief that to build a Socialism which is truly democratic, we must allow parties of varying viewpoints to participate in the political process. Naturally, another point of a contested primary is that it brings more publicity to the Peace and Freedom Party, to the participating parties, and to the socialist cause.

I am certain that this can in no way interfere with a ballot signature drive like the successful one you did here in 1976, in fact the publicity may help. If you wish to have Andrew Pulley's name included in the June primary in California, please contact Maureen Smith for further information. Her address is 564 Santa Margarita, Aptos CA 95003.

Yours for extradition of the Shah,

Casey Peters

