

POLITICAL COMMITTEE MEETING, NO. 9, July 2, 1974

Present: Barnes, Breitman, Britton, Camejo, Finkel, A. Hansen,
J. Hansen, Horowitz, Jenness, Jones, Lovell, Morrison,
Seigle, Sheppard, Stone, Thomas

Consultative: Dobbs, Kerry, Novack

Visitors: Matson, Scott

Chair: Lovell

AGENDA: 1. Control Commission Report on Internationalist
Tendency

1. CONTROL COMMISSION REPORT ON INTERNATIONALIST TENDENCY

Matson presented the Control Commission report on
Internationalist Tendency matters referred to the
Control Commission on June 20th by the National
Committee plenum. (See attached.)

Discussion

Agreed to schedule a July 4 meeting to discuss the
Control Commission's report to give comrades the
opportunity to study the report and attachments.

Request by Finkel that Control Commission report be
made available to Young Socialist Alliance National
Executive Committee.

Motion: To concur with Finkel's request.

Carried.

Meeting adjourned.

Presentation of Control Commission Report

by Matson

The full Control Commission met and began its investigation during the recent plenum of the Socialist Workers Party National Committee. Although two members of the Control Commission are not resident in New York and had to leave two days after the plenum, they received a full written draft of the report Saturday morning. After having read this draft, all members of the Control Commission participated in a lengthy conference call on Sunday where additional suggestions and changes were incorporated into the final report you have. Thus, the report and recommendations you have in front of you are the unanimous conclusions of the Control Commission, based on the secret internal documents of the IT. We received 12 documents and internal communications of the IT in all. These alone were sufficient evidence for our conclusions.

But we also received additional illustrative material documenting the IT's application of the separate party perspective discussed and adopted at their national conference. Two of the most important findings of the Control Commission in this area were: 1) The presence of a non-member of either the SWP or YSA at the IT national conference. We don't know how many more non-members were present, if any, but we know there was at least one such person. 2) We found that an IT member in the San Francisco branch attended a closed study class of the Revolutionary Marxist Collective, an opponent organization.

You have the full report of the Control Commission before you. Two of the most important secret IT documents that the report is based on are: 1) the resignation statement by Berta Langston and Bob Langston resigning from the IT, and 2) the IT Newsletter of June 6 which contains a report on the IT national convention. I think all of this material is self-explanatory, so I'll just repeat the recommendations of the Control Commission. There are two recommendations and a special point that we wanted to note.

The recommendations are:

1. We recommend that the IT's status as a separate rival party be recognized and that the members of the IT party be informed that this status places them outside the constitutional provisions of membership in the SWP.

2. We recommend that supporters of the IMT who are not members of the IT remain members of the SWP as long as they abide by the constitution of the SWP, the organizational principles of the SWP, and the democratic centralist norms of the world Trotskyist movement.

Finally, we note that the evidence clearly establishes the complicity of some members of the elected leadership of the FI in the IT's decision to form a rival party. But the jurisdiction of this Control Commission is limited to the SWP, and we do not have the authority to go beyond these limits in obtaining information.

Attachments to Control Commission Report
Submitted to Political Committee
July 2, 1974

- I. List of resignations from the Internationalist Tendency by supporters of the International Majority Tendency
- II. "Comrades of the Internationalist Tendency," resignation from the IT by Berta Langston and Bob Langston with IT PC reply; from IT Bulletin #V
- III. Portions of Internationalist Tendency Newsletter of June 6, 1974
 - a. "First National Conference of the Internationalist Tendency," by Alec
 - b. "Preparing Local Tendency Tasks and Perspectives"
 - c. "Our Tasks in the YSA," by Inessa
- IV. Other Internal Documents of the Internationalist Tendency
 1. Three selected covers from IT preconvention discussion bulletins
 2. Partial list of pseudonyms used by IT members in their internal discussion
 3. IT list of IT preconvention discussion bulletins
 4. IT PC internal communication of June 14, 1974
 5. "Is the Question of Constructing the American Section of the Fourth International Posed? Let's Pose It," by Carapace, Plastron, Kelly, Molly Macguire, Azdak, and Antoine - New York; Alec - Chicago; from IT Bulletin #I
 6. "Which Way Forward? A Step Back," by Rico - Chicago; from IT Bulletin #IV
 7. "'...Our Main Struggle is to Win the Ranks of the YSA and Party...'? - Proposed Amendments to Draft Which Way Forward Introduction and Explanation of Amendments," by D. Ahmad Estreugal and Nora Rahdrik; from IT Bulletin #V
 8. Part II of "Which Way Forward?" draft perspectives document by Williams as amended by D. Ahmad Estreugal and Nora Rahdrik; from IT Bulletin #V
 9. "A Reply to Comrade Massey from Los Angeles;" from IT Bulletin #IV
 10. "Some Comments on Organizational Norms in the Present Context," by Vincent; from IT Bulletin #IV
 11. Extracts from IT resolution on trade union work; from IT Bulletin #VII
 12. Extracts from "American Revolutionaries Must Know Where They Stand on the Vietnamese Revolution," by Vincent, Hank Williams, Mitchell, Mike Patrick; from IT Bulletin #VIII

- V. Material Related to Unauthorized Public Work by the Internationalist Tendency on May 11, 1974 and Afterward
 - 1. Los Angeles
 - 2. New York
 - 3. Chicago
 - 4. Chicago

- VI. Material Related to Unauthorized Internationalist Tendency Work with Groups and Individuals Outside the SWP and YSA
 - 1. Unauthorized IT intervention in the national conference of the Attica Brigade
 - 2. Unauthorized IT work with the Puerto Rican Socialist Party of New York
 - 3. Unauthorized work in the Emergency Committee to Defend Democracy in Chile in San Jose, California
 - 4. Unauthorized work with the Revolutionary-Marxist Collective in San Francisco and Oakland-Berkeley
 - 5. Unauthorized work with various opponent groups in Minneapolis
 - 6. Unauthorized work with various opponent groups in Madison, Wisconsin
 - 7. Unauthorized work with the Baltimore Marxist Group and Chile Resistance Committee

- VII. Report on Attendance at Internationalist Tendency National Conference by Non-Member of either the SWP or the YSA

- VIII. Statements by Bill Massey and John Barzman, Internationalist Tendency leaders
 - 1. Report on discussion between Bill Massey, John Barzman and two Control Commission members, Gus Horowitz and Barbara Matson
 - 2. Excerpts from remarks by John Barzman to Socialist Workers Party National Committee Plenum, June 1974
 - 3. Excerpts from remarks by Bill Massey to Socialist Workers Party National Committee Plenum, June 1974
 - 4. Letter from Bill Massey to the Socialist Workers Party Political Committee dated June 9, 1974