

Harowitz

14 Charles Lane
New York, N.Y. 10014

July 2, 1971

FOR THE INFORMATION OF MEMBERS OF THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE ONLY

Dear Comrades,

Attached is a copy of a protest by Comrades Liz M., Mary-Jane H., Norman H., and Pepe M., from the Brooklyn branch, New York local, concerning the security editing of their document. Also attached is a copy of their original document, showing the deletions and additions made for security purposes. Such security editing was made on pages 9, 22, 23, 48, 54, 55 and 56.

Comradely,

Barry Sheppard _{RS}

Barry Sheppard

COPY OF PROTEST TO POLITICAL COMMITTEE BY LIZ M., MARY-JANE H.,
NORMAN H., AND PEPE M., OF THE BROOKLYN BRANCH, NEW YORK
LOCAL, MADE JULY 2.

The authors wish to protest the editing of this document
in a way which deletes basic criticism and examples of the
errors of the party leadership under the pretense of security
editing by the Administrative Committee.

the country (i.e. the Black, Chicano, Puerto Rican, Women's and antiwar struggles) and the industrial working class...between the radicalizing elements and the elements which will make the revolution decisive.

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→ L Somewhere in the analytical problem the SWP leadership got lost.

It has failed to put its political principles into strategic and tactical practice. The SWP leadership has moved only when movements were large, sheepishly adapting to these elements with non-working class formulations, at the same time trying to control them. This approach is pragmatic...not Marxist. The SWP leadership has abandoned the central concept of the permanent revolution in its whole political analysis and in its activities. We will illustrate this in the following studies of various struggles and the problems they present.

(f.) THIRD WORLD STRUGGLES
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L Most Third World workers are not like other workers. They are predominantly employed in unskilled or semi-skilled positions whose salaries and future potentials indicate a cheap labor force status.

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L Recent statistics from the Bureau of Labor Statistics indicate that Third World people "continue to be significantly concentrated

the communities across the Southwest. Several comrades in the SWP were denouncing the leadership of the party internally for a failure to consider this nation in its program. Pressured and goaded both by the objective situation (the Chicano movement and party members), the party finally organized an intervention into the Chicano conference in Denver, Colorado, which issued the call for an independent Chicano party in the Spring of 1970. This action, while positive in character, was to replace any long run significant intervention in the Chicano movement.

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 [The poor record of the party to support the Chicano struggle carried over into the antiwar movement. An agreement was reached between the Student Mobilization Committee and the Chicano Moratorium leaders to support and build the 1970 Moratorium. Part of the agreement was that Chicano Moratorium activities would be built and publicized in the Eastern area by that section of the antiwar movement, with organizational support by the party. The party failed in every way to live up to this agreement. At the last moment, in desperation, to escape the criticism given by the Chicano movement leaders and the Chicano comrades (presented to the party leadership in a national

Third World fraction meeting at the 1970 Oberlin conference) the party leadership organized the comrades in the antiwar movement to hold a token film showing and public meeting ^(and a few comrades) and sent a few comrades ^{were assigned to aid building the West Coast actions} from around the country to work in the Chicano Moratorium office on the West Coast. This assistance, of course, was helpful, but no where near what should have been provided or expected.

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 The party press, after this poor showing, gave the appearance of grand-standing in the pages of The Militant. Chicano militants felt that the SWP was saying that through its participation and line the Chicano Moratorium was made a success. The end result has been an almost complete loss of respect for the SWP in sizeable West Coast sections of the Chicano movement and was a contributing factor to the resignation of a leading Chicano comrade from the party.

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 But its tail-ending, grand-standing and its ignorance are not enough. The party leadership has also taken to rewriting history. On page 9 of the National Committee Draft Political Resolution, 1971, we read: "The first Raza Unida parties developed in Texas out of a series of mass struggles centering on Chicano control of Chicano schools. Some of the key initiators and leaders gained their initial

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including free education, free hospitalization, etc. whether honorably or dishonorably discharged.

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1.f. ORIENTATION AND CONDUCT

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The Socialist Workers Party has not walked a course in the antiwar movement which is designed to end the war.

- 1) The SWP is unbelievably heavy-handed in the antiwar movement.

It controls the Student Mobilization Committee through the YSA.

Those comrades who firmly believe this is not true should think again.

Whenever there is the possibility of an intervention by a large number of independents at a conference, doesn't the SWP make a full mobilization. Why? To pack the meeting.

In fact, the SWP runs the antiwar coalition in which it participates while occasionally fronting independents on the boards. The organizers are usually YSA or SWP, the office staffers are YSA or SWP in the higher echelons. Everybody is party.

But this is not the worst of the situation. The fact is that these party *committee functioning in the antiwar movement* functionaries have consistently brought forth proposals, which

attempt to control the antiwar movement, not to keep it from

degenerating but to keep it from falling into the hands of the people.

opposition and their views on this or that struggle rather than doing it through real constructive work in the struggle.

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The party leadership analyzes carefully the written word and misses the essence.

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It is the duty of a Marxist to continually find a way to intervene in a struggle and to carry out its program. A party must continually attempt to find links to the movement of the people against oppression. It is also the duty of the party to keep a number of comrades assigned to the major areas of work to be building these struggles and relating these to a proletarian orientation. When the SWP does involve itself with the poor of the working class, and the Third World, it seems never to get into the water, preferring to play in the wading pool of verbal literary debate, trying to debate with movements that concern themselves with the struggle and ^{who} could care less about replying to the efforts of The Militant to conjure up a polemic.

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In the so-called independent committees like the USIA Justice Committee and the Student Mobilization Committee the only tendency

present is the party. Flowing from this reality the concept emerged that only party comrades should have a position of authority -- pushing all independents to a mere consultative status. The goal of this formulation is to turn all independent committees into party fronts.

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The leadership's theoretical formulation for this is that only the tendencies have a reality. Therefore, only the tendencies can be entrusted with authority. Individuals are nothing in themselves; they are only becoming something, (in the process of moving toward a tendency). They are becoming Stalinists, Social Democrats, Pacifists or Trotskyists. Therefore, until they become something by joining a tendency they are not to be given a position of authority. When they join a tendency they will then have representation by the tendency leadership. This is pragmatism at its best: viewing history through organizational forces. History disproves this approach.

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In issue committees, i.e. antiwar, defense in which the party is actively involved, all major posts of authority are held by party or YSA members.

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[All decisions are controlled by the party members right down to the smallest detail.]

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[The party will use non-members names to sponsor or to give an occasional speech at a conference but will never trust them with any real authority.]

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[The thing wrong with this theoretical formulation is that it denies the class struggle. It pushes aside those new fresh militants who arise naturally out of the struggle and tells them they have no reality because they are not in a tendency and therefore should not have posts of authority. Often, the new militants that come around willing to have a relationship in common struggle with the party are catered to if the party wishes to recruit them or if they are of immediate expediency. But they are pushed aside if they only wish to work with us as independent militants.]

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[An important consideration is that the pragmatic and organizational politics of the SWP leadership acts to objectively aid the Communist Party. It will assure the CP's unchallenged growth in the working class, and, by extension, will assure the continued legacy of the bourgeoisie in the wider social situation.]

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