

New York
July 5, 1974

TO THE STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE LENINIST TROTSKYIST FACTION

Dear Comrades,

In a separate package you have been sent a copy of a special Socialist Workers Party internal information bulletin detailing a grave new development in the world movement -- a split in the Socialist Workers Party engineered by the Internationalist Tendency. The material contained in this bulletin also demonstrates that the leadership of the International Majority Tendency was involved in this splitting operation.

Comrades should note that the statement of the SWP Political Committee calls attention to the fact that the nine-point "Agreement on Measures to Help Maintain the Unity of the Fourth International" adopted at the last World Congress has been broken by the IMT leadership's actions in regard to this split in the SWP. The SWP Political Committee has therefore proposed the convocation of a Special World Congress as the only way to deal with this very grave situation in the Fourth International.

One of the things comrades of the Leninist Trotskyist Faction throughout the world can call attention to is the principled method of functioning of groups supporting the LTF as contrasted with the methods of the IMT. We have lived up to the points we made in the declaration of the Leninist Trotskyist Faction: "For observance of democratic centralism in the Fourth International as provided by the statutes"; "Faction discipline does not transcend the discipline of sections or sympathizing organizations of the Fourth International"; and "Members of the faction must conduct themselves in a completely loyal way in sections of the Fourth International or sympathizing organizations, maintaining their activities and financial obligations in an exemplary way."

One example among many has been the functioning of the comrades of the Tendency in the British International Marxist Group. It was a decision of the IMG national convention, for example, that the Tendency comrades should be responsible for the distribution of Intercontinental Press in Britain, not a unilateral decision by the Tendency comrades.

The SWP Political Committee's statement does not take up other important aspects of the situation in the Fourth International -- for example the refusal by the majority members of the United Secretariat to seat Comrade Arturo from the PST on the U.S. which itself is a violation of the nine-point agreement. The situation in the Fourth International as a whole will have to be taken up by the next Steering Committee meeting of the Leninist Trotskyist Faction scheduled for August. The split engineered in the Socialist Workers Party and its implications concerning the functioning of the IMT leadership emphasize the importance of this next meeting of the LTF Steering Committee.

Comradely,

Mary-Alice