

POLITICAL COMMITTEE MEETING No. 33, July 27, 1979

Present: Barnes, Britton, Clark, Dixon, Hawkins, Horowitz, Jaquith, Jenness, Kramer, Lyons, Morell, Ring, Seigle, Waters

Guests: Brundy, Lund, Mailhot, Manuel, Rodriguez, Rose, Sheppard

Chair: Britton

- AGENDA: 1. Black and Chicano Perspectives
2. Perspectives for Antinuclear Work
3. Security Policy on Illegal Drugs
4. National Party Leadership School
5. Horowitz Letter

1. BLACK AND CHICANO PERSPECTIVES

(Hart and Nimitz invited for this point.)

Rodriguez reported.

Discussion

Motion: To approve the general line of the report for presentation to the convention.

Carried.

2. PERSPECTIVES FOR ANTINUCLEAR WORK

(Cole and Weissberg invited for this point.)

Mailhot outlined report to be presented to workshop at convention on perspectives in antinuclear movement.

Discussion

Motion: To approve general line of report for presentation to workshop.

Carried.

3. SECURITY POLICY ON ILLEGAL DRUGS

Britton reported on proposal for reports to be presented at union fraction meetings at convention and for a report to the delegates based on article "Why the Party's Security Policy Prohibiting Illegal Drugs Should Be Reaffirmed," by Andy Rose and Joel Britton. (Discussion Bulletin, Vol. 36, No. 20.)

Discussion

Motion: To approve.

Carried.

(over)

4. NATIONAL PARTY LEADERSHIP SCHOOL

Barnes reported.

Discussion

Motion: To approve.

Carried.

5. HOROWITZ LETTER

Jeness reported on proposed reply to Horowitz letter.
(See attached.)

Discussion

Motion: To approve proposed reply.

Carried.

Meeting adjourned.

JUL 26 1979

Chicago
July 18, 1979

To the Political Committee.

Dear comrades:

On behalf of the signers of the proposed resolution on youth, "For a Correct Orientation Towards Revolutionary Youth," I would like to request that the supporters of that resolution be given a counterreport to the Youth Report at the SWP convention this August, of equal duration as the majority report. There are two reasons we think support the presentation of a counterreport.

1) From the standpoint of the party we represent a minority current which aims to alter the position of the organization with regard to a particular question: the SWP's support for the YSA turn to industry. It is the tradition of our movement to allow minority viewpoints the opportunity to present their views throughout the organization at times of pre-convention and convention discussion. We have utilized the the pre-convention discussion bulletin to publish our resolution on youth, and supporters of the resolution have presented counter youth reports in a number of branches. We would now like the opportunity to carry this discussion through by presenting a full report to the SWP delegates at the convention and pressing for the adoption of the relevant sections of the resolution by them. In as much as the Youth Report generally takes up the party's attitude and activity towards the YSA, this seems to be the appropriate place to present our views.

2) From the standpoint of the YSA, there is a minority current which has the same position as that expressed in the resolution. This is evident in that 3 of 4 signers of the resolution are also members of the YSA. As the YSA is not in a pre-convention discussion period, there is no way to assess the extent of support this position would receive from the entire organization. It is apparent, though, that there are a number of YSA members other than the signers of the resolution who support its general line. Given this difference of opinion in the YSA on the course the organization should follow, it would seem appropriate to have the opposed viewpoints expressed to the convention in order to give the delegates and observers the best grasp possible of the state of the YSA. The discussion at the convention will thus be far richer, and the understanding gained by the delegates and observers that much greater.

We have not actually formed a tendency to support the resolution, primarily because of the position of the PC on private circulation of documents expressed in the exchange of correspondence between the PC and Comrade Keil. (DB Vol. 36, #12) Given the technical delays in the publication of the resolution, we refrained from approaching comrades individually with copies of the resolution in order to elicit support for it. Any mistakes or inclarity on our part on the circulation of documents prior to the publication of the PC's position have now been clarified. It would now seem particularly important that we be

given a counterreport so as to allow for the discussion to best take the traditional channels and allow for the full organization to see the different viewpoints debated.

We would appreciate as rapid a response as possible, in order to facilitate preparation of the report if it is scheduled. We request that the PC discuss this question and propose to the convention delegates that a counterreport be scheduled to the Youth report, of equal duration as the majority report.

Please communicate your response to me, either through the Chicago SWP city office or at my home. My phone number is (312) 929-8548. I hope to hear from you soon.

Comradely,

Roger Horowitz
Roger Horowitz

cc: John Pottinger
Rae Vogeler
Peter Ember

14 Charles Lane
New York, N.Y. 10014
July 28, 1979

Roger Horowitz
Chicago

Dear Comrade Horowitz:

The Political Committee received your letter of July 18 asking that equal time with the YSA National Executive Committee report on the YSA be provided at the party's national convention to a supporter of the resolution "For a Correct Orientation Towards Revolutionary Youth."

Before deciding on a proposal to make to the pre-convention National Committee in regard to this request, the PC is asking for the opinion of the YSA National Executive Committee and waiting for the final results of the voting in the branches.

When the PC decides on its recommendation to the pre-convention plenum, we will let you know.

Comradely,



Doug Jenness,
for the Political Committee

cc: Malik Miah, John Studer, Peter Thierjung