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October 20, 1979

To the Houston Branch

I charge Nancy Baker with undisciplined and disloyal behavior jeopardizing the security of the Socialist Workers Party by acts of violence against Socialist Workers Party member Janett Brammer on October 14 and 16, 1979. This behavior is in violation of "Political Committee Report on Control Commission recommendations," adopted by the 29th National Convention of the Socialist Workers Party on August 13, 1979.

I further charge Nancy Baker with acts of physical intimidation and undisciplined conduct leading to violence among Socialist Workers Party members and jeopardizing the security of the Socialist Workers Party, in violation of "Political Committee Report on Control Commission Recommendations," adopted by the 29th National Convention of the Socialist Workers Party on August 13, 1977.

I further charge Nancy Baker with disloyal behavior for violating the Socialist Workers Party's security policy regarding illegal drugs, during events in the first week of October, 1979. This behavior is in violation of "Reaffirming the Party's Security Policy on Illegal Drugs in Light of our Experience in Basic Industry," adopted by the 30th National Convention of the Socialist Workers Party on August 11, 1979, as well as "The SWP's Security Policy on Illegal Drugs," approved by the Socialist Workers Party Political Committee on July 8, 1977.

Comradely,

Rick Berman
Rick Berman

October 20, 1979

To the Houston Branch

I charge Ginny Pelligrini with disloyal behavior for violating the Socialist Workers Party's security policy regarding illegal drugs, during events in the first two weeks of October, 1979. This behavior is in violation of "Reaffirming the Party's Security Policy on Illegal Drugs in Light of our Experience in Basic Industry," adopted by the 30th National Convention of the Socialist Workers Party on August 11, 1979, as well as "The SWP's Security Policy on Illegal Drugs," approved by the Socialist Workers Party Political Committee on July 8, 1977.

Comradely,

Rick Berman

Rick Berman

October 20, 1979

To the Houston Branch

I charge Bob Robertson with acts of physical intimidation and undisciplined conduct leading to violence among Socialist Workers Party members. This behavior jeopardizes the security of the Socialist Workers Party, in violation of "Political Committee Report on Control Commission Recommendations," adopted by the 29th National Convention of the Socialist Workers Party, on August 13, 1977.

I further charge Bob Robertson with disloyal behavior for violating the Socialist Workers Party's security policy regarding illegal drugs, during events in the first week of October, 1979. This behavior is in violation of "Reaffirming the Party's Security Policy on Illegal Drugs in Light of our Experience in Basic Industry," adopted by the 30th National Convention of the Socialist Workers Party on August 11, 1979, as well as "The SWP's Security Policy on Illegal Drugs," approved by the Socialist Workers Party Political Committee on July 8, 1977.

Comradely,

Rick Berman
Rick Berman

October 20, 1979

To the Houston Branch

I charge Debbie Vernier with acts of physical intimidation and undisciplined conduct leading to violence among Socialist Workers Party members. This behavior jeopardizes the security of the Socialist Workers Party, in violation of "Political Committee Report on Control Commission Recommendations," adopted by the 29th National Convention of the Socialist Workers Party on August 13, 1977.

I further charge Debbie Vernier with disloyal behavior for violating the Socialist Workers Party's security policy regarding illegal drugs, during events in the first week of October, 1979. This behavior is in violation of "Reaffirming the Party's Security Policy on Illegal Drugs in Light of our Experience in Basic Industry," adopted by the 30th National Convention of the Socialist Workers Party on August 11, 1979, as well as "The SWP's Security Policy on Illegal Drugs," approved by the Socialist Workers Party Political Committee on July 8, 1977.

Comradely,

Rick Berman

Rick Berman

October 20, 1979 •

To the Houston Branch

I charge Janett Branner with acts of physical intimidation and undisciplined conduct leading to violence among Socialist Workers Party members and jeopardizing the security of the Socialist Workers Party, in violation of "Political Committee Report on Control Commission Recommendations," adopted by the 29th National Convention of the Socialist Workers Party on August 13, 1977.

I further charge Janett Branner with disloyal behavior for violating the Socialist Workers Party's security policy regarding illegal drugs, during events in the first week of October, 1979. This behavior is in violation of "Reaffirming the Party's Security Policy on Illegal Drugs in Light of our Experience in Basic Industry," adopted by the 30th National Convention of the Socialist Workers Party on August 11, 1979, as well as "The SWP's Security Policy on Illegal Drugs," approved by the Socialist Workers Party Political Committee on July 8, 1977.

Comradely,

Rick Berman
Rick Berman

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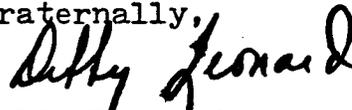
Houston, Texas
November 17, 1979

Jack Barnes
Socialist Workers Party

Dear Jack,

I would like to request that the two enclosed statements of resignation from Glen Fields and myself be made available to the National Committee members and Organizers of the SWP. I consider a number of my former comrades all over the country to be my very best friends and I think they are entitled to know that I am, unfortunately, no longer a member of the Socialist Workers Party.

Fraternally,



Debby Leonard

cc: Houston SWP

Houston, Texas
November 17, 1979

To the Houston Branch of the Socialist Workers Party:

I submit my resignation from the SWP as requested by
Peggy Brundy and Rick Berman and Andrea Lubrano.

I do not think I have ever been any kind of security
risk to the SWP or any member of the SWP.

I joined the SWP 2½ years ago because of my admiration
for my companion Debby Leonard and other members of my local
union who are or were members of the SWP. However, at this
time I see no place for me, as a longtime industrial worker
and union member, in the SWP.

Fraternally,



Glen Fields

cc: Jack Barnes, Political Committee

Houston, Texas
November 17, 1979

To the Houston Branch of the Socialist Workers Party:

I submit my resignation from the Socialist Workers Party as requested by the leadership of the Houston Branch, in the persons of Peggy Brundy, Rick Berman and Andrea Lubrano. Glen's and my resignation was requested on Sunday November 11, one hour before Glen and I had to leave for work and 2½ hours before the branch meeting. I had been told that the time of the branch meeting would be changed so I could, as a member of the trial body, express my opposition to the proposed expulsion of four of the comrades on trial. But this was not done. Nor, obviously, were Glen and I either able to explain our position on the requested resignations at the branch meeting, nor present a written statement to the meeting at which our resignations were voted on, because of our work schedule (which I had informed the branch of at the November 3rd branch meeting).

I have been told that I endangered the Party's security because I recounted an incident involving my teen-age daughter, my companion and comrade Glen, and what we supposed to be marijuana, that occurred at least 1½ years ago.

I brought this "incident" to the attention of the Executive Committee - trial body of the Houston Branch during a trial of five members of the SWP. All five members were charged by Rick Berman with violating the Party's drug policy and four of them were additionally charged with violating the SWP's policy against violence among comrades. Only one of the five comrades was accused of actually smoking pot and possibly using other illegal drugs. She clearly has severe emotional problems and the E.C. - trial body agreed to ask her to resign, a decision I promoted. She has subsequently done so. Another comrade, not on trial, a provisional member, admitted to the E.C.-trial body that he had smoked pot very recently with the above-mentioned comrade. He was dropped from provisional membership - a decision I also supported.

However, when Peggy Brundy, the Houston Organizer and reporter to the Branch for the E.C.- trial body, of which I was a member, said she recommended expulsion of the other four comrades, I was appalled. Although I was not able to attend all of the very lengthy trial because I was the SWP candidate for Mayor and therefore had numerous public engagements and was also working, I did listen to nearly all the sessions I missed on tape. I could not even find the comrades guilty of all the charges and so indicated in a "straw poll" of the E.C.-trial body. Therefore, when it was clear that expulsion was being proposed, I racked my brain to think of how to defend these comrades' membership - and suggested several alternatives. I was exhausted from campaigning and had to leave the E.C.-trial body meeting early for work

and, in desperation, to show that comrades, being human beings, sometimes get in bad situations. I brought up a long-forgotten incident which I had filed away as a resolved family problem.

On the basis of this "revelation" Glen and I have been asked to resign. I do so reluctantly. I do not feel that I have ever jeopardized the security of the SWP or any comrade in it. I have tried my best for more than sixteen years to defend the movement publically and in my personal conduct. However, I will not go through another trial, nor be humiliated in the way comrades recently on trial have been.

Therefore, I resign. I would like to be regarded as a sympathizer of the SWP and collaborate with the Party when appropriate. I believe that the SWP has made a serious mistake in expelling Debbie Vernier, Nancy Baker, Bob Robertson and Janet Brammer, and in requesting that Glen and I resign. It has been a very disappointing experience for me, to say the least.

Fraternally,


Debby Leonard

cc: Jack Barnes, Political Committee