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14 Charles Lane
New York, N.Y. 10014
June 18, 1971

DETROIT

Rudi Austin

Dear Rudi,

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated June 16 addressed to the National Committee.

It is possible that your letter of June 16 and my letter of June 10 crossed in the mails. I am enclosing a copy of my letter of June 10 in case you did not receive it.

I would appreciate an answer to the two matters I requested clarification on.

Comradely,
s/Jack Barnes
Organization Secretary

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Detroit
June 16, 1971

National Committee
Socialist Workers Party
New York, N.Y.

Dear Comrades,

I sent an appeal to the National Committee on May 21 and May 23 against the action depriving me of my rights as a party member which was voted on at the Detroit branch meeting of May 13, 1971.

To date I have not heard from you on this appeal.

At the May 13 meeting two actions were taken that, in my opinion, are unprecedented and contrary to party policy.

1. At the May 13 meeting I was barred from participating in any activities or functions of the branch where I have been an active member since 1954, on a motion brought in by the executive committee to that effect.
2. The executive committee, prior to the meeting, deprived me of the right to attend the meeting at which their motion was presented, and stationed two E.C. members, Ron Reosti and Malik Miah, at the door of the meeting to prevent me from attending. This action, taken by the executive committee, was not even submitted to the membership for approval!

As can be seen from the letter sent me by the then branch organizer, John Benson (copy of letter attached), no reference is made to this second action.

I am enclosing the statement submitted by Edith Gbur in support of her motion opposing the action of the Detroit branch executive committee at the May 13 meeting. I fully support the point of view expressed in her motivation (copy attached), and appreciate her support and the support given me by the one-third of the members who voted against the E.C. motion at that meeting.

The Detroit branch executive committee is not competent to make a judgment about my mental health, nor to give a forced leave-of-absence to any member.

I am very much concerned about the restoration of my rights to continue as an active member of the party. If I am compelled to abide by the discipline imposed on me by this motion of May 13, I will be forced into inactivity and isolation without a proper hearing.

I would appreciate an answer from the National Committee on my Appeal of May 21 and 23 in the immediate future.

Comradely yours,
s/Rudie Austin

Rudie Austin
6526 Regular Avenue
Detroit, Michigan 48209

Appended:
State to the National Committee

Dear Comrades,

This is to register with you my unqualified support of Rudie Austin's Appeal against the action taken against her at the May 13, 1971 meeting of the Detroit branch of the Socialist Workers Party.

Comradely yours,
s/Henry Austin

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14 Charles Lane
New York, N.Y. 10014
June 10, 1971

DETROIT

Rudi Austin

Dear Rudi,

This is to acknowledge receipt of your two letters of May 21 and May 23 addressed to the National Committee.

There were two matters I wanted to clarify.

1) Is it correct that you want your letter of May 23 considered a substitute for, and not an addition to, your letter of May 21?

2) Comrade Lovell reports that you stated your letters should not be considered formal appeals. Is that correct?

Comradely,

s/Jack Barnes
Organization Secretary

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Detroit
June 19, 1971

Jack Barnes
Organization Secretary
Socialist Workers Party
New York, N.Y.

Dear Comrade Barnes,

I received your letter of June 11, 1971 on June 19, because it was addressed to me at Debs Hall instead of to my home address.

In reply to your inquiries:

I sent a second appeal on May 23, because I felt that the last paragraph of my Appeal of May 21, might be open to misinterpretation. The letter of May 23, constitutes my formal appeal to the National Committee.

Comrade Lovell is incorrect in stating that this is not a formal appeal. I had called the Comrades Lovell because of this question of misinterpretation of the last paragraph of my Appeal of May 21.

Comradely,
s/Rudie Austin

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14 Charles Lane
New York, N.Y. 10014
June 24, 1971

NEW YORK

Hedda Garza

Dear Hedda,

Enclosed is a copy of correspondence we received today from Susan LaMont, the Lower Manhattan branch organizer.

We see nothing in the proposals adopted by either the New York Local or the Lower Manhattan Branch to implement the probe of the gay liberation movement which goes beyond the guidelines contained in the Political Committee motion of May 25, 1971..

Comradely,
s/Barry Sheppard
for the Administrative Committee

cc: Susan LaMont - Lower Manhattan Branch Organizer
Lew Jones - New York Local Organizer