

To: SOC
From : DF

Feb. 20, 1980

Dear SOC comrades,

The NSC recieved your letter stating that you would not be working in the local center at the present time but still considered yourselves part of the OC. In its December meeting the NSC reaffirmed the basic position which PF and myself layed out to you in the November meeting of all the Southern California OC forces. That is we believe that your decision to not participate in the SCALC is incorrect because it puts interests of SOC above the Local center, and comterposes the two. Secondly, by not participating in the Local center the "minority" failis to take up the responsibility to advance and struggle for their views in the OCIC as a whole. (see page 20, and 21 of our NSC report). In addition the SC discussed the problem of people who wanted to be in the OC but not participate in its local arm, the OCIC local center.

Here again the NSC supported the initial views of PF and myself by agreeing that it is not correct for comrads in the OC to be members but not participate in the local center, where one is functioning. Local centers are the main form for OCIC wide struggle in a locality. There can be little content to being an OCIC member, but failing to participate in the main local activity of the OC, its local center. PF has sent you a letter requesting further clarifications on your reasons for not participating. She is also presently in the process of sending you another letter which lays out more fully the SC thinking on this point. In addition, her letter will request you cmmrades to write up your views on why you think the SC policy on requiring members to participate in local centers is incorrect, if this is your position. These two letters can be the basis for broader discussion around this policy issue.

In the meantime there is a regional meeting planned for the end of March, weekend of March 22,23. I have enclosed all the preparation materials for this meeting in the packet. At present the SC feels that you comrades should not be OC members if you won't participate in the local center, while you comrades insist that you are. Part of the problem lies with the NSC. We failed to much more quickly communicate our discussion to you, and generate a braader discussion of the question. For this PF and myself are self-critical.

PF and I discussed the situation and arrived at the following conclusions. First, that you comrades should attend the rggional meeting with the status of full OC members. We do not feel that it would be correct for us to exclude your participation before there had been any broader discussion of the SC's policy around OC membership and local centers. Organiztional measures must follow ideological struggle and discussion. Secondly, you cmmrades must be responsible for clearly stating your reasons for not wanting to participate in the SCALC, and struggle with the NSC around the

its view of policy in relationship to OC membership and local centers. Both of these points should be discussed at the upcoming regional meeting.

In order to make for the best preparation for that meeting, I will send out an additional agenda point with your comrades status as the point for discussion. I will encourage people to read your papers, and the NSC report so people are familiar with the differences. And finally, I would strongly encourage you comrades to get your own views out around the reasons you aren't participating, and your position on the SC policy ASAP. I realize that it is short notice but a written letter to the region would be excellent to help people prepare. If this is not possible, you should come prepared to speak to these points verbally.

The basic agenda for the meeting is enclosed, with all the back round readings. If you have any questions please call or write, 415-533-8256. Also if any of you coming up can come a day early, or stay a day later I would like to have further discussions with you around these or other OC related topics. See you in March.

Comradely Greetings,

Dave Forrest NSC/Western Region
Coordinator

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