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David Keil
c/o SWP, 1 University Ave.
N.E.
Mpls., Minn. 55413

June 25, 1971

To the P.C.

Dear comrades,

I am informed that, more than a month ago, a comrade of the GCR, Italian Section of the Fourth International, was suspended from membership. His name is Franco Grisolia and he is a young comrade living in Genoa.

The reason he was suspended is that "one time Franco expressed his opinions about Ho Chi-Minh, and condemned him as Stalinist and a murderer of Trotskyists in Vietnam." At least that is apparently the reason given by the Italian leadership.

But I believe I know the real reason. He was a member of a group of Italian comrades who agree with "Return to the Road of Trotskyism" by Peng Shu-tse and comrade Hansen's documents on Latin America. I know comrade Franco personally and I know that he is a serious, disciplined Trotskyist.

This is to express my strong hope that this matter will be brought up with the Italian leadership and with the International leadership, if necessary, so that this basic principle of elementary party democracy can be upheld.

Comradely,

s/David Keil

copy to Charles S.

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14 Charles Lane
New York, N.Y.
June 29, 1971

TWIN CITIES

David Keil

Dear Dave,

Thank you for your letter concerning Franco. We spent some time with him following the Brussels conference and he seemed to be a very fine comrade.

I notice in your second paragraph that you quote the phrase "one time Franco expressed his opinions about Ho Chi-Minh, and condemned him as Stalinist and a murderer of Trotskyists in Vietnam." Would you please send me a copy of the letter in which you received this information so we can pursue the matter.

Comradely,

s/Jack Barnes
Organization Secretary

cc: Charles Scheer

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1 University Ave. N.E.
Mpls., Minn. 55413

July 10, 1971

Dear Comrade Jack,

I received yesterday your letter, which was delayed briefly at the branch headquarters.

I'm afraid that I have received no more information than the brief phrase you quote from my letter. I haven't had correspondence with Franco or other Italian comrades on this. But I know that Franco has visited comrade Peng, a while ago, and reported his experience. I'm sorry I can't be of any more help.

Comradely,
s/David Keil

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14 Charles Lane
New York, N. Y. 10014
July 14, 1971

TWIN CITIES

David Keil

Dear Comrade Keil,

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter of July 10, 1971.

In my letter of June 29, 1971, I requested a copy of the letter you were quoting from which stated that Comrade Franco was unjustly expelled from the Italian section. In your reply of July 10, you indicate that you "have received no more information than the brief phrase" you quoted in your letter of June 25, 1971. However, you neglected to include a copy of the letter I requested.

The matter you have raised is a grave one. It is important that all factual material relating to it be brought to the attention of the National Office, including the source of your information. I requested the letter you were quoting from when you made the charge primarily so that we would be informed of the source of your charge. Thus, even though this letter contains no more information concerning the alleged expulsion of Comrade Franco, I again request that you send us a copy of this letter.

Comradely,
s/Jack Barnes
Organization Secretary

cc: C. Scheer