

October 6, 1972

Dear Barry and Joe,

We have not yet gotten a formal report on the discussions with Ramon while he was here. We will ask for one at the next Bureau. However, in informal discussion with Walter and Riel we learned a number of things we wanted to pass along.

1) Walter mentioned in passing that Santucho had been in Paris for several months at the time of the May-June events. Perhaps Joe remembers this or met him at the time, but it was the first we heard of this. It adds another interesting item to the chronology of events around the time of the split in Argentina and the development of the 9th world congress line. *W. had extensive political discussions with S. while he was in Europe.*

2) According to Ramon the Tupas are finished. The latest police crackdown has been extremely efficient and they did not have enough mass support to be able to continue. More than 100 of the active cadres have recently fled to exile in Chile in order to escape arrest. A couple of central leaders agreed to cooperate with the police and were leading them to apartments and cafes to point out individuals they knew to be members of the Tupas.

3) Walter added that "Ramon is worried about a similar process taking place in Argentina." Between Riel and Walter we got the picture that the ERP is in serious political crisis with many splits and divisions. Riel felt that the process of disintegration he saw when he was there has deepened. They confirmed that there is a wing of the ERP that wants to orient to the elections. They described it as a "Morenista wing."

4) The only new accusation against the Verdad comrades was that ~~Cifra~~ participated in a meeting with the minister of the interior. No one mentioned what the meeting was about. We assume it was probably one of the formal meetings to prepare the election campaign.

5) The 5th congress document you received a photocopy of was brought by Ramon.

One problem you should think about and discuss with our southern friend is the formula to be used in the formal merging of the Verdad and PSA and the decision to affiliate to the FI. It could make quite a difference at the next world gathering. From the point of view of that problem, the best formula would be for everyone to join Verdad and for Verdad to change its name to PSA. That may be impossible for various reasons, but we should discuss it with our friend.

Another unrelated item of interest: At the last convention of the ETA, the pro-fourth tendency in the leadership won a majority of the entire convention. a victory which apparently came as a surprise to them. That means there will be one united organization for Spain and Pays Basque, but I'm not sure ~~whether~~ any decision has been made on how the two organizations will unify. It is assumed that the anti-fourth tendency will split and either claim to be the continuation of ETA or form a new organization. We also learned that the scheduled gathering has been postponed.

Regards,

Moustapha & Marcel

P.S. It was clear from Riel - + confirmed by Walter's attitude - that R came here to try + get support from the Inter. ~~to~~ to use against the PRT-ERP leaders. Walter said R. has given up on the PRT leader a Trotskyist. Ramon also made a very bad impression on the Paris comrades, blabbering around the HQ + finally had a gigantic fight with Pierre - in front of a number of comrades. P. told him he's never built anything in 40 years + never will

October 16, 1972

Dear Barry, Joe and Bev,

After thinking about it more and discussing it around, we decided there was no need to put Ireland on the agenda for the next gathering. Instead we propose that Walter, Gerry and Bob F. (or whoever in London should be involved) get together for a few hours next weekend. Walter will be in Dublin immediately following the scholars conference and he can have an initial discussion with the comrades there and report back to the secretariat. If necessary, we can have a secretariat discussion at a subsequent meeting.

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Let us know your reaction to the proposed Mexico City visit by Barry and Ed. We were quite disturbed by Pedro's report on the situation there, and there is no question that a split of the kind they appear to be heading for in Mexico would throw all kinds of red herring's on what we're trying to accomplish internationally. If there is anything we can do to prevent it, we should try. It's also possible that Bastillo might agree to have Ricardo replace him at the family gathering, which would be a good move from every point of view. A little bit of an international perspective on their problems in Mexico would help all concerned.

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In addition to the material we sent a week ago for circulation to the PC-NC there are two new items I didn't know about at the time. One is a Ligue Communiste communique published in Le Monde the day of the Munich events (written and published before the denouement). The second is a self-criticism of that communique, made by the political bureau of the LC and published in Rouge (Sept. 23). Gus probably mentioned both these to you. They are important. I was sick and our phone was out of order, so I was unable to talk to Dennis C. before he returned to New York yesterday. I left a message for him that he should bring back the translations of material on Rouge, and bring them in to the NO. (He agreed to do all the Munich stuff, including the two items just mentioned.) Just in case he didn't receive my message, if he doesn't come in, you should get in touch with him about the translations.

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We spent a long afternoon and evening with Pengx and Pi-lan last week. There are several things we should discuss when we return next time. Pi-lan asked again about ~~xx~~ her answer to Wang. We told her Joe was working on it, but his illness had postponed completion. Has the Militant subscription been restored? We can give them copies through June 30, but July through the date the subscription is begun again should be ~~xxx~~ winged to them. Please send them also copies of special PC translations like Rouge articles, Communist League bulletins, etc.

When the PRT letter to the Secretariat goes into the IIB, we should read it carefully to determine if it is comprehensible alone, or whether ~~xx~~ the Sallustro material from the United Secretariat minutes should also be included -- as it was in the PRT(C) bulletin.

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Would you please send us the following things: several copies of the ISR with the Marxism and womdn's liberation article; a copy of the minutes of the reunification congress;

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As soon as the European resolution comes ~~xxx~~ off the press, several copies should be air mailed to each of the European sections. They should all have time to read it and discuss it around in the leaderships prior to the IEC.

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Final <

Miscellaneous. Just a reminder that the FSI convention is still scheduled for the first weekend in December. NPAC should consider sending someone. We'll discuss the problem of IIB and Educational Bulletin circulation when we get back. Please let us know if Novack will be able to make the Denmark meeting and/or the Communist League convention (Nov. 9-12). Ernest was really excited at the idea that George might come over and immediately started talking about organizing a European tour for him. We'll drop George a note with the latest ~~xxxxx~~ version of the schedule for the Copenhagen weekend. Make sure Benny has sufficient resources with him to be able to buy his wheels to get around as a traveling salesman, wares on his back.

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Final note on the education ~~xx~~ for socialists bulletins: It would be good to advertise all available bulletins on each issue that comes out. Even include an order blank. We can make a lot more use of those bulletins than we have so far. It would also be worth while to run an ad for them in the Militant and I.R. Maybe even IF would accept an ad for the series -- or review the Abern Clique one and list all the others, or some other subtle variant.

on the back of the calendar list of Al can organize this if he knows its importance

Greetings to all,

Moustapha & Marcel

cc: Gus, Al

P.S.

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You will notice in the U.S. minutes that Walter made no statement on Ramon's declaration, and it's clear neither he nor anyone of the rest of Ramon's friends ~~xxx~~ intend to make one. We decided to wait till we could consult. Let us know your opinions. Our ~~current~~ idea is to wait 'til the ISC. It is quite likely that Ramon will be there ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ as part of the delegation, ~~but we could~~ ~~do something at the October 25.~~

The roofwalker made a trip down south and confirms that several friends plan to attend the gathering.

It's very important for Blanco to come