

14 Charles Lane  
New York, N.Y. 10014  
February 20, 1975

TO ALL BRANCH ORGANIZERS

Dear Comrades,

Enclosed is a copy of a letter of resignation from the IT sent by Peter Gellert to the Internationalist Tendency Political Committee.

Please bring this to the attention of the branch.

Comradely,

*Barry Sheppard*

Barry Sheppard  
National Organization  
Secretary

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February 15, 1975

Political Committee,  
Internationalist Tendency

Dear Comrades,

This is to inform you of my resignation from the I.T.

This course of action is necessitated by numerous reasons. First and foremost has been my continued disagreement with the Tendency leadership over perspectives to the point where the differences cannot be considered tactical in nature. To be more specific, the entire history of the I.T. can only be described as negative. From its inception the I.T. acted, in my opinion, as an anti-Party faction and this was reflected in its attitude towards Party building, towards finances, in the tendency's participation in the SWP and YSA pre-convention discussion periods, etc. The I.T. was not loyal to the Party in either words or deeds. We have had numerous fights over these questions in the past, so I won't repeat the arguments here.

Unfortunately since July 4th our past conduct has not been subject to the kind of close examination that might productively lead to a fundamental change in attitude. On the contrary, it's my belief that were the entire 2 years to be re-lived, nothing fundamental would transpire. This is reflected in the I.T.'s current attitude toward re-integration. Rather than acknowledging our past mistakes and agreeing to abide unconditionally by all decisions of the SWP, particularly in the absence of actual democratic centralism in the Fourth International, the I.T. insists that the SWP change its norms to conform with the wishes of the I.T. Given the current political, numerical and organizational state of the I.T., one cannot but marvel at the Tendency's inflated view of itself.

Frankly, I also feel my political differences with the SWP have considerably narrowed, although I still consider myself an ideological supporter of the views of the Fourth International majority. While I do not think the SWP's theory and practice are 100 percent perfect, it is undeniable that the SWP is the only revolutionary organization in the United States today, and I hope to devote all my efforts towards building it.

While I sincerely hope that the I.T. becomes "re-integrated" in the SWP, I can no longer consider myself part of your formation. I hope that I've learned from the I.T. debacle, and hope other comrades can do the same and reach the appropriate conclusion.

Comradely,

s/Peter Gellert