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July 21, 1979

To: Jones and Duret

I am sending these bulletins to you two because I thought Barry would already be in New York and seen them there.

I wanted you to see these before Oberlin to prepare for the discussion. As should be evident from a rapid scan of the documents in particular Nos. 4, 6 & 7 of Vol. 3 #5, we have a deep crisis on our hands.

As I mentioned to you when I was in Brussels, we had no illusions that the crisis would go away but we did think it would be attenuated. Instead it has deepened profoundly.

As a result of the majority's disorientation after the Convention and consequent failure to provide decisive leadership and the minority's factional activity, the section is today in the worst crisis I have ever experienced. We are losing even more members after an already severe loss. A large portion of the membership, particularly in the majority is demoralized and the factional tensions are tremendous.

At an industrial fraction last weekend Art Young made a vicious attack against the majority leadership calling us liars, accusing us of deliberately holding back information from the membership and deliberately obscuring political differences. As you can see from the Anders and Connolly declarations in the bulletins the attack is rather widespread from the minority leadership.

We have taken a series of measures to try and overcome the situation like relaunching the jobs campaign which was in crisis (I have enclosed the circular). However, I am convinced that whatever discussions are had at Oberlin will be decisive to the situation.

Thus it is absolutely critical that we schedule at least one full evening meeting. Almost our entire PC will be there. And that you find the time for informal meetings with central leaders from both major currents. It is also essential that you come back to Montreal after Oberlin to spend more time in discussion.

If there is any problem with this, I would request a bureau discussion of it since it is our view, and I think it is shared by the entire leadership that the section is in grave crisis. We are having a special PC meeting on August 18 on the International discussion, and if you are able to attend we will invite other CC members as well.

Comradely greetings,


Julie Samuels

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