

14 Charles Lane
New York, N.Y. 10014
May 31, 1974

To All Organizers and NC Members

Dear Comrades,

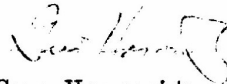
Attached is a copy of a mailing sent to all sections and sympathizing organizations of the Fourth International concerning the latest in a series of attacks on the PST of Argentina by right-wing terrorists. In this May 30 attack, six PST comrades were kidnapped from a PST headquarters. Three were murdered and the other three were released after being beaten.

As you can see from the enclosed material, reaction against this brutal assault is widespread in Argentina, and international support for the PST is being mobilized.

The SWP sent a telegram to the PST to be read at the June 1 funeral for our comrades. We will follow this up with full press coverage of these events.

The United States Committee for Justice to Latin American Political Prisoners has released a press statement and sent a telegram to the PST. USLA plans to mobilize support from other organizations and prominent individuals against this attack.

Comradely,



Gus Horowitz
SWP National Office

New York, N.Y.
May 31, 1974

To All Sections and Sympathizing Organizations

Dear Comrades,

On May 30, 1974, six comrades of the Argentine PST were kidnapped at gunpoint from a PST local headquarters. Three of them were later found murdered; the others were freed. The assault is believed to be the work of right-wing terrorist thugs.

This is the latest and most bloody of a series of terrorist attacks on the PST that have included beatings, bombings, shootings, and now kidnapping and murder. This terrorist campaign stems at least in part from the trade-union bureaucracy as its response to the growing influence of Argentine Trotskyism within the workers movement.

Enclosed is a preliminary fact sheet on this murderous assault. Also enclosed are some reprints of news articles from Intercontinental Press giving background information on previous terrorist attacks against the PST, including the assassination of another PST comrade earlier this month. The next issue of IP will contain a news story on the assault.

Solidarity in defense of the PST has been widespread and growing within the Argentine workers movement. We urge you to make every effort to extend this support on an international scale by sending messages of solidarity to the PST, conducting an energetic press campaign, and seeking messages of solidarity from other groups and prominent individuals.

Messages should be wired to: Partido Socialista de los Trabajadores, 24 de Noviembre 225, Capital Federal, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Fraternally,

Ed Shaw
Socialist Workers Party

FACT SHEET ON ASSASSINATION OF ARGENTINE TROTSKYISTS

At 12:30 a.m. on May 30, 1974, a fascist terrorist squad entered a PST headquarters located in the workers district of Pacheco in the northern section of Buenos Aires. Waving sub-machine guns, they kidnapped the six members of the PST present.

Antonio Moses, Oscar Meza, and Mario Sida were tortured and then shot. Their bodies were not discovered until the afternoon of May 30.

The other three victims, who were women, suffered beatings but were released.

The murdered comrades were all workers active in their factories and trade unions. Moses and Meza were metalworkers in the Astars shipyard. Moses was an elected member of his factory committee. Sida was a textile worker.

These workers came from the same district as Inosencio Fernández, another metalworker and member of the PST, who was assassinated earlier this month. Fernández, like the most recent victims, was involved in struggles by workers against the stranglehold of the Peronist bureaucracy, which rules the unions through gangster methods.

The outburst of support for the PST has been massive and rapid: Workers in several factories conducted work stoppages. Mass student meetings took place only hours after the radio announced the discovery of the PST worker-comrades' bodies. Tosco, the central leader of the Cordobazo, addressed 2,000 students in the Law School in Buenos Aires the night of May 30 in solidarity with the PST.

Declarations of solidarity have been pouring into the national headquarters of the PST as it prepared the June 1 funeral for its fallen comrades. Statements have come from all left parties, extending even to the Communist Party. The major bourgeois parties have also felt it necessary to speak out against this attack.

Reacting to mass pressure demanding that the government prosecute the fascist gang, the Argentine Senate passed a hurried motion May 31 condemning the attack and calling on Peron's government to take steps to arrest the attackers.

The Peronist government has remained complacent in face of the rising attacks against workers and left organizations carried out primarily by right-wing Peronists with back-handed approval from Peron's government.

The PST has been trying to create a united front of all workers and popular organizations in defense of the democratic rights of the working class and opposition political organizations.

The death of the three Trotskyists has made the other left organizations more aware of the need for a united defense effort. Almost all of them are expected to send representatives to the funeral of the three PST members.

May 31, 1974