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3737 Woodward  
Detroit, Michigan 48201  
28 July 1969

SWP National Office

Comrade Judy,

The following is the short report you requested on how we have managed to sell so many copies of A Transitional Program for Black Liberation.

The task of popularizing the idea of a black political party with a program of mass struggle has fallen mainly to the SWP-YSA black fraction here. Around Paul Lodico's campaign for Common Council we have established a support group, Afro-Americans for Lodico, based on the SWP candidate's support of the black struggle. We have met three times to discuss the campaigns of Paul and others (especially Richard Austin, the 'black capitalist' candidate for mayor) and to plan ways of distributing the Transitional Program as part of support to the campaign and also to help expose the charlatans.

We plan mainly to distribute the document to workers, local militants and students. Our success in the sale of The Militant at plant gates indicates that getting out the Transitional Program there will be quite easy. Distribution at plants will begin as soon as production resumes after the yearly change-over (18 August?). Distribution to local militants will be by mail or by visit. Campuses and high schools will be covered also.

Our greatest success so far has been with a literature table on the Wayne State campus. On one afternoon during a period of three hours we sold 75 copies of the Transitional Program, 8 copies of The Case for a Black Party, 18 copies of The Militant, and 22 YS's. We plan to repeat the literature table at Wayne and to set one up at Malcolm X (old Northwestern) High School. We plan to sell the document to high schoolers at cost.

Meetings and lectures in the black community or on topics relevant to the black community are also good places to sell the document. We sold over 40 copies of the document during a meeting here. The meeting was called by a group of local militants who believe it's time the 'people' presented their program to the candidates rather than the candidates presenting a program to the 'people'. At any rate, the program they envisioned confined itself to placing black individuals at the heads of various city commissions. Salaries ranged from 15,000 to 50,000 dollars. The body at the meeting decided it would be good to institute community forums where the candidates and the community can confront one another. We shall intervene at these, most likely with The Transitional Program and with speakers.

Comradely,  
s/John Hawkins