

14 Charles Lane
New York, New York 10014
June 15, 1974

To Leninist-Trotskyist Coordinators

Dear Comrades,

Enclosed are two items: 1) a letter Jack Barnes received from Nelson Blackstock, the Houston branch organizer; 2) excerpts from a document being distributed by Houston ITers to selected YSAers in Houston.

Comradely,

Ed Shaw

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3311 Montrose
Houston, Tex. 77006
June 7, 1974

Jack Barnes

Dear Jack,

This letter is to bring you up to date on a couple of items concerning the Internationalist Tendency here. Enclosed is a sheet showing branch performance in our petition campaign to date with IT members indicated. Also, you will find some statistics we compiled which gives a further illustration of their virtual boycott of this important activity.

At the last branch meeting Peter Geller justified their lack of participation on the grounds that the IT has been characterized as disloyal. I assume this means that as long as they are labeled disloyal, they will continue to act disloyal.

At the same meeting Fred Brode got up under The Militant sales point under the agenda and began to talk about Inprecor. He was ruled out of order by the chair, and that ruling was sustained by the branch. Brode then refused to leave the podium until he was told to by John Shaffer, at which time he kicked the podium as hard as he could and shouted at the branch, "Motherfucking cock suckers." This is rather illustrative of their state of mind.

Under the announcement point on the agenda the secretary reads appropriate announcements which are passed to him. Those which are not appropriate he does not read. He received a note stating that over \$200 had been collected in Houston to be sent to Brussels for Inprecor and anybody who wanted to contribute some more could contact Fred Brode. The secretary decided that this did not properly constitute an announcement and did not read it. Jean Shaffer shouted that her announcement had not been read, and it was explained that the secretary had decided not to read it. The branch then voted to adjourn. Jean Shaffer went to the podium and said into the microphone, "Heil Hitler."

Finally, at the Forum last Friday Jerry Foster, whose letter of resignation you received a few weeks ago, showed up selling the newspaper of the Spartacist League. Foster was accompanied by a Spartacist from New Orleans. The next day Bruce Clarke, an IT member, reported in the OCAW fraction that Foster had become a candidate member of the Spartacist League on the previous day.

I'll see you all at the plenum.

Comradely,

s/Nelson Blackstock

Below are the first and last paragraphs of a document being distributed by the Houston ITers to selected YSAers in Houston.

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The following is a speech of Comrade Cathy M. given at the recent YSA convention in Chicago as the report of the I.T. of the YSA on the Black Struggle. We think it provides a general framework for our position in relation to this question and submit it for the benefit of the comrades of the Tendency. This speech flows from the line of the I.T. as given in the resolution "Building a Revolutionary Party in Capitalist America.

[Then there follows the text of the report, which is 14 pages long.]

This report was written first of all by Comrade C. Matson w/ assistance of Cde. Barzman and Zeidel. Typed and edited (only a little) by B. Massey.