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Subject: The Verdict A Shameless Frame-up!

The Verdict: A Shameless Frame-up! Sujata, A. R. Desai's name figures on this document as one of the signatories! Amazingly...because it does suggest some links with the American Trotskyists, J.

Key Words: Socialist Workers Party, Workers Revolutionary Party, Gerry Healy, Joseph Hansen, George Novack

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The Verdict: Is a Shameless Frame-up!

A Statement on the Slanders Circulated by the Healy Group Against Hansen, Novack, and the Socialist Workers Party

The signers of the following statement represent a rather wide range of tendencies in the left. Some belong to no organized formation but are strong advocates of free and honest dialogue among working-class organizations and are veteran battlers against the introduction of frame-up methods. Others represent groups or organizations holding similar views on this question whatever their special political points of view may be. All of them are familiar with the Trotskyist movement; many are acquainted personally with Joseph Hansen and George Novack, and know the record of the Socialist Workers party, although they may disagree with its positions on a number of issues.

[Among the signers are five former secretaries or guards to Leon Trotsky: Chris Andrews, Jake Cooper, Raya Du-nayevskaya, Sara (Weber) Jacobs, and V.T. O'Brien. Another secretary, Jean van Heijenoort, who was with Trotsky in Turkey, France, Norway, and Mexico, made a separate statement, which is published below.

[Vsevolod Volkov, the grandson of Leon Trotsky, is among the signers. Also Marguerite Bonnet, a close friend of Natalia Sedoff, who was named European executor of Trotsky's literary estate.

[Internationally known Trotskyists of various tendencies and affiliations who signed the statement include Tariq Ali, Pierre Frank, Alain Krivine, Livio Maitan, Ernest Mandel, Nahuel Moreno, Jack Barnes, Hugo Blanco, Connie Harris, Peng Shu-tse, Mary-Alice Waters, Arlette La-guiller, Michel Rodinson, Pierre Lambert, Betty Hamilton, and James Robertson.

[A number of veteran leaders and militants of the SWP going back to the thirties and earlier signed the statement, including Milton Alvin, George Breitman, Anne Chester, Harry de Boer, Farrell Dobbs, Max Geldman, Karolyn Kerry, Tom Kerry, Marvel Scholl, Art Sharon, and Augusta Trainor.

[Arne Swabeck, one of the founders of the American Communist party and of the Trotskyist movement, added his signature, as did Jack (Weber) Jacobs, Morris Stein, Murry Weiss and

Myra Tanner Weiss. Charles Curtiss, another old timer, who worked with Trotsky in Mexico, submitted a statement of his own.

[Also to be noted among the signers is Ken Coates of the Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation, Tamara Deutscher, Daniel Guerin, and Ralph Schoenman.

[C.L.R. James submitted an individual statement.

[Statements by the Tendance Marxiste Revolutionnaire Internationale (TMRI ö International Revolutionary Marxist Tendency) and the Bulletin Group are also printed.]

For almost a year the Workers Revolutionary party, the British group headed by Gerry Healy, has conducted a vicious slander campaign against the Socialist Workers party of the United States and two of its veteran leaders, Joseph Hansen and George Novack. Healy and his followers in various countries have published articles and pamphlets, held public meetings, and distributed leaflets and posters accusing both men of "criminal negligence" in Trotsky's assassination and of being "accomplices of the GPU," alleging that they have covered up crimes of the Soviet secret police and shielded its agents.

They also insinuate that Hansen colluded with the FBI. By implication their charges likewise dishonor James P. Cannon, founder of the American Trotskyist movement, as well as Trotsky himself and his son Sedov.

Healy and his associates have not brought forward the slightest probative evidence, documents, or testimony to substantiate their libelous accusations against Hansen and Novack, the nominal targets of the attacks. The script of their polemics is fabricated out of baseless innuendoes, gratuitous suppositions and outright lies that do not have any political content or foundation in fact. They constitute a shameless frame-up.

The specific allegations have been exposed and refuted point by point in articles by various organizations and individuals printed in Intercontinental Press which can be consulted for extensive information.

The records of Hansen and Novack as political figures, writers, and editors are well known to us and many others the world over. Both have been continuously active for more than forty years as prominent members of the American Trotskyist movement and supporters of the Fourth International. It is especially odious that they have been singled out and falsely accused of aiding Stalin's assassins, since they devoted themselves to protecting Trotsky's life during his last exile in Mexico.

Argentina

Mario Gonzalez (Partido Socialista de los Trabajadores)

D. Marcelo (Manifiesto Obrero)

Nahuel Moreno (Partido Socialista de los Trabajadores)

Australia

Phil Griffiths (International Socialists)

Dave Holmes (Socialist Workers party)

Juanita Keig (Socialist Workers party)

Bill Logan (Spartacist League)

Jim McIlroy (Socialist Workers party)

James Percy (Socialist Workers party)

John Percy (Socialist Workers party)

Ted Tripp

John Tully (Socialist Workers party)

Austria

Hermann Dworczak (Gruppe Revolutionäre Marxisten)

Belgium

Eddy Labeau (Ligue Révolutionnaire des Travailleurs/Revolutionaire Arbeiders Liga)

Ernest Mandel (Ligue Révolutionnaire des Travailleurs/ Revolutionaire Arbeiders Liga)

Britain

Tariq Ali (International Marxist Group)

John Archer

Mary Archer

Robin Blackburn (International Marxist Group)

Kate Blakeney

Robin Blick

Ken Coates

Tamara Deutscher

Charlie van Gelderen (International Marxist Group)

Sam Gordon

Brian Grogan (International Marxist Group)

Betty Hamilton

Alan Harris (International Marxist Group)

Connie Harris (International Marxist Group)

Quintin Hoare (International Marxist Group)

Mark Jenkins

Margaret Johns

Alan Jones (International Marxist Group)

Pat Jordan (International Marxist Group)

Michael Kidron (International Socialists)

Jim Peck

Bob Pennington (International Marxist Group)

Louis Sinclair

Harry Wicks

David Yaffe (for the Political Committee of the Revolutionary Communist Group)

Canada

Reg Bullock (League for Socialist Action/Ligue Socialiste Ouvrière)

Ruth Bullock (League for Socialist Action/Ligue Socialiste Ouvrière)

Francis Cyr (Groupe Marxiste Révolutionnaire)

René Denis (for the Central Committee of the Groupe Socialiste des Travailleurs du Québec)

Ross Dowson (Socialist League)

Colleen Levis (League for Socialist Action/Ligue Socialiste Ouvrière)

Joyce Meissenheime

Joe Meslin

Vernal Olson

John Riddell (League for Socialist Action/League Socialiste Ouvrière)

Bret Smiley (Revolutionary Marxist Group)

Ernest Tate (League for Socialist Action/Ligue Socialiste Ouvrière)

William White

Art Young (League for Socialist Action/Ligue Socialiste Ouvrière)

Chile

Luis Vitale (Partido Socialista Revolucionario)

China

Chen Pi-lan (Revolutionary Communist party)

Jerry Chow

Li Fu-jen

Peng Shu-tse (Revolutionary Communist party)

F.H. Wang

Colombia

A. Otto (Grupo Marxista Internacionalista)

Freddy Téllez (Grupo La Internacional)

Costa Rica

Fausto Amador (Organizacion Socialista de los Trabajadores)

Denmark

Gunnar Jensen (Revolutionaere Socialisters Forbund)

Vagn Rasmussen [Revolutionary Marxist Group in the Left Socialist party)

France

Marguerite Bonnet

Pierre Broué (Organisation Communiste Internationaliste)

Pierre Frank (Ligue Communiste Révolutionnaire)

Daniel Guérin

Alain Krivine (Ligue Communiste Révolutionnaire)

Arlette Laguiller (Lutte Ouvriere)

Pierre Lambert (Organisation Communiste Internationaliste)

Michel Rodinson (Lutte Ouvrière)

Pierre Rousset (Ligue Communiste Révolutionnaire)

Gerard Vergeat (Ligue Communiste Révolutionnaire)

Germany

Herwart Achterberg (Gruppe Internationale Marxisten)

Jakob Moneta

Winfried Wolf (Gruppe Internationale Marxisten)

Greece

Giannis Felekis (Organization of Communist Internationalists)

Iceland

Mar Gudmundsson (Fylking Byltingarsinnadra Kommunistar)

India

Dr. A.R. Desai

Magan Desai (Communist League)

Iran

Javad Sadeeg

Cyrus Paydar (Sattar League)

Ireland

Dermot Whelan

Israel

J. Taut (League of Revolutionary Communists)

Italy

Livio Maitan (Gruppi Comunisti Rivoluzionari)

Luxembourg

Robert Mertzig (Ligue Communiste Révolutionnaire)

Mexico

Manuel Aguilar Mora (Liga Comunista Internacionalista)

Luciano Galicia S.

Jaime Gonzalez (Liga Socialista [Fraccion Bolchevique-Leninista])

Roberto Martinez Aveleira

Cesar Nicolas Molina

Cristina Rivas (Liga Socialista [Fraccion Bolchevique-Leninista])

Vsevolod Volkof

New Zealand

George Fyson (Socialist Action League)

Russell Johnson (Socialist Action League)

Keith Locke (Socialist Action League)

Peru

Hugo Blanco (Partido Socialista de los Trabajadores)

Portugal

Paulo Mendes (Partido Revolucionario dos Trabalhadores)

Antonio Sa Leal (Partido Revolucionario dos Trabalhadores)

José Sintra (Grupos de Acção Socialista)

Spain

Manuel (for the Political Bureau, Liga Comunista Revolucionaria/Euzkadi ta Azkatasuna-VI)

Melan (for the Political Bureau, Liga Comunista)

Sri Lanka

Edmund Samarakkody (Revolutionary Workers party)

Bala Tampoe (Revolutionary Marxist party)

Sweden

Kjell Ostberg (Kommunistiska Arbetarforbundet)

Switzerland

Charles-Andre Udry (Ligue Marxiste Révolutionnaire)

United States

Milton Alvin (Socialist Workers party) Charles Andrews (Trotskyist Organizing Committee)

Chris Andrews

Jack Barnes (Socialist Workers party)

George Breitman (Socialist Workers party)

Peter Camejo (Socialist Workers party)

Anne Chester (Socialist Workers party)

Jake Cooper (Socialist Workers party)

Lillian Curtiss (Socialist Workers party)

Clifton DeBerry (Socialist Workers party)

Harry de Boer (Socialist Workers party)

Farrell Dobbs (Socialist Workers party)

Margaret R. Dullea

Robert D. Dullea

Raya Dunayevskaya (National Chairwoman, News & Letters Committees)

V. Raymond Dunne

Nancy Fields (Socialist Workers party)

Hugh Fredricks (Trotskyist Organizing Committee)

Max Geldman (Socialist Workers party)

Albert Glotzer

Fred Halstead (Socialist Workers party)

Allan Hansen (Socialist Workers party)

Reba Hansen (Socialist Workers party)

Gus Horowitz (Socialist Workers party)

Jack (Weber) Jacobs

Sara (Weber) Jacobs

Karolyn Kerry (Socialist Workers party)

Tom Kerry (Socialist Workers party)

Bruce Landau (Revolutionary Marxist Committee)

Frank Lovell (Socialist Workers party)

V.T. O'Brien

Earl Owens (Trotskyist Organizing Committee)

Evelyn Reed (Socialist Workers party)

James Robertson (for the International Executive Committee of the international Spartacist tendency)

Grace Saunders

Ralph Schoenman

Marvel Scholl (Socialist Workers party)

Art Sharon (Socialist Workers party)

Ed Shaw (Socialist Workers party)

Barry Sheppard (Socialist Workers party)

Paul N. Siegel

Morris Stein

Elizabeth Stone (Socialist Workers party)

Arne Swabeck

Tony Thomas (Socialist Workers party)

Augusta M. Trainor (Socialist Workers party)

Harry Turner (Trotskyist Organizing Committee)

Mary-Alice Waters (Socialist Workers party)

Murry Weiss

Myra Tanner Weiss

Tim Wohlforth (Socialist Workers party)

Milton Zaslow (Revolutionary Marxist Organizing Committee)

Venezuela

Andrés (Liga Socialista)

Antonio (Liga Socialista)

Carlos (Liga Socialista)

Daniel (Liga Socialista)

Eva (Liga Socialista)

Juan (Liga Socialista)

Orieta (Liga Socialista)

Ulises (Liga Socialista)

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