

873 Broadway
2nd floor south
New York, New York 10003

April 24, 1969

TO ALL BRANCHES

Dear Comrades,

A bomb attack was made on the SWP headquarters in New York late in the evening of Wednesday, April 23, Fortunately, no one was injured, although several comrades were on the premises at the time.

It appears that an attempt was made to hurl a concussion grenade through a lighted second floor window, possibly from a moving car. The grenade fell back to the street where it exploded, damaging a parked car and sending pieces of shrapnel through second floor windows in the headquarters.

A press conference will be held this afternoon by Paul Boutelle, the party's candidate for mayor of New York City. He will call for general condemnation of this murderous assault on the campaign headquarters of a mayoralty candidate. Pointing to the growing evidence of attempts by ultra-right hoodlums to terrorize and intimidate opponents of the status quo, he will demand that the government act against these hoodlums instead of setting an example for them by its own acts of brutality against dissident political movements.

A report of the bomb attack and an account of Comrade Boutelle's press conference will appear in the May 2 issue of The Militant.

Comradely,



Farrell Dobbs
National Secretary

PAUL BOUTELLE FOR MAYOR

NEW YORK SOCIALIST WORKERS CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

Paul Boutelle for Mayor of New York
Jeff Mackler for Pres. of City Council
Alfredo Peña for Comptroller
Tony Thomas for Manhattan Borough Pres.
Patricia Grogan for Manhattan
Councilman-at-large

873 Broadway, New York, N. Y. 10003
Telephone: 533-4450 or 477-9506

For further information:

Brian Shannon 533-4450

Campaign Chairman: Hedda Garza
Campaign Director: Brian Shannon

For Immediate Release

April 24, 1969

STATEMENT BY PAUL BOUTELLE, SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY CANDIDATE FOR MAYOR OF NEW YORK ON BOMBING OF CAMPAIGN HEADQUARTER

Last night at approximately 10:30 pm an explosive device identified by police as a grenade was thrown at the Socialist Workers Party campaign headquarters at 873 Broadway. The grenade exploded outside after apparently having been thrown at a window of our second floor offices, missed the window and bounced back to the street. Shrapnel fragments punctured two of our office windows and a car parked on the street was damaged. Fortunately there were no injuries, but this was pure luck, since the lights were on and 15 campaign workers were in Headquarters at the time. Had the grenade entered the window, serious injuries or deaths would have resulted.

This is not the first murderous attack our party has suffered during an election campaign. On Sept. 24, 1966 when Judy White was candidate for Governor and I was the candidate for State Attorney General, our offices here were fire bombed. And last October, when I was the party's candidate for Vice President in the national elections, our headquarters in Los Angeles was bombed.

A number of months ago when members of an ultra-right group called the Minutemen were arrested with illegal arms and explosives it was revealed that their list of targets to be attacked included the Socialist Workers Party.

We are not the only group that has been attacked. There has been a general increase in this kind of terrorist activity, carried out against groups such as ours. Even business and foreign government offices with some slight trade or diplomatic connection with revolutionary Cuba have been repeatedly bombed.

We do not know who threw the grenade last night. The bombing of this same headquarters two years ago has never been solved. In general, the police seem to have great difficulty preventing these attacks against groups like ours or in solving them after the act occurs. This stands in marked contrast to their rounding up of black liberation fighters on frame-up

charges of fantastic terror attacks though no such attacks have been perpetrated by the black militant groups.

Acts of political terrorism are on the rise and a major contributing factor is the policy of the U]S] government in Vietnam where an attempt is made to put down political opposition by massive bombing and fire power. The American people are subject every evening on TV and radio to "body counts" of "communists" and stories of thousands of tons of bombs being dropped on "communists". It is no wonder that some warped minds can get the idea that that is the thing to do here at home.

This attack will not deter us from our election campaign. On the contrary, we feel even more strongly the need to fight for a society free of exploitation, racism and violence. We will continue to support the revolutionary struggles of the youth, Afro-Americans and other oppressed people here and abroad, to demand that the G.I.'s be brought home from Vietnam immediately and that the billions wasted in that war be devoted to the educational, housing and other crying needs of people in New York City and other urban centers.