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Letter from Kosinogo Defense Committee

Kosinogo Defense Committee

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Eureka, California

April 20, 1940

Dear Friend:

Some time ago you saw considerable news in the local papers about Walter Kosinogo's application for citizenship. In December he was denied his citizenship, and the newspapers carried lengthy reports of Walter's allegedly "radical" tendencies. Walter is a dishwasher, and a member of the Cooks and Waiters' Local 220.

A Kosinogo defense committee was set up of persons who saw in this denial a violation of civil rights on the outworn charge of "radical" activities, and an attack against persons who do not enjoy the protection of citizenship. This committee appealed to the International Labor Defense, and the ILD attorney, George Andersen, was successful in getting a retrial for Walter.

As a result of the retrial, Judge Falk did not change his decision, but upheld his denial on the grounds that he was doubtful of Walter's "moral character". However, the decision was given without prejudice and Walter will be able to make application again in about a year and a half.

The appeal cost the defense committee considerable money, and an effort is now being made to clear up that debt.

A benefit dinner is being given on May 5th in the "A" Street Hall, the proceeds from which will go to pay the debt on this appeal. This dinner will feature Russian cutlets, and the menu includes mashed potatoes and gravy, vegetables, salad, home-made biscuits, applesauce and cake. The charge is 50¢ per plate, and serving begins at 1:30 P.M.

You are urged to attend this dinner for the double pleasure of eating a bountiful Sunday dinner out and to support a very worthy cause.

Sincerely,

Kosinogo Defense Committee
236 "D" Street
Eureka, California.