

February 8, 1982

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Dear Nina,

This letter is to express our opinion of your letter to us of January 15, 1982, concerning our article in the November-December, 1981 issue of Theoretical Review.

First of all, nowhere in this letter do you make even a minimal attempt to respond to the substance of our article, or to suggest that you have any intention of doing so. Instead, your letter addresses almost exclusively the issue of Theoretical Review's motives in printing our summation. Frankly, your questions in this regard should be addressed to Theoretical Review, not to us.

It is the MLEP National Staff and the Editorial Board of Line of March which must bear responsibility for forcing us to voice our criticisms in this forum. You know full well that we first offered our article to Line of March and told them that we considered it the most appropriate place for it to be published. It was the Editorial Board which refused to print any portion of our article, with the meager explanation that it was "generally inappropriate to publish such material in the pages of a theoretical journal such as Line of March". Further, it was the MLEP National Staff which chose to expell two of us from MLEP, and which has so far refused to respond to our criticisms in a principled manner.

Secondly, your assertion that our summation is made "merely to further the cause of opposition and does not advance a political alternative" is utter and complete nonsense. Our article quite clearly makes constructive

suggestions on how to improve the process of ideological struggle and criticism/self-criticism within MLEP'. Nowhere have we ever suggested that the problems which we see within MLEP are impossible to resolve. Nowhere have we ever advocated dismantling or boycotting MLEP. Nowhere have we ever denied that MLEP has made positive contributions to the development of the anti-revisionist, anti-"left" opportunist trend. It is only your own sectarian view of political struggle, and your fear of sharp criticism, which leads you to this self-serving conclusion.

Third, we do not understand what you are referring to when you mention "the National MLEP's summation", despite your assertion that it was sent to us. We have no document which corresponds to this reference. If such a document does indeed exist, we think you should supply us with a copy of it, as you claim you have done for Theoretical Review.

Again, we want to express the fast-fading hope that you will choose to respond in some manner to the actual substance of our criticisms, rather than merely trying to obscure this matter with defensive and irrelevant chatter.

In struggle,

Mark Davis

Mark Davis

G. Castillo

Gabriel Castillo

Marc Norton

Marc Norton

cc. Editorial Board of Line of March
 Theoretical Review
Guardian