

Dear Alan: (Copy to REB)

1/17/86

Copy to be sent to all

Here it finally is, with the Introd. to the new edition of the FF pamphlet, called Introduction/Overview, not only because it has grown from 6 pp. to 18, but because once you take a serious glance at the years bet. 1978 when it was 1st published and 1986 as it is going to press now, that whirlwind of events--and events cover not just actions which are endless, but dialectic development of philosophy of Marxist-Humanism, it is clear it is no pamphlet but a book now.

The first new that greets the reader at once is its dedication to Charles Danby and Steve Biko, and a picture of both of them. And even before they get to that new, they would have seen the new cover which announces that this is an expanded new edition ~~with~~ not only a new Introduction/overview, but Appendices by Rene Depastre, and Nguigi on Negritude and Language, and RD on Grenada. And it lists, as Afterword, N-K Perspectives, 1985-6.

Now then the sweep and retrospective of the new Introduction/Overview permits us at once, directly after the 1st 2 original pars. on apartheid SF regimes, to go back to original and thus at once mention CD as one who was then completing his autobiography and quoting what he said on Biko and the affinity of thought to FF and Am. Black Thought. And since that also means mentioning NAL we show that CD's column, "Haitians dehumanized at Krome" as well as John Alen's Bl/Red column, "Poland, Haiti, freedom indivisible." Everywhere US/Africa are integrally related as we also parallel what is called "the children's revolution" in S Africa and what was called "the little shortsies" in the Miami uprisings. Finally, for what is now considered Section I of this introd./overview returned to our 1969 Black/Red Conference where Philosophy of Revolution when it wasn't even a book was the talk, i.e., the context of discussing the objective situation of the turbulent '60s plus the Perspectives it led to that year, The Needed American Revolution. (Both these suggestions on 1969 were Ray's suggestion when he read 1st draft, and it gave us opportunity again to be in S.Afr. as it is the year when the dock strike for the 1st time got some white students to support.)

The 1st new in Section II ~~is~~ is that we quote "a British revolutionary" with his magnificent phrase that the triangular ideas we're always talking about has "found a fourth port of entry, actually 3 ports, Bristol, London, Liverpool. And whereas 100,000 march in London for divestment, the Black revolt is DEMANDING that these demonstrators not separate their fight against apartheid from the fight against racism." The most important of the new is an absolutely heart-rending and creative story of Winnie Mandela when she was imprisoned and ~~was~~ confined to solitary found a message in a most unusual place calling her "mother of the nation, we are with you." With it we contrast but also bring out the new of Women's Liberation even there as we include our analysis of the UR conference in Nairobi, Kenya.

makes it

Section III puts all these both in world context and inseparable from philosophic developments as it returns to the 1950 in a way that retrospective is perspective by returning to Marx's Marxism both with that par. that CD liked so well on summing up Marx on Black from 1840's to 1890s as well as EE and whole post WW II world with our NAF coming out 1958 followed by

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on the eve of FF's Wretched of the Earth. This time we quote new type of quotations from FF I did not dare quote in 1st edition that let us see this great revolutionary as a critique of the new Black leaders: "Leader", the word comes from the English word, "to lead", but a frequent French translation is 'to drive'. The driver, the shepherd of the people no longer exists today. The people are no longer a herd and they do not need to be driven." This is followed by an attack on the single party which is described as "the dictatorship of the bourgeoisie, unwashed, unpainted, unscrupulous and cynical," and he was not talking of capitalism but of the newly independent African states that had Oogyeefos.

Finally, with a brief IV section, we go to 1983 as both Marx Centenary and the national tour and the great horror not only of the US imperialist invasion of Grenada, but how the conflicting tendencies in the revolutionary governing party was "settled" by the shooting of Bishop by Coard-Austin, his co-leaders. In a word, from the moment we publicly threw the gauntlet down to all post-Marx Marxists, including the great revolutionaries with RLWLM when with RI and seeing Marx's Marxism as a totality, we had to concretize "not Engels", not Luxemburg's, not Lenin's, but Marx's. Here then is our final par. in the Introduction/Overview:

"Too much of the old clings to the newly independent states. Russia, which achieved, in 1917, the greatest proletarian revolution the world has experienced, was transformed into its opposite--a state-capitalist society-- in the Stalin decades as it was surrounded by a world capitalism degenerating to Nazism. The concept of new human relations, of not stopping the revolution with the overthrow of the old society and thus aborting what Marx called "the revolution in permanence", is what it is necessary to spell out anew for our age."

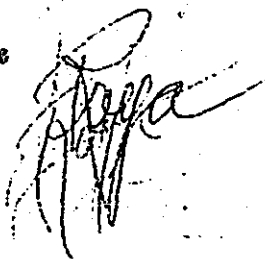
Jan. 17, 1986

Raya Dunayevskaya -- Lou Turner -- John Alan

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I do not know whether you're as excited as Lou and I were when we saw that little symbol, "30", but I do believe that when they see this in some pamphlet as the original, and it is further followed with the Haitian post-essayist Rene Despre and Nguigi wa Thiong'o and the analysis of Grenada with the Afterword of excerpts from our own Perspectives, 1985-6 which includes a p. or so of 12/29/85 Expanded Reb report, even \$5,000 extra for getting this book and all its new pictures, including the very latest COEATU Congress picture, the extra moneys will come in--after they get over the shock of what printing costs these days no matter how much unpaid labor we put in. I trust that you haven't stopped creating new ways of approaching periphery as well as devising ways as "lucrative" as Bay Area garage sales generally are, except that these "sales" will be true philosophic world preparations for revolution.

Yours,



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