

November 5, 1980

Dear PWOC,

Clay Newlin has informed us that the PWOC does not consider the Poland issue important enough to accept our proposal to jointly sponsor east coast forums on that issue. We think this is a mistake. In our view, our differences around Poland are based on theoretical and political differences of fundamental importance to our trend's development of a correct general line. The events in Poland offer a concrete way to take up these issues. More immediately, the danger of restoration of capitalism in socialist Poland is serious, and an incorrect line on the current strikes would actually facilitate a major blow to socialism. Public forums would make for a direct clash of lines, immediate movement-wide interaction with the debate, and public accountability around this important issue.

We have also considered your counterproposal that Line of March makes its pages available to debate on this issue.

We do not see this proposal as an alternative to ours: as our proposal stated, we see such written exchanges as invaluable. In fact, organizing and facilitating such debate is an integral part of our editorial policy and political aims. The next issue of Line of March (December/January) will contain an elaboration of our analysis of the Polish struggle and its international importance. We invite you to submit your views on Poland to Line of March at any time. Just keep us informed so that space can be reserved.

We will also send you an advance copy of our Poland article to encourage you to take a polemical approach and we formally give you permission to comment on our article in the Organizer, or any other form, as soon as you receive it. Along with the advance copy we will give you details regarding form and length for your Line of March article.

We hope you will be similarly open to carrying on this polemic in the Organizer, and encouraging debate in the OCIC as well. The Guardian has already agreed to publish an article from us on Poland, and it will be an important vehicle to carry out this debate. Naturally we will extend to both the Guardian and Theoretical Review the same offer that we have made to you.

For the Editorial Board,

*Bob*

Bob Wing

cc: Guardian  
Theoretical Review