

Committee to Defeat Revisionism, for Communist Unity

Editorial: The Way Forward Once More

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This issue of Vanguard celebrates the third anniversary of the establishment of the Marxist-Leninist movement in Britain. We now have a history of three years development under extremely adverse conditions, steadily developing the nucleus.

The Committee to defeat Revisionism for Communist Unity came into being at a meeting of representatives of the anti-revisionist movement in Britain. This meeting immediately revealed for all to see, the two political trends in the anti-revisionist movement, which accorded the conditions for the two organisations representing those opposite trends necessarily coming into being. The meeting itself made it immediately necessary for those wishing to take a public stand against revisionism to act.

In November 1963, the CDRCU was formed and an appeal published, followed by the publication of the first issue of Vanguard in February 1964, containing 'The Way Forward' by Michael McCreery.

The appeal called on all Marxists and Communists to unite in a public stand to defeat revisionism in Britain. It was made clear in 'The Way forward' in September 1964, it was obvious by then to those in the CDRCU that the only correct and honest thing to do was to break with the CPGB and establish a new genuine organisation of the working class to replace that which had abandoned the principles of Marxism-Leninism.

The CDRCU at that time alone represented those that saw the impossibility of transform the CPGB into a Marxist-Leninist party and openly took the correct line.

The way forward is clear; to unite those that could be united for 'A New Party'. This in reality was the objective aspect of the contradictions within the Anti-revisionist movement. There was of course another aspect, the subjective one. Together they constituted the main contradiction within the Anti-revisionist movement, NOT the only contradiction but the MAIN one.

This subjective aspect took the form of 'Forum' and it's (sic) political line of struggle for the transformation of the CPGB into a marxist-leninist party from without and within. The essence of this line, 'Transformation', was thinly cloaked with phrases of the need for a new party, but, not

now. 'The time is not ripe' was the argument. All to conceal the fact that those adherents could not understand the need to break with the old and build a new party.

A long struggle ensued between the two lines; New party or transform the old, culminating in the strategic defeat of the transformists at the 1965 CPGB Congress, where the bureaucratic (sic) [bureaucratic] control of the party proved absolute. So then was proved the correctness of the public stand calling for a new party. The contradiction was resolved, the process came to an end. Already a new one was emerging. The one that will develop our movement to a higher stage again. For the Marxists and communists who could be united on the need for a New Party were now united in or around the CDRCU, which stood alone as the embryo Marxist-Leninist party. As were the participants of the London conference in November 1963, which conceived this new entity. Now it had gone through a dialectical struggle, a process which developed it to a qualitatively higher stage.

Meanwhile, it had suffered a crushing blow. Its leader and revolutionary guide had not lived to see the victory of the struggle that he had led so courageously with magnificent self-sacrifice not withstanding physical pain. The effect of this was crippling to the CDRCU. The victory over the transformists, when it came, was not consolidated. The collective that existed had broken down. There was no analysis of the new emerging contradictions. No way forward this time to lead the way into the next phase of struggle and development.

The Present Struggle

To trace the emergence of what is now the main contradiction in the Marxist-Leninist movement, we find its source in the right opportunist faction that had emerged during the inner party struggle that was continually taking place within CDRCU, with the subsequent split resulting in the formation of ACMLU and its political line. To quote 'Hammer and Anvil' Vol.2 No.1 "..... an essential precondition of the aims (A New Party – Editors, Vanguard) is the achievement of broad and principled unity amongst the Marxist-Leninists forces, their groups and organisations...." This opportunist tendency to delude those militants who have not yet discerned between the genuine and the false Marxist-Leninist organisations, was the principal aspect of the main contradiction.

Genuine unity around CDRCU for A New Party or the liquidationist policy of a new party. To quote 'Hammer and Anvil' Vol.2 No.1 PP.2 para.2 " ... to assist in the working out of a Broad programme...at a conference of Marxist-Leninist unity....". Two opposite mutually exclusive lines within the Marxist-Leninist movement, with the liquidationists trying to obscure CDRCU and call for unity through a new conference.

They continually ignore the contradictions within the Marxist-Leninist movement. It must be pointed out that at different historical periods it would be legitimate to call for broad unity of groups, i.e. the slogan or call for broad unity at the time of the 'Lucas Arms' Conference of November 1963 was correct. Today, it serves as a liquidationist tactic designed to obscure the development taking place.

This however, was not to remain so for long. Comrades, growing more confident with their developing grasp of Marxism-Leninism, began again to re-establish the collective and struggle against the remaining vestiges of right-opportunism within CDRCU. When this was completed, though many mistakes and poor methods of work were in evidence, things rapidly improved, resulting in the complete defeat of the right-opportunist faction and the eradication of these tendencies, through inner party struggle.

CDRCU took up the challenge in September 1966 and issued its statement, making a clean break from those splitters, the right-opportunists. The collective has been re-established and a greater

unity now existed within the groups represented in CDRCU. Preparations were being made to carry on the development, through a struggle with the opposite of the genuine revolutionary organisation, a stage further to a Genuine Marxist-Leninist Unity Around CDRCU. This slogan for 'The Way Forward Once Again' for this new process of its own development the pre-condition of establishing A New Party.

The universality of the Marxist-Leninist movement today in Britain is A New Party. All are agreed on this, thus; Universality. A short analysis of this movement reveals that it is in fact made up of particular parts, each in contradiction to each other. Yet only one of these contradictions can be the main one. We must resolutely struggle against and expose liquidationist tactics and attempts to negate the historical development of the Marxist-Leninist movement and their reversion to the Marxist-Leninist position prior to the 1963 Conference.

This is our analysis of the developments, our interpretations

Forward to the establishment of a Communist Party (Marxist-Leninist)