

May 28, 1974

To the Leninist-Trotskyist Faction Steering Committee

Dear Comrades,

Enclosed are copies of four letters:

1. A letter from Tony Roberts to the Steering Committee of the Leninist-Trotskyist Faction informing us that he and two other comrades had resigned from the IMG and joined the Revolutionary Communist Group.

2. A similar letter from Tony Roberts to the Steering Committee of the Tendency within the IMG.

3. A statement made by Connie Harris on behalf of the Tendency concerning the actions of Tony Roberts, Sabina Roberts and Pat Brain.

4. A letter from me on behalf of the LTF Steering Committee to the Tendency of the IMG stating complete agreement with the statement by Connie Harris.

Comradely,

Mary\_Alice

30th April 1974

To: The I.T.F. Steering Committee

Dear Comrades,

As you know, four of my five years inside the IMG have been spent as part of an opposition to the political line of the majority leadership. This line has meant the inability of the organisation to come to grips, in a clear programmatic way, with any of the major issues facing revolutionaries in Britain. More theoretically, it represents an inability to work out, on the basis of this method, a real programme for today based on the objective needs of the working class and its allies.

The incorrect political line of the majority has prevented members of the I.T.F. in Britain from intervening, in however modest a way, in any of the ongoing struggles within British society. It has also engendered an increasing bureaucratisation of the organisation and factionalism against opposition tendencies.

Despite grave differences with the IMG leadership, members of the Tendency in Britain decided to remain in the IMG because of the international implications of their struggle. Such a course of action may indeed be correct at a time of partial lull in the class struggle or at a time when the possibility exists to convince members of the majority -- through experience -- of the incorrectness of their line. Such a course, while existing elsewhere, is no longer valid in Britain where the class struggle is developing at a rapid tempo and when -- as bitter experience has shown -- factionalism on the part of the majority no longer allows differences to be objectively evaluated.

It is for this reason that I have decided to resign from the IMG. Such a resignation does not constitute a moral or political rejection of the Fourth International which is more necessary today than ever before. It is a recognition that the programme of the F.I. be raised now: that a perspective must be posed for those forces beginning to move to the left of the Labour Party and Communist Party now: that it is necessary to get roots in these stratas and take part in their struggles now.

I have therefore decided to resign from the IMG, alongside other comrades, and join the Revolutionary Communist Group which is seriously trying to come to grips with the question of programme -- based on a democratic discussion -- and to develop those cadres necessary to struggle for it.

Yours fraternally,

s/Tony Roberts

29th April 1974

To: The Tendency Steering Committee

Dear Comrades,

As you know, of the five years of my membership of the IMG, four have been spent in opposition to the political line of the majority -- an opposition which extends to practically every major issue in British politics today. From a theoretical point of view, these differences stem from the inability of the majority to come to grips with the methodology of the Transitional Programme and to elaborate, today, a programme of action corresponding to the objective needs of the working class and its allies.

The incorrect political line of the majority (which has prevented opposition members from participating, in however modest a way, in the ongoing struggles has been accompanied by an increasing bureaucratisation and factionalism. The history of the latter has been sufficiently documented already.

At the present stage, the IMG no longer represents either politically or organisationally, the requisite tool to take those struggles forward. Despite recognition of this fact, members of the Tendency have decided to remain inside the IMG due to recognition of the international nature of the faction struggle.

Such a course may be correct at a time of partial lull in the objective situation and/or where there exists the possibility of convincing people by experience of the incorrectness of the majority line. Such a course, I no longer believe, is valid at a time when the class struggle is developing at a rapid tempo and when -- as has been shown through bitter experience -- factionalism on the part of the majority exists to such a degree that differences are no longer objectively viewed.

It is for this reason that I and comrades Sabina Roberts and Pat Brain have decided to resign from the IMG. Such a resignation does not in any way constitute a rejection of the Fourth International politically or morally, which is more necessary today than at any other time. It is a recognition of the fact that the programme of Trotskyism, the programme of the Fourth International, has to be raised now in however modest a form. It is necessary now to pose a perspective to those forces moving to the left of the Labour Party and Communist Party. It is necessary now to get roots in the class and its allies and participate in their struggles.

We have therefore decided to resign from the IMG and join the Revolutionary Communist Group whose approach to the tasks of developing a programme and building the cadre to carry it out seems to us to be correct.

Yours fraternally,

s/Tony Roberts

P.S. Enclosed are copies of letters sent to the IMG N.C., the I.E.C. and the LTF Steering Cttee.

London May 19th, 1974

The Tendency Steering Committee has received a letter dated April 29th, 1974, signed by Tony Roberts, on behalf of himself, Sabina Roberts and Pat Brain. The letter informs the Tendency of their decision to resign from the IMG and to join the Revolutionary Communist Group.

No member of the Tendency had any prior indication or knowledge that any of the three comrades were considering taking these steps.

In resigning from the IMG they have placed themselves outside the Fourth International and are therefore no longer members of the Tendency or the Leninist Trotskyist Faction. This means that there can be no political collaboration or common political work with any of these comrades except that work which is under the control of the leading committees of the IMG.

The actions of the comrades are diametrically opposed to the perspectives of the Tendency and of the Leninist Trotskyist Faction. These perspectives are to do everything possible to maintain the unity of the Fourth International and to win a decisive majority of the Fourth International to our positions.

We are in full support of the "Measures to Help Maintain Unity of the Fourth International" adopted at the last world congress and are therefore completely opposed to the actions of Tony Roberts, Sabina Roberts and Pat Brain in putting themselves outside the Fourth International. We consider they have dealt a blow to the unity of the International -- a goal to which we are committed and will continue to strive for.

Connie Harris  
for the Tendency

May 22, 1974

To the Tendency of the IMG  
London

Dear Comrades,

The Steering Committee of the Leninist Trotskyist Faction has received a letter from Tony Roberts informing us that he and two other comrades had resigned from the IMG and joined the Revolutionary Communist Group. They thus place themselves outside the Fourth International and the Leninist Trotskyist Faction.

We are in complete agreement with the May 19, 1974, statement made by Connie Harris on behalf of the Tendency concerning the actions of Tony Roberts, Sabina Roberts and Pat Brain.

Comradely,

Mary-Alice Waters  
for the Steering Committee  
of the Leninist Trotskyist  
Faction

cc: United Secretariat