Andrew Levine's apologia for Althusser in RA, after 1st series in RA, Vol.III,#5

p.55 Q Alt.'s admission in new Eng.introd.to For Marx, that he had first dealt with union of th.&pr., did not examine the general form of the historical existance of the union: "THE 'FUSION'MX@ TH.& THE WORKERS'MOVEMENT" &did not up either concrete class struggles or orgs.,or parties...AND THEREFORE IT LED "WRONGLY" TO THEORETICIST (?) reading.

p.57 symptomatic "reading"(UNE LECTURE SYPTOMALE"(p.58)"in which the readers relation to the text is ANALOGOUS TO THE PSYCHOANALYST's relation to the utterances of a patient...

"Inevitably,such a reading will simultaneously be a reading INTO Marx; and what is read in will have origins frequently EXTRANEOUS to the texts themselves. And indeed Althusser's debt is certainly as great to PSYCHOANALYSIS &LINGUISTICS --understood as instances of a certain (STRUCTURALIST)genre of SCIENTIFIC(!)discourse....

Marx is important, in Alt's view, principally for having founded a new science &a new phil.:a science whose 'object'--the capitalist mode of prod...--

p.59 Praxis vs. practices

"To be precise what Althusser rejects is the notion of 'praxis', of an essential unity of which human society &human history are 'expression'.For the early Marx this essential unity is located in the human subj.,or,more precisely, in the prol., as the historical form in which the essentially human subj. of history is presented. [illegible]

p.60 "For Alt.this acct.of the unity of th.&pr. as rev.praxis is a result of pre-scientific, specifically 'ideological' conception of society ....UNLIKE ITS PRE-scientific predecssors, the conception of totality (social & historical)in Mx's mature writings is one (ALT'S Q)IN WHICH unity, FAR FROM being the expressive or spiritual unity of Leibniz &Hegel, is constituted by a certain COMPLEXITY; it is a STRUCTURED unity..form of what is to be regarded as levels or elements of a relatively AUTONOMOUS sort'(RC.p.37?...

p.61 Thus what is traditionally designated 'superstructural' is NOT as for philosophies of praxis, expressive of society's eco.relations. RATHER THE SUPERSTRUCTURE IS CONCEIVED AS CONSISTING OF RELATIVELY IND.LEVELS, RELATED TO THE BASE IN DETERMINANT & SPECIFIABLE WAYS. As MAO argued in On Contrad. the eco.level as such is rarely 'dominant' in a given social formation. The Hegelian dial.in Alt's view is incapable of rendering the distinction bet.dominant &determinant contradictions intelligible.//

p.62 "It is the process of prod.of an obj.of knowledge (Gen.III) from some still conceptual,the pre-scientific 'RAW MATERIAL" (Gen.I) in virtue of some 'determining labor of transformation"Gen.II. In ?Alt's view it is precisely the relative ind.of the th.level that accts for the possibility of of a genuinely mat.theoretical practice as we find in the science of his.mat."

14522