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Dear Raja,

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I received your letter. First of all I want to thank you for the books by Dan you sent me. I forgot to mention this in my last letter. Yes, yes, I received your big letter long ago. Thanks. It demanded a continuation of my "criticism". Believe me, I had the best of intentions. But till today I could not accomplish to do it - for different reasons: the work with V.S. takes my whole attention; as he has read very little of what has has not been translated, I have to re-read a great deal and make a lot of research work. In addition, the Budenz book has take up a great deal of my time. I have written an article for the Mexican Press. Quite unexpectedly, it was accepted by all the News papers to whom I had sent it, and it was printed without changing one single word. The Stalinists exploited the occasion in making a foul attack on Trotskism, in the usual style, to which our Mexican Party made a very good answer the following day. In the "Universal" appeared a very good article in our defense. A part all this, I also have allowed too much time to pass since my last "criticism" - and somehow cannot take it up now. However, I hope to come back to it later.

And thus, as it seems, the unification is being put off till Congress. And you will not even been able to organize a a joint Meeting on the Ist of May. What a pity: But there is nothing to be done. We must wait.

Please write me with all the details of what happens in New York.

How is your health? What are you working at just now?

With my best wishes to you and with all my love

Yours, Natalor

P.S. I did not get the stockings. This is of no great importance. I only mention it so that you should know it, in case you have mailed them registered and have a receipt or a check of some sort.

W.

March 22, 1951

Dear Natalia:

It was wonderful to hear about you from John and Pris. That is not as good as hearing directly from you, but that I hope will come to pass also. They write that you seem to be in good health; I hope so. Please forgive my writing in English, but that is so much easier to do. But of course you can write in Russian. I make as many mistakes in grammar as ever, but I am a good translator, and it is always a delight to see your handwriting.

I don't know whether you know that I now live in Pittsburgh, which is quite a change either from New York or Paris, but it is a highly industrial town and I prefer to work with proletarians.

It is such a long time that I have heard from you that I do not know how much of international news you get, and how available is an English translator to you. Perhaps John can be of some help here for I would like you to be acquainted with our latest work addressed to the international movement. Under separate cover I am sending you a copy of our latest "State Capitalism and World Revolution". I would greatly appreciate it if you saw your way to reading it and giving me your opinion of it.

You will recall that when I was returning from the last congress I had written you that I had hoped to drop off in Mexico and spend a few days with you. But that turned out to be financially unfeasible, and I do not know when that will become a reality. Have all plans to get you here fallen through? Is there anything I can do that way, or in any other way? Also personally? There may be many things of use in this country as compared to Mexico, and I would be very glad to be of service to you in any way at all. Please write to me and you can be assured that I will do things promptly.

Next month Joe Hansen will come through Pittsburgh on his national tour, and so there will be a chance to discuss old times, and the different light in which everything appeared when the "Old Man" was among us.

Comrade Johnson has left this town a few days ago (He had some very successful lectures here.) and he spoke of you, and was surprised that I was not in contact with you. He asked please to convey his warmest greetings to you.

O, yes, before I close, I would like to tall you that I have been working out some things of the last period of Lenin. Comrade Trotsky quoted, in his "The Stalin School of Falsification", p.64,a letter from Lenin dated December 27,1922. The letter is quoted in part only and as it is a very decisive one on the question of Lenin's attitude toward plan, I was very anxious to try to locate the whole letter. I therefore wrote to Harvard University and asked them about the Trotsky Archives and could I come down to look. The answer was, No, they are not open to the public since Trotsky's Will specified they be not opened for some 50 years. Is that true? Do you know anything about that specific letter?

9207

Mexico D. F., May 26th, 1951

Dear Raya,

I thank you very much for your letter dated April 23 and I can reassure you about my health, which is nearly ocupletely normal inopate of the dangerous knocks I received.

For a number of obstacles which I dont want to enumerate know, I could not reply to your letter of March 22. I think that Harvard's reply is correct. They would not have refused you the access to this letter just by caprice, but in any way I am going to verify this matter. But if the f facts are correct, no exception would be possible; I fear.

In your letter you say that you have not given up the hope of coming to Mexico. Do you mean that you have a concrete project in mind or is it just a desire which you express.

Fraternally yours

Nortalia