

CLASS STRUGGLE

POLITICAL PAPER OF THE REVOLUTIONARY COMMUNIST LEAGUE OF BRITAIN

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When this photograph was taken at Harmondsworth Detention Centre, all 73 detainees were black. Some had been there for three months or more.

Demonstrate on November 25th **DOWN WITH RACIST LAWS**

All people opposed to racism must support the demonstration on November 25th against the Tory Government's proposals to increase state attacks on black people by new immigration and nationality laws and against the racist 1971 Immigration Act. We must fight attempts to destroy the basic democratic rights of black and national minority people in Britain. We must fight for unity of the working class against attempts to divide us along the lines of race, nationality or colour. This requires massive resistance.

THATCHER'S ELECTION PLEDGE

Thatcher signalled her attack in her election statement about "people of an alien culture swamping Britain". Hitler would have been proud of such a statement. The British ruling class are finding it more and more difficult to survive. Over the last 15 years they have stepped up pressure on living standards, on trade unions, on the poorest sections of the people, and increased police powers and repressive laws. Making national minorities a scapegoat is an essential part of the plans of the bosses' state in laying the basis for fascism.

The latest thrust has already begun. Home Secretary Whitelaw announced on October 30th that he would take away the right of national minority women to bring their husbands and fiances to Britain. No attempt was made to conceal the blatant racism of this move. It has been applied only to women not born in Britain. Whitelaw wants to stop women born in Britain with husbands or fiances from abroad standing by their black sisters. Some hope! Anyone can see that this is a racist law, and one which increases discrimination against women.

RACISM BOLSTERS IMPERIALISM

Britain is an imperialist country, whose ruling class has long fattened on the wealth they have stolen from third world countries. One of the effects of imperialism has been to create racism - the myth that peoples from Asia, Africa and Latin America are inferior to the race of their conquerors

and exploiters. Another effect has been to force the impoverished peoples of these countries to leave their homelands to become a cheap workforce in countries like Britain. The racist oppression they face here is a continuation of the bloodsucking which their countries suffer. But the third world countries and peoples are standing up and uniting against imperialism. The black people from the third world in Britain are also standing up against their oppressors. By fighting racism hand in hand with the national minority people here, the working class are siding with the third world against imperialism, against their own bosses.

LONG BATTLE

We cannot underestimate the threat we face. It will be a long hard battle to win many white workers away from racist ideas. In the meantime the state, the newspapers, TV etc. will go on stirring up racial hatred. Immigration control is already so tight that the bosses will have to go beyond it to keep racism on the boil. In practice there is repatriation now, black people are deported on the word of the Home Secretary, those who are not allowed to bring in their families are being pressured to leave. Racist oppression by the state has reached such a height that many are leaving in disgust.

But the Tory proposals for hitting blacks harder are not enough for some MPs. Ronald Bell, Tory MP for wealthy South Buckinghamshire, is one of the front runners for fascism. On November 2nd he criticised Whitelaw, and complained of the destruction, "of our country as a continuing nation". He called for "something quite drastic" to be done.

The working class must fight for an end to racist laws and propaganda, from Tory or Labour or any other party. This will require something quite drastic in the end, the destruction of the racist bosses' state by the working class.

**STOP TORY PROPOSALS ON IMMIRATION AND NATIONALITY!
REPEAL THE 1971 IMMIGRATION ACT!**

ABORTION: KEEP IT LEGAL KEEP IT SAFE

That was the clear message given to Parliament by a huge demonstration on October 28th. Well over 50,000 women and men from all parts of Scotland, Wales and England; from trade union branches; from doctors, nurses and midwives groups; from many women's groups including Women's Aid; and large numbers under National Abortion Campaign banners.

Abortion is not a panacea for women's emancipation, like some extreme feminists believe. Women rarely want abortions. It is usually a last resort - when another child cannot be supported financially, when birth control has failed or is dangerous, as the pill is for some women. The question isn't whether women will or will not have abortions but whether it will be legal and safe, or illegal in



the back streets and dangerous. The Corrie Bill, the 7th attempt by anti-abortionists to restrict the 1967 Act, aims to cut legal abortions by 2/3. Four major changes are proposed.

HORROR STORIES

First, by exploiting horror stories of alleged late abortion (many of which have been exposed as deliberate lies) they are trying to reduce the time limit from 28 to 20 weeks. Superficially this may seem reasonable. But at a time when hospital facilities are being cut back and waiting lists growing, women unable to afford private treatment may well pass this time limit through no fault of their own. No-one would choose to wait six months.

Second, the Corrie Bill reinforces the right of medical staff to refuse to take part in terminations on moral grounds. Again this may appear reasonable but what if your GP refuses and you've to wait weeks before you can find a doctor to agree.

Third, one of two doctors giving permission must have been 'qualified for 5 years. Why can newly qualified doctors take life and death decisions for other patients but not on abortions?

Fourth, restrictions are proposed on charitable agencies, which offer the most reliable way of obtaining abortions for women who qualify under the existing laws, but are obstructed through NHS channels.

The overall effect is in no doubt. Working class women who cannot afford private abortions will find it much harder to obtain one legally. It is worth remembering that before the 1967 Act legalising abortions, Harley Street performed approximately 10,000 every year (one practitioner interviewed by the *Observer* with his assistants did 1,800 per year, netting £250,000). It has also been estimated that 100,000 back street abortions took place yearly resulting in up to 100 women dying of septicaemia and other complications.

From our postbag



The Editor - CS, c/o
New Era Books, 203
Seven Sisters Rd.
London N4.

Dear Editor,
"Closures" and "The workforce cut in half" - these and other "tragedies" get headline treatment (and rightly so) in the bosses' press. The gradual and persistent loss of jobs is usually deliberately forgotten. Luckily, the British Steel Corporation decided to boast about their cuts. An issue of their internal magazine *Steel Times* is dedicated (sic) to Teeside. Some of the figures are:

In the past year 10,000 British Steel workers have lost their jobs. This is a cut of 30%. In Hartlepool, 4,000 out of 6,000 jobs vanished; in Stockton it was 1,600 and at Middlesborough offices, 1,000. The list goes on.

British Steel then has the cheek to say that health and welfare services have improved with 4 doctors and 50 nurses (20 SRNs, 30 SENS) being employed. This service is supposed to cope with 13 different sites dotted in and around Teeside, with workers as far apart as Redcar and Hartlepool. Apart from that what about the health and welfare

of the people made redundant or compulsorily retired. These figures apply only to one area where British Steel operates. No doubt the same loss of jobs by stealth is occurring at many other British Steel sites. However, this is just one industry. ICI and BP have implemented similar cuts in the past couple of years. Middlesborough docks have similarly suffered. And not just industry either. People in health, education and public services have also lost their jobs. I'm not just talking about Tory plans but Labour's actions too.

Something must be done. The union leadership won't help. In fact, both British Steel and ICI praised the unions for their cooperation in implementing cuts. And Labour? British Steel is a nationalised industry. Need I say more? The Tories no doubt openly welcome these cuts (in the interests of competition of course). The "Communist" Parties? Reg Birch of the CPB(ML) was a top union boss. The CPGB told us to vote Labour! The Trotskyites - most of them told us to vote Labour.

Really there seems to only one answer. A new Marxist-Leninist Party must be born out of the struggles ahead.

A Teeside Worker

So what is the point of the Corrie Bill? If the anti-abortionists really want to stop late abortions they would speed up the process by providing simple, cheap, effective and safe day care facilities for women before the 12th week. For all their humanitarian mouthing, they care little for the parents whose lives may be disastrously affected by an unwanted pregnancy. They care even less about the back street exploitation, injury and death. They want women back in the home and out of production where high unemployment means that they are no longer needed.

CLASS QUESTION

Abortion is not purely a women's issue. It is first a class question. The oppression and exploitation by the ruling capitalist class is a burden on the backs of the whole working class. The emancipation of women is inseparably linked with the socialist revolution. The feminist group which insisted on leading the London March fail to understand this. But we sympathise with their demand for a place for women in leading a women's march. Len Murray adopted an arrogant attitude to these women and was prepared to see confrontation by the police with them rather than give way. Murray and the rest of the TUC misleaders have no special right to lead a women's march. Murray had the nerve to say, "I speak not just on behalf of 8 million working men but also 4 million working women." This from the leader of the TUC which helped undermine the Grunwick strike, gave minimal support to the striking chambermaids at the Grosvenour House Hotel, connived with the Labour Government to cut wages and increase unemployment. The list of betrayal is endless. All that can be united must be united against the Corrie Bill and leadership must be based on the ability to lead correctly and not on sex or self-appointment.

BIRTH RATE AT ALL TIME LOW

Some startling figures are revealed in the annual birth statistics published by the Office of Population censuses. The statistics show that births were at an all-time low in 1977. The overall birth rate for 1977 was recorded as 11.6 births per thousand of the population - the lowest figure since civil registration began in 1837. In the last 13 years, the birth rate has fallen by one third. A society with a declining birth rate is a sick society. It is sure to lead to an increase in the proportion of old people to young. Already, the capitalist state callously regards old people as a burden on social services.

Such a drastic fall is the direct result of the worsening economic conditions of the masses. More and more married couples simply cannot afford to have children or delay it to a lot later in life. Bourgeois propaganda has promoted the myth that it is a high birth rate and large families that are responsible for unemployment and poverty. This is nonsense! The most important resource is mankind itself. It is capitalism that has become a fetter on production, bringing unemployment and misery to the working class.

(Contributed)

A WORKER'S NOTEBOOK

■ A RECENTLY PUBLISHED BOOK, WRITTEN BY AN EX-PRISONER, reveals that thousands of prison inmates are becoming drug-addicts because of the excessive amount of tranquilizers and barbiturates used to "control" prisoners. The author of the book, Mrs Joan Broster, states that in the Stoke prison of Mour Court alone, 95 out of a 100 prisoners are on drugs most of the time. Among other things, Mrs Broster writes that prisoners are drugged so they can continue working, hooked so they can't wait for the next dose and given drugs to cope with every problem. Predictably, a spokesman for the Home Office called the book "a fabrication" and denied that dangerous drugs were held at prisons.

■ DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST THE CUTS TOOK PLACE IN London, Liverpool, Derbyshire and by wheelchair patients in Stoke Mandeville Hospital on November 7th. It was the first day of action against the cuts. In Liverpool 5,000 marched through the rain and some council workers went on strike for the day. The demonstrations, particularly the march from the London Borough of Lambeth, were led by Labour Councillors and other opportunists. They are playing their usual role of seeking to keep opposition to the cuts within the bounds of lobbying Councillors and MPs. But the temper of the 5,000 marchers in Liverpool flared up despite the opportunists wishes. The marchers refused to move on to the Pier Head and blocked the surrounding roadways outside the Town Hall for over an hour. The police arranged special lanes for the buses but the drivers refused to use them and stopped their vehicles.

■ MIDDLESEX POLYTECHNIC STUDENTS HAVE STAGED A week of sit-ins, leafleting and picketing in protest at the Government's £1 million cuts. Students held a 24 hour occupation of the Polytechnic's libraries on Saturday 3rd November. Linked to the students' struggle against education spending cuts is their campaign against massive fee rises for students from overseas. Labour planned to impose a 9% rise. The Tories have upped it to 29%. The students' backing for the just demands of overseas students has strengthened the campaign against the education cuts generally. By particularly attacking overseas students both Labour and Tory Governments seek to split the students and working class struggle against cuts in higher education.

■ A STOCKBROKERS' REPORT HEADED "FOR PRIVATE Circulation Only", on the issue of BP shares for sale on the Stock Exchange, made this bald statement: "On present indications every private investor should put in an application, in the expectation of selling out at a quick profit".

On tax, the report had this to say: "Taking employers contributions (and if they were not charged they would be available for extra wages and salaries) the standard rate of tax is still effective 45%. So on vatable goods the average worker has to perform £100 of work to be able to buy £47.82 of basic goods.

The capitalists do not use flannel for mass consumption when they are talking among themselves.

■ A PLANE CRASH AT AN AMERICAN AIR FORCE BASE IN Lakerheath, Suffolk, was hushed up at the time, reported the American newspaper the *Omaha World Herald*. The accident could have resulted in a nuclear explosion potentially more dangerous than the emergency at the atomic power plant on Three Mile Island in Pennsylvania. Huge demonstrations against nuclear power plants which have not been proved safe were sparked off by this incident in the United States. The US air force and the Ministry of Defence have remained non-committal on the Lakerheath crash except to admit that a B-47 bomber did crash at Lakerheath on July 27th 1956. There must be a lot to cover up to keep the wraps on the news this long.

THE TORY PROPOSALS I NATIONALITY

Nationality and immigration law are separate issues. Nationality determines civil rights like voting and status in time of war. Immigration law concerns the right to enter and settle in a country. The existing immigration laws in Britain have taken away the right of entry for British passport-holders and Commonwealth citizens almost completely, unless they are "patrials" - that is, with a parent or grandparent born in Britain, or unless they are dependant relatives of people already settled.

But the issue of nationality law is being raised to confuse the two, to stir up racist feeling in the the majority white community and fear and anxiety in the black community. When the Labour Government presented its Green Paper in 1977 (the basis of the proposed Tory Act), Whitelaw spoke of fears of a tidal wave of immigration from the Far East, although he knew full well this was impossible because of existing Immigration Laws.

The Green paper proposes to create two classes of British citizenship - "British Citizens" and "British Overseas Citizens". "British Citizens" would be those who are "patrial", who already have the right to enter and are mainly white. "British Overseas Citizens" would be those who are non-European and have no right of entry - UK passport-holders in Commonwealth countries like Kenya and Hong Kong. The main effect of this change would be to make it clear that Britain would accept no responsibility for "British Overseas Citizens" even if they became refugees, like the Asians expelled from Uganda by Amin.

SECOND CLASS CITIZENS

The greatest threat is in the area of those British citizens settled here who would become "British Overseas Citizens" and of the larger category of Commonwealth citizens settled here. The Labour Green Paper and the Tory proposals are silent on the rights and status of these people in Britain. (The *New Law Journal* said the Green Paper "could hardly have been more ill-considered if the Right Honourable Merlyn Rees had dashed it off between naps during the Easter recess". There is a reason

for this apparent lack of consideration!)

As second-class citizens (in law as well as in fact) they could be deprived of the right to vote, to sit on juries, to stand for office, to work in Government job or nationalised industries, even their rights to be active in unions could be prejudiced. This is a real threat, as is proved by the desire of Tory MPs to use the Nationality Act to take away the right to vote of Irish citizens settled here. Irish citizens have that right under a 1948 Act which gave them the same rights as Commonwealth citizens settled here. Questioning their right to vote naturally leads on to questioning the rights of Commonwealth citizens and "British Overseas Citizens".

DUAL NATIONALITY

The Act would also restrict the right of such citizens to take British citizenship, for instance by making it subject to the discretion of the Home Secretary. It could change the law in relation to dual nationality. The Green Paper suggests that the UK should cease to permit dual nationality, which would mean citizens whose countries of origin allow dual nationality would have to give it up. Forcing Commonwealth citizens to take British nationality on the other hand, would remove the right to return from those whose countries do not allow dual nationality. It is also possible that the Act could follow the law of EEC countries that a child takes on its parent's citizenship wherever it is born. This would prevent some black children born in Britain getting British citizenship.

We must oppose any nationality law which discriminates between white and black, and which threatens in any way the rights of black people. Such laws, like all immigration controls under imperialism, are racist.

NO SECOND CLASS CITIZENSHIP!
NO RACIST NATIONALITY ACT!

LABOUR RACISM-THE BASIS FOR TORY ACTION

Thatcher's proposals on immigration control did not come from thin air. They came from the "bi-partisan" policy which the Labour and Tory parties have followed since 1962. The basic argument of both is that immigration must be reduced as much as possible. This is pure racism, it backs up the myth that it is the presence of black people in Britain that causes unemployment, housing shortage etc. rather than the capitalist system. And it ignores the reality that it was the plunder of the countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America by imperialism (and especially British imperialism) that forced these black people to leave their homes to seek work in the imperialist heartland.

On March 21st, 1978, the Select Committee on "Race Relations and Immigration" reported to Parliament. The Committee consisted of 10 MPs, 5 Labour and 5 Tory. The Chairman was a Labour MP, and one member was self-styled "left-winger" Sid Bidwell, MP for Southall, Middlesex, a constituency with one of the largest Asian populations in Britain. The report was supported by all the Committee members,

Not only did it support the controls of the racist 1971 Act, it looked for further ways to restrict immigration, It recommended:

1. An annual quota for wives and children coming from the Asian sub-continent.
2. Restriction on entry of husbands and male fiances.
3. Reduction of entry by doctors, nursing staff and catering workers.
4. A Nationality Act (as the 1977 Green Paper, and present Tory proposals)
5. Barring of the entry of children over 12, and "it may be necessary ... in the future to ensure children are only admitted if they are under school-age"

Perhaps the most vicious of all was the recommendation for stepping up the surveillance of the black community in Britain.

The powers of the authorities at home and abroad are already a vicious attack on the civil rights of black people. But the Committee wanted:

1. The DHSS to tighten up identity checks.
2. The police, Illegal Immigrants Intelligence Unit etc, to get new powers to seek out "illegal immigrants and overstayers".
3. Powers to be sought to make it a crime for employers to employ "illegals".
4. An inquiry to be held to consider "a system of internal control of immigration".

THE TORY PROPOSALS II IMMIGRATION

One of the Tory Manifesto pledges was: "we shall take firm action against illegal immigrants and overstayers and help those immigrants who genuinely wish to leave this country - but there can be no question of compulsory repatriation".

This carefully-worded statement contains a sop to salve the conscience of some liberal-minded Tories and to save a few marginal constituencies with large communities of black people. It must be carefully read.

The main point is that the Tories lied when they claimed in the election that they could substantially cut immigration, while honouring commitments to allow in dependants. Tory and Labour immigration controls from 1962 to 1971 have left very little scope for cutting immigration further. There is only a trickle of black immigrants into Britain, it consists entirely of dependant relatives and even these are prevented or delayed by vicious administrative procedures. If the bosses' state can't extend racial discrimination by one means, they will have to use another. So we mustn't be fooled. The fight against immigration control today is essential or we shall be fighting repatriation tomorrow and form a weakened position.

Then there is the point about helping "immigrants who genuinely wish to leave the country". All the racist laws, racist police action, racial discrimination in jobs, housing and services, is gearing to forcing immigrants to "wish to leave". Against this pressure, national minority people are increasingly declaring that they are here to stay and here to fight, and the working class must welcome this wholeheartedly and give their fight real support.

What is meant by "firm action" against supposed "illegals"? Already the people the state says are illegal are imprisoned without evidence being tested in any court and without bail procedure, and are deported without right of appeal. The only thing the Tories can bring in any stronger than the present Illegal Immigrants Intelligence Unit is South African-style pass laws. They are suggesting they will do this through the national insurance system, and by implementing EEC proposals to run checks at

These are the same proposals that the Tories are putting forward now! Clearly Labour and Tory parties both want South African-style pass laws.

SOUTHALL: KANGAROO COURTS FOR VICTIMS OF POLICE

The systematic attack on the national minority people of Southall shows the present direction in which the racist state is heading.

What the police did on April 23rd, under cover of protecting a handful of National Front fascists meeting in the heart of the black community, was to cordon off a residential area of many thousands of homes and then mount a systematic attack on the population. The Ku Klux Klan or Hitler's Storm-troopers could not have done it so effectively.

More than 1,000 people were injured, and one, Blair Peach, was killed. 750 people were arrested, and 342 have been charged. Charge-sheets were typed out ready, before the police attacks, showing that there was a wholesale frame-up.

the place of work and to make it a crime for employers to employ "illegal" immigrants.

ENTRY OF RELATIVES

The Tories have already announced their ban on husbands and male fiances of black women. They propose to ban parents, grandparents and children over 18, except in "a small number of urgent compassionate cases". This is meant to destroy black people's family life, and back up Immigration Minister Raison's claim that each immigrant is "a stepping stone over which other members of his family or village may pass". In fact, very few of such relatives are admitted now, and many in the category of "urgent compassionate cases" are excluded.

Then there is the proposed "Register" of wives and children. This proposal, though dear to Thatcher's heart, is unlikely to be implemented, because of the high cost and objections by Home Office officials, who know that administrative checks are already very effective at keeping dependants out.

CONTROL ON TEMPORARY WORKERS

To get a slave-like work force, that can be deported anytime, the Tories would like to end the right of work-permit holders to settle permanently. Under the 1971 Act, workers from outside the EEC have this right after 4 years of annual work-permits. Unfortunately for them, they may not be able to do this, because they have found it would breach a convention of the International Labour Organisation. They also talk about restricting the number of work-permits issued. This is pure hot air. There are scarcely any work-permits issued, and last year most of them went to US and Japanese nationals.

The bosses' state wants to stop black immigration by any means, in order to step up racism. This will inevitably lead to even more vicious actions. The working class must go on the attack and fight racism by opposing all immigration controls.

END IMMIGRATION CONTROLS!
STOP SURVEILLANCE OF BLACK PEOPLE!
NO PASS LAWS HERE! FREE THE DEPORTEES!

The cases are being heard at Barnet Magistrates' Court, notorious for its racist and anti-working class attitude. The rate of conviction of the defendants is 83%, compared to an average conviction rate for similar offences throughout the country of 52%. Defendants are being refused the right to jury trial.

The police are having a field-day, because they only have to open their mouths to get a conviction. One 14-year old boy was convicted of possessing an offensive weapon, which police said he was carrying in his right hand at 6.20 pm. Seven witnesses appeared to testify that the boy was in a first-aid post at 6.20 pm having his right hand, which was badly cut treated and bandaged. The Magistrate fined him £100 and said he should get a job to pay it. When defence counsel pointed out that it was illegal for a 14-year old to get a job, the Magistrate ordered him to get a paper round. In this and numerous other cases, the magistrates have set out to teach the black community a lesson - stay off the streets, don't defend yourselves, or else!

We must condemn this massive judicial attack following the physical assault by police, and demand an end to the police cover-up of their racist violence, especially that of the Special Patrol Group.

British imperialism opposes independence, peace and fair elections

CARRINGTON REJECTS JUST DEMANDS OF

At the time of going to press (Nov. 11th) the Constitutional Conference on Zimbabwe has reached a critical stage.

Lord Carrington, the British Foreign Minister, is acting as he has done throughout the Conference. He has put forward a set of proposals about the running of Zimbabwe during a transitional period which will lead up to an election for a "new" Government of an "independent" Zimbabwe. He has presented these proposals to the Smith/Muzorewa "Government" and to the liberation forces of the Patriotic Front. Smith and Muzorewa have of course accepted the proposals. They are after all proposals aimed at maintaining British interests and profits in Rhodesia, and therefore also maintaining the present system in its main features. (For the sake of form some "concessions" have earlier been made to the Zimbabwean people on some elements of land reform - the white settlers of course will be given compensation for losing the land they stole). The Patriotic Front have rightly opposed the British Government's proposals on the transitional period. Carrington has replied: "take it or leave it". That is the British imperialists' view of what "negotiations" are!

WHAT ARE THE ISSUES?

From the start of the Conference the Patriotic Front has held that the issues of the transitional period and the elections are the main issues. Without settling these the structure of the new constitution is meaningless.

The Patriotic Front has stated quite clearly

that it desires "the holding and supervision of free and impartial election". To this end it has called for the establishment of a United Nations' peace keeping force to supervise a ceasefire, and sufficient International Civil Servants appointed by the United Nations to ensure that agreed arrangements made for free and impartial election are kept

The Patriotic Front (PF) has proposed that during the transitional period leading up to the elections a governing council made up of 4 representatives of the PF and 4 representatives of Britain and the present regime, with one of the British representatives chairing the council. The chairman would have executive authority and act on the advice of the council. A "Transitional Defence Committee" composed of representatives of the PF and the regime should be appointed by the council. The Defence Committee would begin the process of building a new Zimbabwe army, supervise the ceasefire, and provide liaison between the governing council and the UN peace force.

A similar committee would deal with the same issues in the Police Force.

At the same time the PF has called for the lifting of martial law, the release of all political prisoners, detainees and restrictees and for the abolition of "protected villages" which are in fact concentration camps in the countryside which imprison whole villages and which are absolutely controlled by the racist police state.

All these points are reasonable points for ensuring free and fair elections.

Carrington, Muzorewa and Smith reject them all!

BRITISH PARLIAMENT LIFTING SANCTIONS

Arrangements are underway by the British Parliament to completely drop sanctions against the Rhodesian regime. Despite the fact that no agreement has been reached with the Patriotic Front, despite the fact that the Carrington/Muzorewa/Smith deal is a fraud, despite the fact that the United Nations continues its sanctions, the British Government is dropping them.

It has proposed that Parliament immediately makes it legal to trade with Rhodesia providing it is done through "a third party" - in other words through South Africa. It has also said that all other sanctions will be lifted as soon as "Rhodesia returns to legality". By that the Government means that irrespective of opposition by the Patriotic Front, they will do a "deal" with Smith and Muzorewa and send a new British "Governor" to Rhodesia. As soon as the Governor arrives British sanctions will be dropped.

In fact imperialist companies have always continued to trade with Rhodesia by using subsidiary companies in South Africa. Sanctions have always been systematically ignored. We only have to remember the exposure of British Petroleum (BP) activities last year. The United Nations also exposed Russian purchases of Rhodesian Chrome. However lifting of sanctions represents a move by the British imperialists to openly back the Smith-Muzorewa alliance and to finance it. It will also make it easier for the companies to exploit the people of Zimbabwe.

Dunlop- Part of the Rhodesian way of life



TYRES—To the motorist—Dunlop means safety, and long-lasting tyres developed over years of research S.P. Black Belted Radials and Dunlop Tough Tested Truck Tyres



AGRICULTURE—To the farmer—The new T109 Rear Tractor Tyre by Dunlop is the only one of its type in the world—made specifically for Rhodesian conditions



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DUNLOP
of real importance to the Rhodesian Way of Life

what was that about sanctions?

PATRIOTIC FRONT

BRITISH PLANS AIM TO KEEP STATUS QUO

They intend to appoint a British Governor who would have sole unfettered executive and legislative authority. They reject the presence of a UN peace keeping force and demand that the present military forces of the racist regime would be the military force backing up the British Governor. Carrington ludicrously claims that the present racist state - the courts, civil service, army and police, can be relied on to carry out the policies of any elected government - including the Patriotic Front! The British proposals already set the stage for a coup by saying that as soon as the elections have taken place Zimbabwe will become independent. Then if there is a coup Britain will no longer have any constitutional responsibility, and won't be in the international dock.

THE PATRIOTIC FRONT IS WAGING A JUST STRUGGLE

The facts show that the British Government is not an independent force for peace and conciliation; it is an active participant in a bloc with Smith and his black stooge Muzorewa. Carrington is not negotiating with the PF he is making demands to ensure continued imperialist domination. It is not the Patriotic Front which is unreasonable. It is British imperialism. It is not the Patriotic Front which refuses to negotiate for peace and independence; it is British imperialism.

The Patriotic Front must be supported.

Class Struggle welcomes letters from workers. Please send all letters, suggestions and criticisms to the Editor, *Class Struggle*, c/o New Era Books, Seven Sisters Rd. London, N4.

The Labour Party really showed its teeth opposing this move. Callaghan and friends vigorously denounced the Tory intentions to push a bill through Parliament at 24 hours notice with only a couple of hours of debate. However they reached a "compromise" with the Tories and agreed that if the Tories allowed 2 days debate, the Labour leadership would support the proposals! What wonderful socialists they are! For all opponents of imperialism and racism there is only one stand to take:

OPPOSE THE LIFTING OF SANCTIONS!

SUPPORT THE PATRIOTIC FRONT!

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CLASS STRUGGLE: 13 issues £2.25 inland/£3.25 abroad
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LONDON MONTHLY DISCUSSION MEETINGS

November 23rd: British imperialism and the third world
December 14th: British imperialism and Ireland.

At the ~~Road~~ pub, Tottenham Court Road, London W1
Organised by the RCLB, c/o New Era Books, 7.30pm

INTERNATIONAL NOTES



ZIMBABWE: Latest information on Nov.11th is that Carrington has recognised that relying on the racist Rhodesian police and army alone to police the proposed elections is a bit too blatant. So now he proposes to send about 100 British police inspectors to command the Rhodesian police. This, he says, will ensure the neutrality of the police. After all the British state is "neutral" isn't it? And no one could say that the British police is racist - could they? Who would suggest such a thing!

EAST GERMANY: Reports from East Germany are uncovering a number of strikes in response to rising prices, particularly food prices. They include strikes in the Zeiss and Jena factories. At a rubber factory in Thuringen, 17 of the strikers were arrested. Is this socialism?

POLAND: Demonstrations were planned to take place in Poland on Nov.11th to mark the 61st anniversary of Polish Independence. Dissidents intended to use the occasion to protest at Soviet domination and plunder. Polish security forces arrested 20 dissidents in an attempt to prevent the demonstrations taking place.

USA: A small demonstration against the Ku Klux Klan was attacked by Klan goons in Greensboro, North Carolina. 4 people were shot dead and a number injured. The police, of course, although normally they come out in force against demonstrations, were no where in sight.

INDIA: A 5-day conference of UN states in the Asian and Pacific region in preparation for "the World Conference of the UN decade for Women (1976-1985)" began in New Delhi on Nov.6th.

An opening speech stated that "If half of the human population consisting of women do not participate on equal terms with men, it is not possible to ensure full development of the potentialities of of that society".

The Soviet Union and Vietnam attempted to prevent the representatives of Democratic Kampuchea led by Ieng Thirith, from taking part. But the Conference recognised the delegation as the sole legitimate representatives of Kampuchea.

THAILAND: The Foreign Ministry of Thailand has written to the United Nations accusing Vietnamese troops of invading the eastern Thai border area of Prachinburi. The letter states that Vietnamese troops have frequently crossed the border.

On October 23rd, 100 Vietnamese soldiers in a motorised force took over the village of Ban San-ro-char-ngan. On October 27th shells were fired into a refugee camp in Ta Phraya District killing 7 Kampuchean refugees and wounding others. The following day shells exploded in Ban Ang-si-la and in Hit Non-mak-moon villages.

Even after fleeing the genocidal murder and starvation brought by the Vietnamese invasion of Kampuchea, the refugees are not safe in Thailand. Clearly Vietnam has learnt to copy the Rhodesian racists.

BOLIVIA: On November 4th, tens of thousands of people demonstrated in La Paz, the capital of Bolivia, against a military coup d'etat. Troops opened fire killing and wounding several dozen people. A General Strike against the coup called by the 1,000,000-strong Bolivian Workers' Organisation, was already in its third day. The Bolivian Workers' Organisation and 27 political parties and other organisations have formed an "Anti-fascist Committee for the Defence of Democracy."

CONFERENCE TO BACK KAMPUCHEAN PEOPLE



Many hundreds of people from all walks of life and from virtually every country will be assembling in Stockholm on the weekend of November 17-18 for the International Conference of Solidarity with Kampuchea. The aims of the Conference are simple and just support for the Kampuchean people's struggle to expel the

invaders and regain their national independence - support for the Kampuchean people's right to decide their own affairs without outside interference.

These principles are the urgent concern, not only of Kampuchea, but of all countries and peoples who cherish freedom and world peace. The present situation in Kampuchea and South East Asia is extremely serious. Since Christmas Day 1978 over 200,000 Vietnamese troops have invaded the country, more than 500,000 Kampucheans have been killed, 500,000 have died of starvation and many thousands more are threatened by famine and disease. Vietnam is now stepping up the war, attempting to seize control of most of the country which is still held

by the legitimate Government of Democratic Kampuchea, and threatening to invade neighbouring Thailand.

Vietnam has constantly put obstacles in the way of aid organisations who are trying to aid hundreds of thousands of starving people. This has alarmed world public opinion and proved that Vietnam is intent on nothing short of genocide.

The Stockholm Conference will help focus international attention on Vietnamese aggression. It will strengthen the growing world wide movement of solidarity with Kampuchea's heroic struggle for survival and independence.

We applaud the Swedish Government for refusing to be pressurised by the Soviet authorities' bully tactics into banning the Conference.

Among the countless internationally noted personalities who have signed the Conference Appeal, are Charles Tillon, leader of the French anti-Nazi resistance; Jiri Pallas and Jaroslav Hutka, two Czech signatories of Carter '77; K N Loili, senior advocate of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh; George Wald, the American biologist and Nobel Prize winner; George Hilderbrand, the noted American author Alan Canfora and Tom Grace, two students wounded by the National Guard while protesting against the US invasion of Kampuchea, at Kent State University in May 1970; G Mokhoty, advocate, Supreme Court of India; Vasco da Gama Fernandes, former President of Portugal's Republican Assembly; Yuji Soga, executive member of the Japanese Socialist Party and Naom Chomsky and Jan Myrdal - both well-known authors.



Signatories from Britain include:

Felix Greene: Writer and film maker, Hugh Gibb and Lek Hor Tan: Journalists, Arthur Clegg: Writer, Laura J Summer: Lecturer, Lancaster University, G Mohan, Frank Gurling, M McColgan: Lecturers, Sheffield University, Benny Bunsee: Editor IKWESI, J Hasted, Professor of Physics, Birkbeck College, University of London, Jenny Clegg: Planner, Dr D Mathur: Physicist, University College, London, P Timberlake: Trade Consultant and Editor, Colin Penn: Architect, D G Foskett: Librarian, London University, C Barns: Statistician, Chris Burford: Chairman RCLB, W Cassay: National Secretary of the Communist Workers' Movement, Duncan Toms: Secretary of the Workers' Party of Scotland (Marxist-Leninist), T Hossain: General Secretary of the Bangladesh Workers' Association.

Committee to be founded in Britain

A Preparatory Committee has been established to set up a broad Britain-Kampuchea Solidarity Committee in the near future. Already the venture has won wide support from people of varying political persuasions and people who have no political affiliations. There is an urgent need for an effective Kampuchea Committee in Britain seeing as the millionaire media has consistently echoed the propaganda churned out by the Soviet lie-machine.

We encourage all our readers and supporters to help in this essential work. Anyone interested in contacting the Preparatory Committee can do so through New Era Books, 203 Seven Sisters Road, London N4. New Era Books will pass on all enquiries, money and offers of assistance to the Preparatory Committee.

“The United Nations, the International Red Cross, UNICEF and others are doing their utmost to provide emergency humanitarian aid to the Kampuchean people...The Government of Democratic Kampuchea extends to them its deepest thanks. All the humanitarian aid to the whole people of Kampuchea is an important contribution to the defence and survival of several millions of Kampucheans who are being starved by the Le Duan clique (Le Duan is a Vietnamese leader - Ed)...The Government of Democratic Kampuchea will fully cooperate with all the interested international organisations so that all the aid reaches the Kampuchean people in spite of the obstacles and difficulties.

The Government of Democratic Kampuchea fully supports all the efforts of the international organisations to distribute and directly supervise the distribution of the aid which must be given to the Kampuchean people in the areas the Le Duan clique temporarily controls, so as to ensure that the aid gets into the hands of the Kampuchean people.”

From a statement of the Government of Democratic Kampuchea led by Pol Pot 22.10.79.

“No one is starving in our country.”

Statement by Pen Sovan, "Defence Minister" in the puppet Kampuchean "Government" installed by Vietnam, speaking in Moscow recently.

Reporting on a visit to Kampuchea in December 1978 before the Vietnamese invasion, Richard Dudman, a columnist for the *St Louis Post-Dispatch* wrote in January 1979:

“I saw no evidence of starvation. We saw many new dams and canals, part of a crash irrigation programme that is bringing new areas under cultivation and permitting two or three rice harvests a year in some areas. The current Vietnamese invasion at the height of the rice harvest, however, throws all projection into doubt.” How right he was!