

# M E M O R A N D U M

( Presented by I.W.A.(G.B) to all the delegations of Commonwealth Countries attending Commonwealth Prime Ministers'Conference from 7th-15th January, 69)

When world capitalism is in its fourth crisis, the Labour and the Tories of Britain are trying to save it by tailing behind Americans Imperialism and supporting naked aggression in Vietnam, and victimising the working class people, trying to create disunity and hatred among black and white by making coloured people as scapegoat for the evils and economic ~~ex~~ exploitation of the capitalist system. The labour party is opportunist and is representing the interests of the capitalist by punishing the British working class in general and the coloured people in particular.

The Labour party promised to repeal the racialist Immigration Act 1962, but instead of repealing it Wilson has bewailed over immigration entry into Britain (especially of the coloured people) and has heightened the racialist Immigration Act by enacting 1968 Immigration Act which is thoroughly and outrightly the worst enactment put on the statute book. The Labour party has succumbed to the racialist and fascist pressure and has carried out the wishes of the racialist tiny minority. Even glaring flaws and weaknesses are left in the race relations Act 1968 under the Tory pressure. Mr. Callaghan dropped the clause concerning racial discrimination out of the police code and extended the deportation limit to five years concerning students, visitors, etc. The Labour government instead of prosecuting Powell is making efforts to appease neo-fascists in Great Britain.

The coloured immigrants are being discriminated in the sphere of education and welfare services. Expenditure on the coloured immigrants per head is £48.7 while on the whites is £62.4 per head. In education the working class in general and the coloured in particular are kept down purposely as only one percent working class children go to the universities. Nearly 70% working class and immigrant children go to the deteriorated, substandard school buildings as thousands of schools are without central heating, hot water supply, and in side toilet amenities.

Immigrants are having to pay exorbitant prices for the houses, they buy and are forced to live in 'twi-light' areas due to mortgage difficulties and the sale of houses to the coloured people in particular, and the working class in general. The market for houses is not an open one



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for the colored people. The attitude of the estate agents or white vendors they represent are prejudiced against the coloured. Houses in certain areas and streets are not offered to the coloured people. Even local authorities discriminate in allocating the corporation houses to the coloured people.

The coloured people are also forced to do manual, unskilled and menial jobs. The skilled and white collared jobs are rarely given to the coloured people. Though medical and health service, transport and textile are dependent upon the immigrants, still they are being condemned as lazy bones. Apprenticeships with bright future, high income, greater chances for promotion and career are not given to the coloured teenagers.

Police behaviour is also prejudiced in day to day relationship, as is clear from the incident when three hundred passports of the coloured workers (night shifts) were checked by the police in the factory without any valid reason. (October, 1968\*\*\*\*Bradford) The way the coloured newcomers are treated at the airport is most shameful and disgusting. Even criminal and convicts are not submitted to such a hair splitting questioning, scrutiny, and cross examination. The new entrants are detained or packed back like slaves and their national passports are equalled to waste papers.

Now national Commonwealth Committee for immigrants has been substituted by the new C.R.C. which is composed of, not by elected immigrant leaders but selecting new people having no roots among their respective communities. The government has deliberately avoided contact and advice from duly elected immigrant leaders of their respective organisations. Unless and until immigrant bodies are asked to form the national committee along with the genuinely concerned English people and financed by the treasury, the govt's selected body will remain superficial and an eyewash. The racial problem is the product of capitalism. Housing, employment and education problems cannot be solved by the Tory or the Labour parties and nor they intend to do it. Powellism and its various aspects are the recent crude and naked manifestations of racialism and fascism. It must be finished by prosecuting Powell and Powellites as it endangers race relations and divide the working class.

Rhodesia and South Africa are the other faces of British capitalism. Tiny white minority in Rhodesia is going to perpetuate ~~xxx~~ apartheid and its oppressive system by suppressing the African majority. Segregated



educational system is enacted and higher per capita expenditure is incurred on the education of the Europeans than on the non-Europeans. Expenditure on a European child is £ 99 per annum while on the African is £9.9s. The average earning of the white immigrant is £1250 while the native countryman is £120 per annum. The fertile land is owned by the white immigrant. The Africans are beaten, tortured and threatened castration for demanding independence. Sell-out negotiations of the 'Fearless' be dropped forthwith ~~xxx~~ which goes against the much propogated NIRMAR declaration, and armed force must be used to bring down racist white minority led by Ian Smith. ~~Major~~ Majority of South African population is forced to live in segregated shanty towns and the cultivable land is controlled by the Europeans. Many families are forcibly split under the Group Area Act and Bantu Consolidation Act. The wages and expenditure on the Europeans is many times higher than the Africans. Only few Africans are allowed to go to the Universities. Thousands of S.Africans are imprisoned or shot while demanding freedom. But thousands of millions are invested by the British and the American capitalists in South Africa ~~xxx~~ to strengthen the racist regime there.

As Britain is collaborating with America in Vietnam aggression, and India is marching in step with U.S.A. we demand that the U.S.A. and the commonwealth countries' forces of aggression be withdrawn unconditionally from Vietnam. Let the Vietnamese decide their own future. We salute the Vietnamese heroes, patriots and brave fighters. In conjunction with this press upon U.S.A. to give equal chances on equal footing in practice to the Negroes which is the most oppressed section of America in particular and other workers in general.

As we are an Indian Workers Association, we feel much concerned about the deepening economic crisis, illegale dismissal of popularly elected governments of Bengal and Panjab, shooting of workers and students demanding their rights, starvation and oppression of peasants and workers, burning of tenants and their homes, threat from the rising fascist forces as RSS and conspiracies to topple down democratic government of Kerala. American and foreign capitalist investment is getting hold of our economy. Consequently the poor are getting poorer and the rich the richer day by day. Unless the trend is checked, there is a danger of India becoming a satellite of the U.S.A. Fascist and dictatorial acts are being passed to suppress popular and socialist forces within the country. Popular, progressive socialist forces must be supported to bring true democracy and socialism in India.

In conclusion we impress upon all the delegations of the Commonwealth countries to realise their responsibility towards their countrymen living or coming over here, and warn the host government in clear cut words that their people would not be allowed to be insulted by the racist fascist like Powell and discriminated against by the ruling class.

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