

MANGROVE 9 TRIAL

COURT

MON-FRI



REPORT

OCT. 11-15 1971

1. APPLICATION FOR LEGAL ASST. REFUSED
2. CHIEF SUPT. ADMITS MISGIVINGS BEFORE DEMO.
3. BRO. RAIL ROADED UNDER FALSE IDENTITY
4. POLICE SAY ATTACK BEST FORM OF DEFENCE

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The trial of the Mangrove Nine, seven black brothers and two sisters, opened at the Old Bailey, in London, on Tuesday the 5th Oct. 1971. These nine black people face very serious charges of INCITEMENT TO RIOT, AFFRAY, and ASSAULTING POLICE. The charges arise out of a demonstration of black people against the victimisation of the Mangrove restaurant in Notting Hill Gate by the police and police brutality against the black people of the area. On this demonstration, on August the 9th 1970, the spirit and will of black people to resist became very clear. The police, both uniformed and plainclothes, had taken unprecedented measures to control and discredit it. When the demonstration reached Portnall Road and the police were at full strength, they launched an attack on the demonstrators, caused an affray, and arrested seventeen brothers and sisters. Others were arrested at various times in the year following the incident. The case of the Mangrove Nine, the refusal of the court to allow them to be tried by black jurors, the evident bias of the judge in the conduct of the case in general shows us very clearly how the police and the legal system are used to repress black people, their opinions and their struggle in this country. More than that, it reveals to us our position in this society.

Monday 11th October & Tuesday 12th October

Before the prosecution began their lengthy introduction to the charges and to the case, Judge Edward Clarke denied sister Althea Jones Lecointe and brother Radford Howe, both of whom are defending themselves their right to have an assistant with them in the dock, even though this is accepted legal procedure and practice.

Prosecutor Hill identified the nine defendants. Cramped in the dock, for the jury and began his opening statement by saying that in Britain everyone had the right to peaceful protest. He attempted to make the jury feel that the police weren't against this kind of protest but had to contain "people who tried to use the discontent of black people for their own advantage". At no point did he explain how individuals could take advantage of the reaction of a community to blatant injustice, but tried as best he could, to imply that the demonstration was not against this brutality, but against the police and in some mysterious way against whites. The first witness called by the prosecution was a press photographer who had supplied the police with photos of the demonstration. On cross-examination he said that he handed over the pictures exhibited in court to the police two to three months after the demonstration. Later, Stockwell of the CID told the court that he had seen them two to three WEEKS after the event. The witness who works for the MIRROR said that as far as he knew there were no reporters from his paper present and yet the MIRROR put out a front page article on the surroundings of the demo. This clearly reveals that the MIRROR works hand in glove with the police against the people and is quite content to run stories without first hand information.

The next witness, Superintendent Donnelly, claimed that he was directly responsible for the control and behaviour of his policemen on the demonstration. He said he authorised the use of an unidentifiable observation van which contained, among others, the notorious PC Pulley of Notting Hill police. His testimony was used by the prosecution to try and prove that Radford Howe had incited the demonstrators to riot by using the words "look there are the pigs".

Brother Radford: How long did I speak for?

Donnelly: About five to six minutes

Bro Radford: How did I open my speech?

Donnelly: You said "look at the pigs"

Bro Radford: I would suggest to you that I started by saying "Brothers and Sisters"

At this point to his notebook Donnelly said he had heard brother Radford say "Look at the pigs we complain to the police about the police, we have complained to the council about the council, we have complained to parliament about parliament"

Brother Radford then suggested to the policeman that it was the police who had added "Look there are the pigs" to his speech. He pointed out that such a statement could not lead into what he had actually said in his speech.

Bro Radford: So you heard the whole of my five minute speech but all you can remember is half a minute? Did I not go on to say that the Action Committee in Defence of the Mangrove had organised the demonstration and where we were going? Surely a man of your experience would take more note of such a demonstration, particularly in the area which you are in charge of?

Brother Radford forced the superintendent to reveal that he had doubts and misgivings about the demo before it began. He managed to read, in cross examination, his demonstration speech which showed the court that the demo was concerned in a rational, political manner with injustice and not with rabble rousing. Sister Althea, next to question Donnelly, showed the court that Donnelly's statements were made with the same prejudiced "doubts and misgivings". She tried to show the court the nature of this prejudice by asking Donnelly what his definition of Black Power was.

Donnelly: I am not in any position to answer. I don't know maybe its connected with some left wing movement

Sister Althea established that again Donnelly could remember only half a minute of her own ten minute speech. She asked him if he had given the police the order to draw truncheons and he replied "I gave no order to draw truncheons, but it was every man for himself". Questioned by Ian MacDonald, counsel for sister Barbara Beese, the superintendent revealed that he had confused the identity of Sister Barbara and another Miss A who was at the demo and dressed in a similar fashion.

Ian MacDonald: Do you know that a letter was sent by the police to the Home Office informing them about the demonstration?

Donnelly: No

The question of identities was raised several times in the cross examination of Donnelly. Donnelly claimed at one point that defendant brother Rupert Boyce had been carrying the panther flag through the demonstration. Counsel drew attention to the fact that none of the photographs which the prosecution submitted show no sign of brother Rupert carrying the flag. The part that PC Pulley played in the demonstration and investigation came in for serious questioning by defendants and their counsel. Donnelly, who had said earlier that he had delegated Pulley to the observation van and given him instructions not to interfere or "get involved", was asked by barrister Woodley for Boyce whether he knew about the complaints of black people against Pulley. Donnelly said he was aware of them and that he had chosen Pulley because "of his experience in the area". While being questioned by brother Radford, Donnelly admitted that after the demonstration he had sent fifty policemen to the Mangrove to arrest brother Rupert Boyce. Donnelly claimed that he went himself to the Mangrove and saw brother Radford playing an active part in the disturbance there.

Bro. Radford: So as far as you know I was arrested at the Mangrove and the next time you saw me was at the station?

Donnelly: Yes.

Bro. Radford: Did you know officer, that ten minutes after you saw me at the Mangrove I was walking down Powis Square? Did you also know that I was arrested there by PC PULLEY and two others who were driving around in a Fiat car?

Wednesday 13th October

The cross examination of Superintendent Donnelly continued. Counsel for sister Barbara established that as far as Donnelly knew there were no plainclothes policemen on the demonstration.

Ian MacDonald: If demonstrators were being tripped up by white people not in uniform, and having placards snatched out of their hands, you would say that this was being done by people other than police officers?

Donnelly: Yes.

Later on the same day, Stockwell of the CID told the court that apart from himself, there were approximately twelve plainclothes men from the CID on the demonstration. He emphasised that they had been posted there by Scotland Yard, that they were familiar with the officers on the march and knew that Donnelly was in overall charge.

Barrister Croft, acting for brother Frank Critchlow, asked Donnelly if he recognised a certain brother in a photograph. Donnelly readily replied that it was Frank Critchlow. Croft invited the witness to step out of the witness box and suggested to him that the person he had identified as Critchlow was someone who was sitting in the public gallery. When shown the brother in question, Donnelly admitted that it could have been him in the photograph.

Inspector Stockwell of the CID appeared next for the prosecution. The prosecution took him through the police rigmorole of saying that the march was peaceful until the 'troublemakers' incited the crowd. He said he was there as the crime squad in plain clothes to identify "troublemakers" and give information to uniformed police regarding arrests. He spelt out in some detail the elaborate preparations which the police had made saying that apart from the plainclothesmen marching with the demonstrators, others were in private cars skirting the route of the march. Under questioning, he also told the court that the police were notified of another meeting in the area but chose to concentrate on this particular one that afternoon.

In his statement to the magistrate on the 9th of October, at the preliminary hearing, last year, Stockwell had said that defendants Rhodan Gordon and Rothwell Kentish had evaded arrest. Counsel for brother Rothwell asked him what he meant by the word 'evaded'.

Stockwell: Well, he didn't try to run away or leave the country or anything like that.

Counsel: Then when you say he evaded arrest, all you mean is that he wasn't arrested that day?

Stockwell: The information was not ready on that day.

Counsel: Did you try to find out where he lived?

Stockwell: No.

Counsel: Did you take any precautions to prevent them from leaving the country?

Stockwell: No.

Counsel: It would follow then that they could have left the country by the time the information was collected.

Stockwell: Yes.

Counsel: You were at the police station that evening when a lot of people, lawyers, solicitors, friends etc. came to make enquiries. Did you know that Rhodan went to the station that evening and made enquiries about some of the people who were arrested? Stockwell made no reply.

Counsel: Then why did you use the word "evade" in this statement?

Stockwell: The document was not prepared by me, they just aren't, I just accepted that it was correct.

Counsel: Did you just sign the statement then?

At this point the judge interrupted the questioning and pointed out to the jury that when an officer signs a statement, it is not necessarily his personal statement, but one which "he believes to be correct to the best of his knowledge". In this way it was established that either the statement was concocted at a higher level, or that individual policemen such as PC Pulley could make allegations which his superiors would support without reference to the truth.

Brother Godfrey Millet, who was arrested nearly one year after the demonstration was arrested as Roy Caboo, a name he had never heard before. Acting for his defence, barrister Woodley attempted to prove that if Millet had been arrested as Caboo and charged under that name, then Millet himself had no charges to answer. Barrister Woodley, in his questioning, showed that while Stockwell had stated at the magistrates court that "Roy Caboo was of no fixed address", he stated on Wednesday that he had not tried to find Caboo after the demonstration and had not checked on his record. Woodley suggested to the policeman that he knew someone called Roy Caboo other than Godfrey Millett. Brother Radford Howe, displaying the unity and collective spirit of the Mangrove Nine, took up the point in his cross examination.

Bro Radford: Did you know, officer, that Roy Caboo was one of the main organisers of that demonstration?

Stockwell: No.

Bro Radford: Did you know that detective Inspector Hogarth went to Roy Caboo's address to arrest him?

Stockwell: I know nothing about that.

Bro Radford: I am suggesting to you, officer, that Roy Caboo does exist as an organiser of that demonstration, as a director of the route.

Alive to Bro Radford's questioning and the point he was trying to make, the public gallery and the court in general was filled with a murmur of solidarity.

Thursday 14th October

Questioned by sister Althea, Stockwell said that he had not seen anyone committing an arrestable offence, that he had left the demonstration at the crucial point. The defence also established that his only recollection of sister Barbara Beese was of her afro hairstyle. He admitted, in real racist cliché, that all girls with afro styles looked more or less the same to him. When barrister Ian Macdonald tried to show the court that the Black People's News Service was not in any sense a fanatical extremist paper but a means of passing information to the black communities, information which the established newspapers distorted or denied, the prosecutor objected, saying that the document couldn't enter cross examination regardless of its relevance. The judge supported him and ruled that this newspaper for the black by the black was not admissible in a trial of black people in an English court. MacDonald reminded the court at this point that he only introduced the paper because the prosecution itself had referred to it in his opening statement as a piece of "racist and inflammatory" literature.

Friday 15th October

The prosecution's next witness was PC Phillips, a policeman who claimed that he had been hit by a brick at the demonstration and had taken two days off work as a result of injuries. On cross examination, sister Althea established that after he had been hit as he claimed, he got up, "looked around, saw no-one" and ran to catch up with the demonstrators who had by then moved into Malban Rd. He also claimed that he escorted the march for a while and then helped to form a second cordon of police. When asked about how he got the injuries he said that when the melee started he ran towards the demonstrators because he "felt that attack was the best form of defence". Althea asked him if he had been attacked personally and he said he had not.

Sister Althea: So you started defending yourself before you were attacked?

PC Phillips: No, the bricks were in the air.

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MANGROVE 9 TRIAL

COURT
MON-FRI



REPORT
OCT 25/29/1971

Printed in Mangrove

1. MANGROVE 9 PROTEST at RAILROADING
2. JUDGE OBSTRUCT cross-examination
3. POLICE MOVED IN first says supt.
4. POLICE DECIDED to break up demo.

The trial of the Mangrove Nine, seven black brothers and two sisters, opened at the Old Bailey, in London, on Tuesday the 5th Oct. 1971. These nine black people face very serious charges of INCITEMENT TO RIOT, AFFRAY, and ASSAULTING POLICE. The charges arise out of a demonstration of black people against the victimisation of the Mangrove restaurant in Notting Hill Gate by the police and police brutality against the black people of the area. On this demonstration, on August the 9th 1970, the spirit and will of black people to resist became very clear. The police, both uniformed and plainclothes, had taken unprecedented measures to control and discredit it. When the demonstration reached Portmell Road and the police were at full strength, they launched an attack on the demonstrators, caused an affray, and arrested seventeen brothers and sisters. Others were arrested at various times in the year following the incident. The case of the Mangrove Nine, the refusal of the court to allow them to be tried by black jurors, the evident bias of the judge in the conduct of the case in general shows us very clearly how the police and the legal system are used to repress black people, their opinions and their struggle in this country. More than that, it reveals to us our position in this society.

MONDAY 25 TH OCTOBER

As the trial began for the week, the Judge, Edward Clark sent the jury out because the defence wanted to raise the question of the police photographer. Two photographs which had appeared in the Police Gazette, used to identify Godfrey Millett under the name of Roy Caboo, had been mentioned by the prosecution witnesses earlier. The defence said that they would like to cross-examine the police photographer if indeed the photographs were not taken by the man from the Mirror whom the prosecution had already put on the stand. Prosecutor Hill informed the court that the person who had taken the photographs had been sent to the demonstration specifically to take photos of individuals and events on the march. He claimed that the photographer was in the same position as an informer and so couldn't be called as his identity would be disclosed. Defence Counsel James Goudie, acting for defendant Brother Innis, argued that if the defence wanted to summons the photographer the prosecution would be obliged to give them his name. The insistence of the defence on this point had a specific reason, which becomes clear on Friday when the photographer is brought to take the stand. Bringing him to court made very clear the methods the police use to keep track of and control political action in this country, it also brought to the stand a witness who could tell the people about the attitude of the police to the demonstration of August 9th 1970-- but more of that in Friday's report.

The statement of PC Beckerson who has died since the demo was then read to the court. Inspector Aldritt, a senior officer on the coach which followed the demonstration, was then called. He agreed with defence counsel that all the policemen on the march had drawn their truncheons at some time -- "I saw many officers draw truncheons". On cross examining him, Brother Radford Howe asked him how much he remembered of the speech that Bro Radford had made at the beginning of the march. All he could remember of this speech, which other witnesses for the prosecution had said lasted from five to ten minutes, was "These are the pigs, we've got to get rid of the pigs". Earlier, he had told Bro Radford that he could remember nothing about him and had taken notes to refresh his memory. Bro Radford asked to see his notes and pointed out that there was no note made at the time that he had said "look there are the pigs" at any point. During the speech, Aldritt insisted, the crowd had shouted "kill the pigs", "one man one gun" and "Black power will get your mama".

Bro Radford: I suggest to you that these were things you saw written on the placards, that you didn't hear any of these things shouted.

Aldritt: I did.

Bro Radford: Did you hear the crowd saying "Rock away Bro D!" and "Sock it to me" and "Right on Bro D" through my speech?

Aldritt: No, they didn't say that

Bro Radford: Then I suggest to you, officer, that I wasn't speaking to a West Indian audience.

TUESDAY 26TH OCTOBER

Brother Radford (known to us, his brothers and sisters as Darcus Owusu, hence Bro D), carried on with his cross examination of Inspector Aldritt. While denying that he was prejudiced against the demonstration taking place, Aldritt said that he would have, if it had been his responsibility, broken up the demonstration before it started outside the Mangrove and dispersed the people who had come there to protest the feelings of their community.

Bro Radford: What did you think of the demonstration?

Aldritt: I thought it was a disgusting exhibition. . . . deliberately called to provoke violence against the police.

To establish the role of agent provocateurs on the day of the demonstration, Bro Radford referred to an incident which had taken place outside Notting Dale police station, one of the places past which the demonstration went.

Bro Radford: Do you remember a white racist who approached the demonstration outside Notting Dale Police Station?

Aldritt: There was a white man who walked towards the demonstration. . . . he was led away by police constables . . . he may have made remarks but I didn't hear any.

Brother Radford pointed out to the court that the man was allowed to shout "go back home to your own country. . . niggers. . ." and such like. Darcus, who was addressing the meeting when this took place, pointed out to the crowd that they should not be provoked

by police agents or by random fascists, they had come to make a particular protest against police brutality and an individual must not be allowed to distract them. He told the crowd to "cool it". He asked Aldritt if he remembered any of this. Ofcourse, as the prosecution's case appears to rest on creating the impression that a dangerous rabble had set out to attack police, rather than that black people were expressing a legitimate grievance, the witness said he couldn't remember any of this.

Turning to Portnall Road, where the disturbance actually took place, Brother Radford asked Aldritt what he felt as he saw this disturbance.
Aldritt: I was very frightened.

Brother Radford, trying to get the facts right, asked him to look at a photograph of himself watching policemen manhandling a single demonstrator. Any one with eyes and a certain amount of discrimination can see that Aldritt has a big grin on his face at the time and is looking on with satisfaction at his boys attacking a black man. Bro Radford asked him to explain the photograph at his boys attacking a black man. Bro Radford Aldritt, "I seem to be in agony". This ofcourse provoked more than smiles from the court.

Aldritt then agreed that he had been present at the attempt to arrest **Brother Rupert** at the Mangrove. He said he couldn't remember how he got there, but remembered that Mr. Howe (Brother Darcus) had instigated Boyce to get away, had taken part in a fight with policemen in the Mangrove, had jumped over a wall into a back garden and planned brother Rupert's escape. He contradicted Superintendent Donelly who had testified earlier that there were fifty policemen at the Mangrove at that time, by saying that there were about a dozen police present. When it was put to him that he had contradicted his superior, he agreed that there might have been more than that.

Aldritt, answering questions, made it clear to the court that the intention of going to the Mangrove was to arrest Rupert Boyce, that it had nothing to do with Brother Radford. Bro Radford had been arrested after this particular incident at the Mangrove by Pulley and his 'heavy mob' as he was walking down Powis Square. In questioning Aldritt, Bro Radford appeared to be trying to establish that Pulley and his gang had no charges they could pin on him and that Aldritt had seen him committing no arrestable offence on the march or later.

Aldritt contradicted the testimony of Donelly at several points. He said he couldn't remember that he was part of the two serials that Donelly had brought to the Mangrove, he couldn't remember that Brother Radford had in fact followed him and Donelly out of the Mangrove and had been walking his own way just a few yards behind them as they left. It was established in Aldritt's testimony that it was he who issued charges against Brother Radford when he was brought to the police station by Pulley's gang. Aldritt's testimony then, is vital to Brother Radford's case, and throughout his cross examination of this witness, he was hampered by the prosecution's objections and by the judge. On Monday, as Brother Radford got to the point of reading the Inspector's notebook, the prosecutor stood up and suggested that he was looking at notes in the book which were not part of the testimony he was examining. From a distance of ten yards in the courtroom, the prosecutor had no way of knowing what Brother Radford was looking at in the book, but he used the opportunity to interrupt the cross examination. Brother Radford held the book up for the judge to see and demanded an apology from Hill for this sort of allegation. When Bro Radford was questioning Aldritt on Tuesday about what occurred at the Mangrove on August 9th, he was interrupted again.

Bro Radford: When you came into the Mangrove, is it not true, officer, that you didn't have any reason for arresting me. ?

Aldritt agreed, when the prosecutor jumped to his feet and said "that's not what I heard the witness say".

Judge: That's right, I didn't hear it in my recollection. (Bro R goes through same point again)

Hill: That's not what I heard the witness say

Bro Radford: That's because you weren't listening.

Judge: I've given you a lot of latitude in this case because you're not an experienced barrister and are defending yourself, but the least you can do in this case is to address with some courtesy the other people in this trial.

As the judge had supported the prosecution on this vital point, contrary to what the jury and the rest of the courtroom had heard the witness say, Bro Radford went over the same point with the witness, who gave the same answer. Brother Radford standing in the

Judge: (shouting, obviously annoyed at having been proved wrong) No Mr. Howe, I don't want to hear anything from you, ask your next question.

(Radford persists at this point, trying to address the judge)

Judge: I have said no more from you Mr. Howe, just get on with your questioning.

Radford: In that case, go on with this railroading yourself, you can go on without me.

At this point, seeing what was going on, the defendants all stood up in the dock. Rupert Boyce, on his feet said "this is a farce" and Rhodan Gordon, seeming to say what he had felt for a long time, said "if you want to send us to jail, just do it, this is a railroad, eh! we want no part of this". The gallery of black people, instantly understanding the feeling of the defendants, seeing what the judge and prosecutor were trying to do, expressed the same sentiment. "The railroad runs again", someone shouted, and the judge, completely taken aback by this breakdown of his brand of 'justice' was forced to adjourn the court an hour early and retreat to his chambers, leaving all his papers on his desk. The defendants were taken downstairs by the police in the dock. After the lunch recess, Radford Howe, who arose to address the court, in spite of hostility from the judge, put some remarks on record. He said that the judge kept speaking of latitude and "allowing" this and that, but he was held there by British Law on serious charges as were the rest of the defendants, and they weren't asking for favours of latitude from the court, all they expected were their RIGHTS, they had a right to defend themselves in a court of law and a right to expect impartiality from a judge. Brother Rhodan Gordon made it known to the court that he wanted to defend himself for the rest of the trial.

WEDNESDAY 27th OCTOBER

Aldritt, still in the box, told Defence Counsel Ian MacDonald, that there were "considerable reserves of policemen at the police station," that there were "500 police officers available" that afternoon.

Chief Supt. Trotman, next in the witness box, said in cross examination that he had heard shouting on the demo. "I could see PCs helmets going into the crowd from the west side. I went back and stood on the west side. The PCs were lined up facing the crowd. I saw policemen drag a man along the pavement. I told the crowd to calm down, there were hysterical shouts of 'the pigs started it, you started it, leave us alone', then the PCs tried to arrest marchers and other marchers tried to pull them free....."

After a number of people had been arrested, I told the crowd I wanted to get the march moving again. They moved towards the junction of Malvern road and there was a skip there and further fighting broke out..... I saw two police officers arrest a woman on the corner of Portnall and Malvern Road. The woman was shouting. People ran down Malvern road and pulled the woman free. I went into Bravington Road, the crowd had reassembled. Commander Maggs asked the leaders to step forward. Critchlow was there about two to three rows from the front. He made no attempt to go forward. The whole of Supt. Trotman's testimony, very vivid in its detail, appeared to be a sincere attempt to recall from memory what he, in his capacity as a man there to control a demonstration, had seen and heard. He admitted to Defence Counsel Goudie that he only saw Commander Maggs after the trouble had begun, and that it was decided by Commander Maggs that the march had gone on long enough and must be broken up. Contradicting what the clique of Pulley, Reid, Rogers, Lewis and Aldritt had said earlier, this senior police officer who obviously hadn't entered into the making of the statements and testimony, said that he heard Brother Radford's speech outside the Mangrove and all he heard the crowd say was "yeah and cheer."

PC Wilson, called next by the prosecution, said that he remembered Brother Roddy Kentish walking peacefully on the march with a small child and admitted, that he had not seen Bro Roddy again after the march reached Notting Hill Police Station. PC Wells, called next said that when the march reached Portnall Road, black people had come out of houses on both sides of the road and that they and the marchers then picked up bottles and bricks and started throwing them. He claimed he'd been hit on the head by a milk bottle and knocked out. Prosecutor Hill asked him if he'd attacked anyone. "No", he replied, "I didn't have time".

(Since the events of the week in the courtroom proved very significant, we find it necessary to give a certain amount of space to each day's happenings. On Thursday, Defence Counsel Goudie demolished the prosecution's case against Brother Innis, and on Friday the photographer from the Special Branch was in the box. As these days deserve full reporting, we apologise for leaving them to next week's report. Power to the People!)

MANGROVE 9 TRIAL

COURT

WEEK-5



REPORT

NOV.1-5/71

1. POLICE DISTORT WITNESS' STATEMENT

2. POLICE ATTACK DEMO WITH TRUNCHEONS

3. NATIONAL PRESS REPRESENT ONLY POLICE LIES

The trial of the Mangrove Nine, seven black brothers and two sisters, opened at the Old Bailey, in London, on Tuesday the 5th Oct. 1971. These nine black people face very serious charges of INCITEMENT TO RIOT, AFFRAY, and ASSAULTING POLICE. The charges arise out of a demonstration of black people against the victimisation of the Mangrove restaurant in Notting Hill Gate by the police and police brutality against the black people of the area. On this demonstration, on August the 9th 1970, the spirit and will of black people to resist became very clear. The police, both uniformed and plainclothes, had taken unprecedented measures to control and discredit it. When the demonstration reached Portwall Road and the police were at full strength, they launched an attack on the demonstrators, caused an affray, and arrested seventeen brothers and sisters. Others were arrested at various times in the year following the incident. The case of the Mangrove Nine, the refusal of the court to allow them to be tried by black jurors, the evident bias of the judge in the conduct of the case in general shows us very clearly how the police and the legal system are used to repress black people, their opinions and their struggle in this country. More than that, it reveals to us our position in this society.

THURSDAY 28TH OCTOBER AND FRIDAY 29TH OCTOBER

PC MCLINTON, giving evidence for the prosecution, had nothing specific to say about any of the defendants, but was brought in to give emphasis to the prosecution's picture of violence on the demonstration of Sunday Aug. 9th 1970. He said, "I was hit by a brick by two youths on the head and had to have four stitches." When questioned by Bro. Radford, he said that Aldritt, who had stated in his own testimony that he had been riding on the footboards of the police coach, was actually seated in the coach with his back to the front of it. PC Cant, brought in by the prosecution for the same purpose, unable again to say anything about the the defendants, said that he was standing behind a police cordon when he was hit by a brick.

PC James Pew, next in the dock said that he saw a policeman hit by a brick fall forward. On cross-examination, it turned out that the policeman who he saw hit, was actually facing the direction from which the brick came. Brother Rhodan Gordon, defending himself after dismissing his counsel on Tuesday, asked the PC if he had any recollection of coming around to his residence and seeing him outside 303 Portobello Road. Brother Rhodan's question indicated to the court that the police of the area have kept a constant check on black people who live there. In questioning him, Brother Radford Howe, defending himself, established that the reason that PC Pew didn't get to the demonstration in the van in which he approached it, was that the police coaches were blocking the back of the demonstration. Earlier, PC Pulley had said that he, in a private van, had been just behind the march, and that there were no coaches in that particular position. Bro. Radford asked if Pew saw anyone standing on a wall.

PEW: Yes

Bro RADFORD: What were they doing?

PEW: Shouting 'kill the pigs'

Bro Radford: (asking him to look at a photograph of the specific area) Where were they?

PEW: (looking at the photograph) I can't remember.

The next prosecution witness, Detective Constable Jones, was brought in evidence specifically against Brother Chad Innis. The Detective's story was that he, in plain clothes, accompanied by PC Slaughter, went to the demonstration, saw Brother Innis standing by a rubbish skip in Portnall Road and picking up a brick from it. He said Brother Chad was about to throw the brick at some policemen who were fighting with "four or five coloured men at the corner of Shirland and Portnall Road", when he got out of his car. At this point, he continued, Bro Chad dropped the brick and ran towards one end of the road. He pursued him and caught him, assisted by PC Edwards. He stated that Bro Chad had twisted and broken PC Edwards' thumb during the arrest and shouted "fuck off white pig". Defence Counsel James Goudie, representing Brother Chad, suggested to Jones that what actually happened was that they pursued Brother Chad and walked behind him, in plain clothes on the pavement of Portnall Road. He constantly asked them if they were police as he had no way of knowing, and they caught up with him, arrested him brutally, kicked and beat him on the pavement. He suggested to the witness that a fat policeman had been sitting on Bro Chad while the other p---s kicked him and dragged him away to the van beating him all the time. Policeman Jones said that this wasn't the way it happened. Counsel Goudie then pointed out to Jones that he had given contradictory testimony in his statement where he says that police were fighting "one coloured man" at the junction of Portnall and Shirland road.

Counsel Goudie then referred Jones to photographs 30 and 31 submitted by the police. He recognised himself and Slaughter in them. The strange thing about the photographs, Mr. Goudie pointed out, was that Jones was not where he said he was on Portnall Road, but further down it. If Innis had run in the direction he had stated, then Jones and Slaughter were facing the wrong way. Again, if Jones was where he was and Innis was behind him, how did Bro Innis get there. "He must have doubled back", said the witness. "It was pointed out to him that to do that, Bro Chad would have passed him and Slaughter. It was a masterful expose, and in the end the witness gave no answers to the questions which poured down on him. He just stood there, silent and sweating. In questioning PC Edwards who was supposed to have had his thumb broken, Defence Counsel Goudie established that there were other policemen flanking them as they arrested Bro Chad, and if his thumb had been broken as he stated, surely they could have assisted in the arrest and relieved him. Contrary to their evidence, the photographs established that PC Slaughter had drawn his truncheon when he was supposed to have been chasing Innis.

Det. Con. Lynch of the Special Branch, who took photographs of the demo before trouble broke out was produced in court. Cross-examination made clear that the special branch are detailed to keep track of political people in the country and the photographs were supposed to have no other police function. He had left the demo before the trouble started, he said.

MONDAY 1ST NOVEMBER

The week started dramatically with the prosecution alleging that one of their civilian witnesses had been threatened over the phone and had had her front window smashed. She believed this had something to do with the testimony she was about to give. Mrs O'Connell, the witness who made these allegations entered the box on Thursday and the evident excitement she showed at being part of the proceedings, the way she played out her fantasies in the box show us how reliable her mindless accusations are. The prosecution of course pounced on the allegations and tried to use them as one more pawn in the emotional game they're trying to play. They were forced, by repeated requests from the jury to agree to provide copies of blown-up photographs which they had already submitted to the court. PC Conlan in the box, under cross examination, further strengthened one of the two contradictory stories which policemen in the box had constructed. He said he'd been on the demo from the beginning. "In Portnall Road we formed a cordon. . . . Commander Maggs told us to put our truncheons away, I think he did that because they would be provocative. . . I don't know if anyone disobeyed him", he said. He told sister Althea Jones, when she asked him, that none of the defendants were the people whom he said he saw attacking a PC. He told Ian MacDonald, cross-examining for sister Barbara Beese, that he couldn't remember if any PCs had taken banners away from the marchers, but agreed that they may have done. "The scuffles that I saw, I don't know if it was police or the marchers who started them", he added. Det Sergeant Mills who gave evidence next, said he saw Brother Rupert Boyce throw a brick at a policeman, and when he tried to catch him, was violently pushed. He said Boyce was running so fast that he couldn't catch him. This seems to be in conflict with the PC Jones-PC Slaughter conspiracy to say that brother Rupert was standing next to the rubbish skip in Portnall road when they first saw him.

TUESDAY 2ND NOVEMBER AND WEDNESDAY 3RD NOVEMBER

All through the trial the press has been playing the dirty game of printing the horror stories which the prosecution and police conspiracies bring to the trial. On Monday evening, in spite of the judge having accepted that the defendants had nothing to do with threats to witnesses, the EVENING NEWS printed a piece about threats to witnesses "by black power" people. The defence, acting as one man, missing nothing, pointed this out to the judge and forced him to instruct them to ignore as false the EVENING NEWS scare propaganda.

The evidence that PC Calderwood and PC Woods gave evidence against Sister Althea Jones. They alleged that as they came up to Sister Althea on Portnall Road, she picked up a milk bottle and threw it at a group of PCs.

PC WOODS: (To Sis Althea) It was definitely you who threw the bottle. I am also certain that I helped to arrest you. . . . I would say I was the first officer to grab hold of you. Then others arrived, they helped me to take you to the van when it came to the point of arrest. It seemed that the sergeant was arresting you for something else. I didn't go to the police station or lay charges. "Sgt McDermott and Calderwood who gave evidence against sister Althea said on the other hand that they were in the process of arresting another sister and Althea ran up behind them and hit Sgt McDermott with a wooden figure. They all admitted that the arrest was violent, but that they had used extreme restraint and hadn't been brutal to Sister Althea.

PC Crossman and PC Lally gave evidence to do with the arrest of Sister Barbara. Crossman, questioned by Ian MacDonald said he saw Sis Barbara pick up a piece of wood and strike a white man. "He didn't appear to be part of the march. He had been in front of me for about one minute", he added, "Until this happened there had been no violence. I went up to Miss Beese and grabbed her by the arm and said to her 'put it down'. She wrestled free and raised the wood over her head as if to strike me on the head. I put up my left arm and she struck me on the arm. Other officers helped me to put her in the van". Lally confirmed this. PC Phillips, claimed that he saw the incident with PC Crossman, said he saw nothing of the encounter with the white man. This same Phillips, when in the box, was asked to identify Sister Beese. The Judge asked Sister Althea and Sister Beese, whom nobody could mistake for each other, to stand and Phillips picked out Althea Jones Lecointe as Barbara Beese whom he was supposed to have arrested. Ian MacDonald, for the sister, put it to the policemen that what actually happened was that the white man entered the march, grabbed her banner and broke it over his knee and when she tried to pull it back from him, she was arrested. On Wednesday, Chief Supt. Sadler told the court that there were 2 Inspectors, 6 Sgts. and 40 PCs were "there to protect Harrow Road Police Station". Asked by Brother Radford he said "the relationship between police and the black community was extremely good." When Bro Radford began running down, through questions, the reality of police repression in the

'grove' and quoted incidents of police attacks, suggesting that the area had a history of antagonisms, the judge stopped him and ruled that this essential background to the demo could not be explored.

THURSDAY 4TH NOVEMBER AND FRIDAY 5TH NOVEMBER

On Wednesday the cross-examination of the posse of civilian witnesses for the prosecution began. Mr Cornelius Harris of 170 Portnall Road, said that he heard chanting and singing at about 4.15 that day and looked out and saw the demo. "I was really surprised to see all these demonstrators coming down the road. There were police on either side of them. . . . The police tried to hold them up before they got to Malvern road. The ones in front were trying to slow them down. . . . In my view the persons at the back massed up into a big mass. All of a sudden there were bottles and bricks thrown. Then there was a big confusion. I couldn't see where the bottles and bricks were coming from. It seemed as if the police were trying to calm them down. . . . There were police and marchers on the floor. . . it lasted about half an hour (police had said that the incident lasted at most seven minutes). . . I saw two policemen and several demonstrators being carried away. The police formed up, what was left of them and went into Bravington road, . . . the demo went into Malvern road and it calmed down as quickly as it started."

When questioned by defence counsel Croft, he added that he saw a lot of demonstrators thrown to the ground as well. He added "What I think happened was that the people at the back were confused. I saw nothing to suggest that the (incident) was organised. I saw nothing apart from police stopping the march which caused trouble. I had a clear view." The police introduced several civilian witnesses who added nothing significant to their factual case, but emphasised that they were frightened by such an occurrence on a Sunday afternoon in London. The function of these witnesses is clear. The prosecution has been consistently trying to create in the minds of the jury this picture of psychological insecurity. They also help the prosecution on the sentimental level of showing the confidence of certain citizens in the police. Mr Mothersole, who said he didn't see anyone directing the fighting. He asserted that the police behaved very well, "they never lifted their hands to anyone." In open contradiction to what several prosecution themselves had said, Mr. Mothersole said "the police didn't draw their truncheons. They never drew their truncheons at all. Our police never laid a hand on anyone."

Mr Stanley Bright, whose testimony was given on Thursday and raised certain questions of Friday, said that when he went out on the street a disturbance was already taking place. He gave his evidence in chief as directed by prosecutor Hill and said that he was worried about safety of the police and on his own initiative, rang 999 for help. When cross-examined, he denied that he had given any statement to the press at all. When Brother Radford quoted his name and his statement to the press to him, he agreed that reporters had phoned him and asked him questions but hadn't been to see him. It emerged later, in the testimony of Mrs. O'Connell that reporters had in fact been round to Mr. Bright's and Bro Radford read in court the statement he had given to the Daily Telegraph. . .

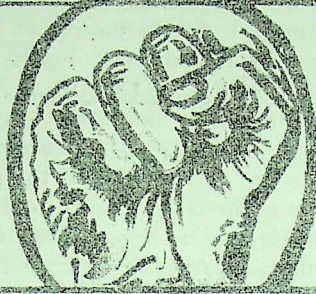
Mr. Bright said to the news agency which took his statement that the police went into the crowd with truncheons, to disperse it. He said, the day after the demo that black people had retaliated to this attack with bottles and anything they could find in the street. Bro Radford, cross examining, suggested that that was what he had said to the press. He said he thought he'd said it to the press, to the police and to the preliminary hearing at Myrlebone court. This statement, in spite of what Mr. Bright said, did not appear anywhere in the statement that the police had presented to the court. Bro Radford ascertained from the witness that what he had said and what he maintained was true had somehow not been presented as part of his statement to the court. "I gave that statement to Detective Constable West. I included that, I'm quite sure. I was talking, he was writing. When asked by Bro Radford about the wall he was supposed to have climbed, Bright said: "I agree there is a wall outside 203 with wooden palings on top. I would be say that it would be hard to jump over and dangerous. "

When Detective Constable West was put in the box and nailed by this allegation that he had distorted a witness' statement, agreed that if it had been said it should have been put down in his statement. Brother Radford put it to him that Bright had actually said it, and the policeman replied that he couldn't remember. When the policeman was told that Bright had clearly stated that this had been part of his statement, West said that it may be that Bright's memory was better than his, but he hadn't taken it down. The implication about what police do with unfavourable testimony is not hard to draw and needs, in our opinion, no emphasis. Such is the case.

MANGROVE 9 TRIAL

COURT

WEEK- 9



REPORT

NOV. 29th to DEC 3rd

SECRET POLICE ACTIVITY EXPOSED

AT THE OLD BAILEY...

MONDAY 29TH NOVEMBER

The case of Sister Althea Lecointe continued and two defence witnesses who live on Portnall Road were called. They confirmed the description that sister Althea had given of the arrest and the incidents on Portnall Road.

Miss Fern Lewis who was injured in the course of the demonstration and whom Althea was attempting to help when she was arrested, was called next. Describing the incident she said: "I moved over to the pavement, I got a blow on my head. I didn't see who hit me. I was bleeding through the ears. . . . I was crying because I was in pain and bleeding. Somebody came to comfort me. The fighting had broken out. First there was a boy and then a lady who assisted me. She was there holding me and asking me what had happened. Then a police officer suddenly grabbed both of us. I pulled away and ran to the other side of the road. I looked back and saw the lady being carried away. There were about six officers involved."

Questioned by Sister Althea, Miss Lewis identified herself in one of the photographs submitted to the court.

Dr. Emmet Glasgow was next called as a character witness for Rupert Boyce. A photographer and a surveyor, employed on behalf of Brother Frank Critchlow were called and told the court where certain photographs submitted by the prosecution were taken from. The evidence of the two in conjunction proved conclusively that if the photographer had been stationed in the Ashmore-Shirland Road junction, the van that PC Pulley claimed to have been in could not have been where Pulley said it was. The prosecutor was later forced to admit this.

Opening the defence of Sister Barbara Beese, Counsel Ian Macdonald said that the prosecution's case against her rested on four points: 1) that she carried a pig's head on a stick. Lots of people had done that 2) That she was in close proximity to Miss A and was one of the chant leaders. There were other people who were close to Miss A during the demo, including policemen. No one had given evidence that she led any chants. 3) That she had taken part in a conference near Notting Hill police station, a cluster of people conferring in the road. She must have talked to a lot of people that day, and even if three or four heads were put together outside Notting Hill, the police had not said that anyone knew or heard what was said, it could have been a chat about the common market. 4) That she was approached by Commander Maggs about the route of the demo and swore at him. Well, Chief Superintendent Trotman himself has said that it wasn't Barbara Beese but a girl in a brown corduroy suit who was involved in this little exchange. Ian Macdonald added that even if all these four points were conceded (which they weren't), they still didn't amount to an intent to cause a punch-up and were in no way related to riot or affray or assault or anything of the sort.

TUESDAY 30TH NOVEMBER

Sister Barbara Beese, in the stand, said that she attended the demonstration because she had heard about it in the community. It was much talked about in the Grove. She said she marched with the main body of the demonstration and definitely did not take part in any conference outside Notting Hill Police Station. As the demo turned into Portnall road, she was at the rear, not in the front as Inspector Aldritt claimed.

ARRESTED AFTER BEING ATTACKED BY MAN IN CIVILIAN CLOTHES

As the march turned into Shirland road, Sister Beese continued, something happened to cause a scuffle. "I was not involved", she added, "the scuffling took place in the middle of the Ashmore-Shirland junction. I crossed over to the pavement. I had picked up a placard earlier which said 'Hands Off Black People'. A man in civilian clothes came over and snatched my placard. He was well-built, white. I asked him what the hell he thought he was doing. He broke the placard over his knee as if he was mad. I went to get the placard back and I was grabbed by uniformed policemen. I said "it's him you should be arresting not me". I was not told why I was arrested. I was put into a black maria and taken to the police station."

Brother Delroy Robinson, witness for sister Barbara, said that he frequents the Metro club in the Grove. The week after the demonstration he went to the Metro and people were talking about the demo and he described what he saw there including the unwarranted arrest of a girl. People told him it must be Barbara Beese and so the young brother, rightly went down to the Mangrove and left his address and offered to come to court and tell it like it was. He confirmed sister Barbara's evidence, saying that he was marching next to her when the white man attacked her and snatched the banner from her hand. As she attempted to retrieve it, she was arrested.

"I didn't see Miss Beese strike any police officer. It would have been impossible for her to strike a police officer with her arms and legs held", he added.

Brother Godfrey Millet, charged originally under the name of Roy Caboo, maintaining that he had no case to answer, elected to give a statement from the dock instead of entering the stand. He said "My name is not Roy Caboo. I received a leaflet about the demo in Shepherd's Bush market and volunteered to distribute leaflets. I did not speak to any black woman with a half-caste child' (as the prosecution have alleged). I was not recruiting passers-by. I didn't take part in any fighting in Portnall Road. I am innocent of all charges."

PROSECUTOR HILL FORCED TO ADMIT.....

Prosecutor Hill, to make his case sound more honest than it is, stood up in court and made the following admissions: He admitted that Pulley's van was not in the cross of Ashmore and Shirland road when the photograph showing the demo at that point were taken. He admitted that Brother Frank Critchlow was wearing dark clothes on the day and so couldn't have been the man that Chief Suptdt. Saddler had identified outside Harrow Road police station "in bright clothes".

WEDNESDAY 1ST DECEMBER

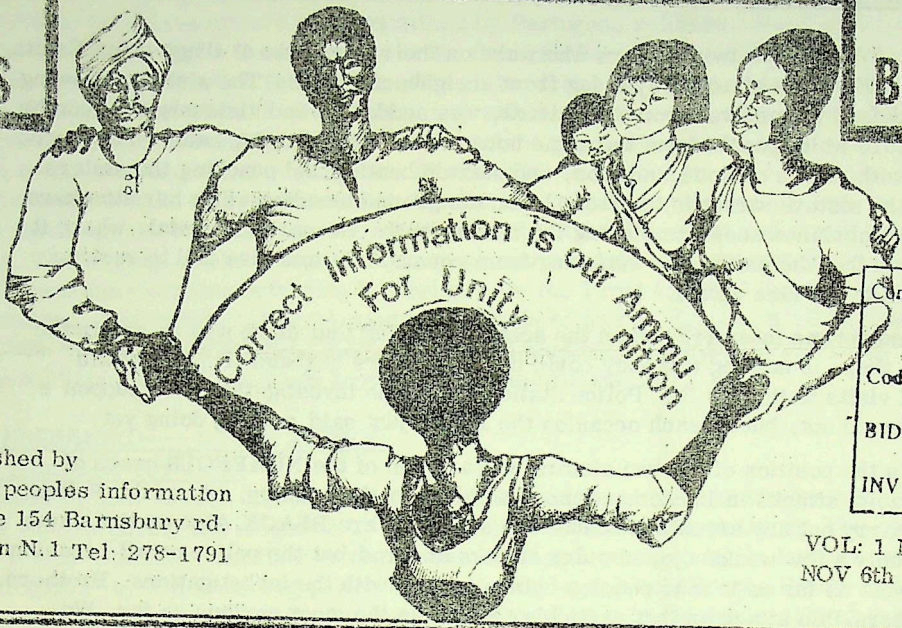
The prosecutor applied to call an Inspector Meynell who was involved in an earlier political trial, which arose out of a police attack on a dance at the Oval House. The prosecution said that the point of calling Meynell was to establish that Sister Althea and Sister Beese were in the court during that trial when a sister, who is in a photograph with Brother Darcus, was giving evidence as a witness. Though the identity of the particular sister has no particular bearing on the case, the prosecution was trying to tell the jury that sister Althea was married to a brother who had already been railroaded on a political charge. Meynell's testimony was that the police kept a record of "all members" who came into the public gallery. "Member of what?" sister Althea asked. "Members of the public", the policeman said. Meynell insisted that the records of people coming in and going out of the court "had been destroyed". Yet on cross examination, Meynell could only remember the name and address of the particular sister, but not the names or addresses of any other defence witnesses involved in that case. Brother Darcus asked him the address of one of the defendants in that case, but Meynell's accommodating memory could not even recall that, all he remembered was what the prosecution wanted him to remember in the current railroading.

This admission of the activities of the special branch against the people, ended the sequence of evidence in the trial. The next day the prosecution began to put its pieces together in its summing up.

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL

NEWS

BULLETIN



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POWELL DIVIDES HIS HATRED OF BLACK PEOPLE

Enoch Powell, speaking to the Chamber of Commerce in the heart of the black community of Southall, London, launched another of his attacks of calculated hysteria on black people.

This opportunist, who in 1949 had advised the Tory government to reconquer newly independent India by force of arms, said "it is more truly when he looks into the eyes of Asia that the Englishman comes face to face with those who will dispute with him, the possession of his native land".

By his well calculated rabid speech, Powell has given political leadership to the racist murderers who have, burnt the homes of black people, and murdered Asian families in the Midlands. The speech represents another attempt to create a climate of insecurity for black people living in Britain. By picking out the Asians Powell, seeks to divide the black community, thus making it easier for the business interests he represents to attack the organisations that the Asian workers have created, to protect themselves from naked exploitation in the factories and places of work (mainly foundries, engineering and textile factories).

At a time when the war of liberation in Ireland, and the crisis of the economy at home threaten the capitalist interests in Britain, Powell is attempting to distract the workers, and use black people as the scapegoats for the situation that his government is creating, wage freeze, rising prices and high unemployment. With his usual rag-bag of false statistics and rabble rousing, Powell called once again for a strengthening of immigration laws, and for voluntary repatriation.

The unity displayed to him and his government when Asians, Africans and Afro-Caribbeans marched through the streets of London, and of cities all over Britain to protest against the latest Immigration Bill, is a reality which Powell and the capitalists want to destroy. It will take more than the words of one fascist, about the different degrees of threat he feels from Asians and Caribbeans, to destroy our unity.

WHITE RACIST CONTINUE BRUTAL ATTACKS ON BLACK PEOPLE

LONDON- HACKNEY

On wed. 27th Oct. two twin sisters who were on their way home at Haggerston Estate Hackney. E. 8, was attacked by a dog from aneighboring house. The sisters throwing atin to defend themselves from this attack, was suddenly, and viciously set upon by 10 or more white people from the same house from which the dog came. They were armed with pieces of wood, and iron, and started beating and punching the sisters. One of the sisters struck in the face, l on the ground bleeding while her attackers fled. An ambulance soon cametaking the sisters to St. Leonards Hospital, where it was found that the sister was suffering from concussion, and also had to recieve 7 stiches to the face wound.

Police sometime later arrived on the scene, claiming that there was no one in the flat, so there is nothing that they could do. The sisters husband Mr. Migg paid several visits to the City Rd. Police Station where the investigations are suppos e to be carried out, but on each occasion the Police just said nothing doing yet.

Sothis is the position of the two sisters who are one of the NUMEROUS cases of white racist attacks in London and more so all over the country, where the Police fail to carry out any arrests, because the sufferers are BLACK. Also on that same Estate only a few weeks ago, simular attacks ocured, but the police on all occasion never went as far as to take peoples names to help with the investigations. Brothers and sisters, this attack on that particular Estate is the most serious so far. We must organise around the Migg's family; and All other attacks that takes place in our community.

THE TRIAL OF Bro. JOSHUA FRANCIS STARTS NOV. 3rd. 71

Brother Joshua Francis who is the victim of BRIXTON police brutality, appeared at The foresters law courts, Weston st. London s.e 19. The brother who was in bed as a result of an accident with london transport Nov. 1970, when police from brixton enter his home on sunday Nov. 22nd. and severely beat him up, resulting in a long period of hospitalisation.

As the trial open, the police claimed that they are unable to understand the hand-writing of the previous transcript, so they wanted more time to contact the person who took the notes when the case was committed to sessions. How long this will take is anybodys guess.

One thing that must be remembered, is that this particular case of Brother Francis recieved massive publicity which took the form of Pickets, Demonstrations, and meetings in the Black Community. Hence the police know that there are playing with fire.

BRIXTON - S. E LONDON

POLICE IN PLAIN-CLOTHES LAY-WAIT TO BRUTALISE BROTHER

New tactics the Brixton Police are using, was discovered and felt by brother Octavius A. McCleod. It was on Wednesday Oct. 11th, that the 63 year old Brother returning home from the PUB or (BAR) was set upon by two white men.

They took his bag demanding to see what was inside, after a little resistance, the brother unable to contend with the two THUGS, gave in, when one forced his hands behind his back, and the other grabbed him by the throat. Again the brother struggled, and managed to shout for MURDER, some people passing by rushed to the scene, and it was only then that these two white racist identify themselves as police officers.

He was then taken away and charged with assaulting two policemen. At the station his belongings which include his savings were taken, and now six weeks later none of his £450 has not been returned. The constant brutality and railroading of black people must stop. The next hearing of Brother Mc Cleod's case is at Lambeth Court on 29th Nov. 71.

Organise & seize the time!

MOZAMBIQUE --- AFRICA

Portuguese Murder Thousands

On the 3rd of Nov. more than three thousand African brothers and sisters fled from Mozambique to Malawi after a ruthless attack by Portuguese soldiers. Sister Josamu, of Mphonde village in the Tete area, near the Caborra Basa Dam, said that the soldiers arrived suddenly a few days earlier and ordered the villagers to leave their homes. She said that while they were leaving, without any warning, five Portuguese aircraft flew overhead and opened fire with machine guns. Many were killed and others injured as they tried to run. Soon afterwards, Portuguese troops landed in helicopters to take away the wounded, but the villagers hid in the bush before beginning a three day walk to Malawi. They were forced to travel by night and sleep under cover of their forces and guerillas belonging to Frelimo --- the Front for the Liberation of Mozambique. The refugees interviewed said that there was no fighting at all before the Portuguese moved in and attacked their villages. A Portuguese official admitted that "some soldiers carried out deeds beyond their commitment".

JOHANNESBERG ---- SOUTH AFRICA

Asian Detainees Tortured

Last week brother Ahmed Timol, an Indian schoolmaster, plunged to his death from a ten storey window during interrogation by South African police in Johannesburg. The police claim it was "suicide". Another brother, Abdulla Jassat, now living in London, who was "interrogated" by Johannesburg police in March '63, says he challenges the story because of his own experience. He was arrested after an explosion of the Johannesburg railway station. The next day, he says, he was taken to a room on the second or third floor of the city's main railway station where twenty policemen were waiting for him. He told them he knew nothing of the explosion or the people who organised it. The police grabbed him from behind, dropped a sack over his head and tied it round his knees. He was then laid on the floor and a policeman whispered in his ear "look Abdool, you had better start talking or we are going to set you alight". He heard a match being lit but said again that he could tell them nothing. The police then removed his shoes and socks, attached wires to his toes and gave him electric shocks. They started at 25 volts and went up to 225 volts while the brother kept screaming that he knew nothing. When they finally stopped, the brother was so shaken that he couldn't speak at all, so they picked him and threw him against the wall. When he got to his feet he found himself near a window. Two pigs grabbed him again, this time by his ankles, and started pushing him head-first out of a window. They left him hanging there for about five minutes, pretending to let him go every now and then and laughing whenever he screamed. Brother Jassat managed to escape 83 days later, but has never been able to work since then as he now suffers from epilepsy and frequent blackouts. These are the methods that the racist police have been using against black people in South Africa. The death of brother Timol last week shows us that they will stop at nothing, and will only be stopped by the will, the power and the arms of the black liberators of Africa.

CARIBBEAN NEWS

Bribery and Corruption Rife In Grenada (From Voice of The Cribou Movement; Grenada, Canaco and Petite Martinique)

Government ministers in Grenada are known to be working hand in hand with local businessmen to exploit poor people. One such business, Kirpalani's, recently opened two stores, one in St George's, the capital, and the other in Greenville. All those who went to get a job at Kirpalani's were made to join the union, controlled by Prime Minister Garry. About 500 people were robbed of their money under the pretext that they would get work when Garry and his henchmen knew fully well that only thirty persons were to be employed. Meanwhile the unemployed continue to pay union fees and await the "next vacancy".

Smugglers:

Government ministers also share the profits of the large scale smuggling of goods around the Lance-Aux-Epires area. This extensive smuggling helps the businessmen to evade taxes on imports and places an increased strain on the already over-exploited Grenadian tax-payer.

Water Shortage

With the govt. busy looking after its own interests and those of the businessmen, people are being deprived of essential services. For about three quarters of the day, taps and tanks are without water, and the rest of the time the water is polluted. The shortage is breaking down the sewage system and an epidemic threatens the country due to it.

LAUREL MISSISSIPPI USA

Black and White Sawmill Workers Strike

For the last few weeks, in Laurel Mississippi, sawmill workers have been on strike. Seventy percent of the workers are black and thirty per cent white. The strike represents a breakthrough in struggle, in the heartland of American racism, and shows clearly, that organisation causes workers to identify their true enemies. It is vital that these workers receive all the support that can be mustered, especially financial, even though this may be modest at first. In situations like this a defeat may mean a victory for the people who profit by stirring racial hatred. A victory for the workers would, in America and elsewhere, have wide implications for joint action of this kind.

For further Information on this particular strike, contact Tom Allgood, Apt. 1, 535 8th Avenue, Laurel, Mississippi.

Power to Struggle of the Workers!

BRITISH INDUSTRIAL NEWS IN BRIEF

The fight in the Upper Clyde Shipyards, between workers and the Tory, capitalist government, took a tough turn, when, on Friday 5th November, 8500 workers held a conference in the shipyard and told the Trade and Industry Minister John Davies, that unless all their jobs were guaranteed, they would not allow any ships, after those to be launched in the next ten days, to leave the yard. The government has had five months to take positive action, and as they have done to strikes in the last year, have tried to play a waiting game, hoping to weaken the resistance of the workers. Shop stewards throughout Scotland, have called for a one day stoppage on November 24th to support the UCS workers.

POLICE RELEASE DOGS ON AIRPORT WORKERS

On Monday 1st November, 40,000 London airport workers, struck in protest against the handing over of ground handling contracts, to American owned, General Aviation Services. They felt that this contract, given to a foreign firm, put the jobs of several airport workers in jeopardy. On the first day of the strike, the management were aided by the police, who tried to scare the workers by letting loose dogs on them. The workers, by their action have forced Iberia Airways to agree to consider giving up its contract with General Aviation Services.

POST OFFICE TOWER BOMBED

Following the bombing of the Post Office Tower in Central London last week, police department chiefs have issued a statement that though they don't know who is responsible 'all extremists are suspect'. The explosion in which no one was killed or injured, gives the government an excuse to round up anybody whose politics threaten the status quo. From recent events in Ireland, the brutality and torture that this regime has unleashed on the Irish people, we know what they mean.

PRESCOTT/PURDIE AT THE OLD BAILEY

Ian Purdie and Jake Prescott, who have been in prison over ten months, awaiting trial, in connection with the bombing of the house of Robert Carr, Minister of Employment and Productivity, will appear at the Old Bailey on Wednesday 10th November. There will be a picket and demonstration, starting outside the Old Bailey, on Wednesday morning at 10 am.

freedom meeting

for black suffering people in Trinidad + Tobago

For the second time in eighteen months Eric Williams' government has been forced to call a state of emergency, to combat the will of oppressed people to control the resources of the country. WE IN BRITAIN MUST TAKE A STAND LET US ALL STAND TOGETHER AND SUPPORT ONE ANOTHER!!

Come and participate

on SUNDAY 21st NOVEMBER 1971, at the CO-OPERATIVE HALL

129 SEVEN SISTERS ROAD, FINSBURY PARK LONDON N.7., from 3pm. to 9pm

Speakers include West Indian historian C.L.R. JAMES

Revolutionary Play on the Black Experience, by the Black Panther Movement.

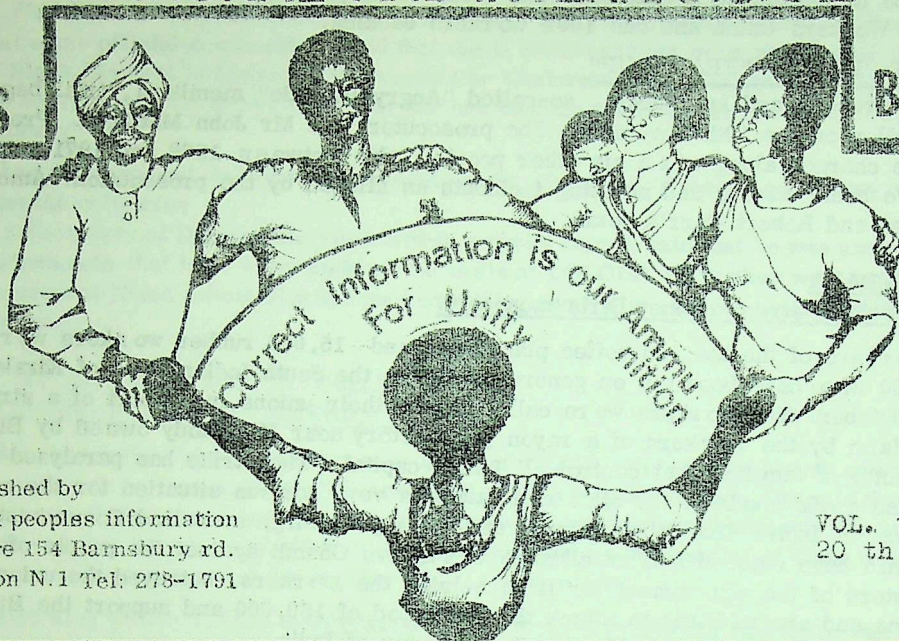
Films about the struggle of oppressed people all over the world.

For further information, Phone 01-278-1791, or call at 154 Barnsbury Rd. London N.1

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL

NEWS

BULLETIN



Published by
Black peoples information
Centre 154 Barnsbury rd.
London N.1 Tel: 278-1791

VOL. 1 No 16
20 th NOV.71

UNEMPLOYMENT - THE LIES BEHIND THE FIGURES.

There are now officially 970,000 people unemployed throughout Britain and Northern Ireland, representing 4.6% of the total labour force. This official figure does not give a true representation of the facts, as in some areas there are as many as 20-25% of black people out of work. Again no figures have been given for the number of women who are unable to find work and, for various reasons, have been discriminated against in all sections of industry. Additionally, recent school leavers who are unregistered are not classified as unemployed, and also in this category, we must include the vast number of people who have never bothered to register. The mass media has been busy whipping up hysteria on whether the number of unemployed will reach one million by Christmas, as if that figure itself really matters, when in reality the number of jobless has already exceeded that.

These figures directly reflect government policy in stopping subsidies to industry and forcing up prices in an effort to curb demands for more pay. The government is now worried at how its policies have failed miserably and is now trying half-heartedly to reflate the economy in the hope of curbing the number of jobless, and eventually bringing down unemployment.

Last night Mr Ian Mikardo, Labour MP for Poplar, said to a meeting of Labour and trade union groups "The government's determination to keep the unemployment figures up to a million, no matter how much economic damage and personal hardship it causes, isn't just an accident, it is an essential part of their total strategy. Combined with the Industrial Relations Act, it is designed to weaken the power of the unions to negotiate increases in wages which are needed to keep up with spiralling prices and with the spiralling rents that are coming very soon." He argued that the government would not reflate the economy, because a policy of growth would increase imports and cut the balance of payment; reserve needed to cover the cost of entering the Common Market.

Nearly half Britain's unemployed are getting no government unemployment benefit --- a document published on Thursday by the Child Action Poverty Group revealed.

ASIAN TEXTILE WORKERS STRIKE

Ninety Indian and Pakistani workers at the Perivale Guterman Textile factory in West London are on strike over a management bonus scheme. Perivale Guterman, where working conditions are atrocious, once employed 185 workers but now only 90 remain. Management has employed the use of a bonus scheme, which was rejected by the workers and further negotiations have reached a deadlock. The strike will probably be made official by the Transport Workers Union and has 100% workers backing.

PRESCOTT- PURDIE "FRAME UP"

Jake Prescott and Ian Purdie, so-called "Angry Brigade" members, trial began at the Old Bailey on the 10th November. The prosecutor was Mr John Matthew. Prescott and Purdie are charged along with six other people, who between 1968 and 1971 committed twenty five bomb attacks and shooting incidents as alleged by the prosecution. Among them John Davies and Robert Carr's home.

INDIA - KERALA

150,000 Workers strike against Birla monopoly.

35,000 workers of the tea and coffee plantations and 15,000 rubber workers were among the 150,000 who have been out on general strike in the South Indian State of Kerala since the 26th October. The workers were called out by their unions in support of a strike about a bonus claim by the workers of a rayon pulp factory near Kozhikody owned by Birla, one of the handful of families that control all Indian capital. The strike has paralysed the ports, bazaars and goods sheds of the state and caused a very serious situation for the coalition government of Indira Ghandi's congress and the right wing, so-called Communist Party of India who have entered into an alliance with Mrs Ghandi against the people of the state. The ministers of the government far from helping the workers, betrayed the unions in negotiations and are willing to attack the livelihood of 150,000 and support the Birla monopoly which is a stranglehold over the economy of India.

BRITAIN : IMMINENT SELL OUT TO RHODESIA.

The foreign secretary, Mr A. Douglas-Home visited Rhodesia this week for talks with Mr Smith and National African leaders. Smith by his actions apparently is quite confident of a settlement with Britain, although Rhodesia is well set on the same path as South Africa, and has continually flouted Britain's "five point peace plan". Smith also categorically has said that he is against majority rule in that country.

GRASS ROOTS HARASSED.

On Saturday, three special branch officers made unsuccessful attempts to get into Grass Roots Distribution Centre. The next day they spoke to the circulation manager Brother Tony Sinaris, and also demanded to speak to Brother Jamal, the editor, but was told that he was unavailable. On 8th November Dt. Insp. Hovell went to Brother Sinaris and told him to arrange a meeting between the police and Bro. Jamal. In the meantime a decision to relieve Bro. Jamal of his duties and instate Bro. Kimathi had been taken. The police being unable to obtain Bro. Jamal decided to take Bro. Tony, using the excuse that he was Jamal, and after being cautioned he was led away.

Grass Roots, because it is so influential, believe that the police will try to silence the paper by putting pressure on the printers and bringing charges against the members of the committee.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH REPORTED TO RACE RELATIONS BOARD.

A sikh woman's protest over very personal religious and marriage questions on a maternity grant form has led to minister of health (Sir) Keith Joseph, being reported to the Race Relations Board accused of discrimination. The questions raised on the form ranged from age at marriage to various questions on how, when, and where the ceremony was conducted. The official complaint was made by the executive of the Bradford Community Relations Council.

COVENTRY TOOLROOM WORKERS STRIKE.

8,000 Coventry toolroom workers strike took place on Friday, November 19th, and could continue for a long time. The strike is to force the management to reinstate the thirty year old wage agreement which was discontinued at the end of August.

WASHINGTON-- D C

UNITED STATES OPERATING A POLICY OF RESTRICTING THE No OF BLACK GIs IN ICELAND

In Washington the house of representatives which include a Black Caucus it was revealed that some official documents stated that the U S Government were restricting the amount of Black GIs sent to Iceland The Caucos Co- Chairman Dem ShirleyChristholm N Y said the secret material shows that " Racism has become institutionalized at all levels of the military"

It has also exposed that the Governments of W. Germany Greece and Turkey operated likewise policies

U.S Secretary of Defense Melvin Laird in a press report said that he was aware of some assignments that have been made on the basis of COLOUR. He further went on to say that the present Nixon Administration was now doing away with all such activities in all the services

Dr. FIDEL CASTRO VISIT TO CHILE BREAKING POINT IN L AMERICA

Fidel Castro the Cuban Leader now on atour of CHILE was given a hearty and reveloutionary welcome by thousands of ChIleans of all ages In a public speech he said that "we must fighton until the people can complete the work of our independent heroes" He further went on to say that he will send afilm of the huge welcome by the peoples of Chile to President Nixon so he can see how the peoples of L America live

Castro also unbuttoned his bush (Green) jacket to show reporters that there was no truth in his wearing of abullet proof vest IN his final leg of his tour the Cuban leader suffering with a cold and abroken voice due to the speeches he been making was still fit enough to take part in a Basket ball game and meet peasants - workers and ordinary citizens In CONCEPCION Chile s biggest steel works Castro recieved yet another big welcome It is also here that Chiles pro- guerilla revolutionary left-wing movement first operated

TOTTENHAM MAGISTRATE s CORRT(N. LONDON) THREE WORKERS ON TRIAL

On July 10th 1971, some 250 People joined amarch organised by the Londn Alliance in Defence of Workers Wrights. The Demonstration was called like many others of its kind to protest and to bring more closely to the people in the North London area the double implications of the IMMIGRATION& INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS BILLS which at the time were both under review. (both bills are now law)During the march the police seeing such anumber of people on a saturday afternoon, attacked the demonstration, and arrested three comrades Roger Loffers of BUFP, Max Hunte, and Mr. Woolford charging them wi th assault and threatening behaviour. The police so far have revealed their usual habit of nothing but lies which in the final analysis wi ll show how trumped up charges are used against black people and wo rkers in general in Britian. For further information write to the Alliance c/o 34Tabley Road, Holloway , London N. 7.

UN-SKILLED LABOUR FORCE TO BE HALTED

LONDON

The british government has announced that it intends to halt with effect from Jan. 1972 the number of Semi- skilledand skill wo rkers coming into Britian from all countries other than those of the E. C. C; Norwa y, and Denmark. The only exception to this ruling isto be for wo rkers in the Hotel and Catering industries.

However most wo rkers from Europe arerefusing to wo rk in such jobs where conditions are usually appauling and wages very low. On the other hand the jobs that provide better pay and conditions are being secured for certain people of th e Community.

Now that the Immigration Bill and Industrial Relation Bill arelaw, this is one of the examples of how the European Capitalists intends to use The cheap labour (mainly from Africa, Asia and the Caribbeanin the Time of Un- employment to create tension and distrust amongst the wo rkers in Britian and other European countries.

UN- EMPLOYMENT (U. K) At present the Gov. fig. shows 1 million, but it should be clear that the correct fig. could be 1 million and ahalf.

LEEDS-YORKSHIRE

JUDGE ORDERS JURY NOT FIND POLICEMEN GUILTY OF MURDER OR PERJURY

The case of Nigerian David Oluwale is a case that could not be forgotten. For it is now almost two years since the brother was terrorised by two fascist policemen who forced him to his death into the river Aire in Leeds. Since Oluwale's death both policemen left the force. It was only early November that the two were brought to trial.

During the past four weeks the trial of former Inspector Geoffrey Ellerker and Sgt. Kenneth Kitching have taken various forms. With enough evidence clearly showing that it was an all out attempt to kill the brother. The Judge Justice Hinchliffe gave open directions that the Jury should return a verdict of not guilty on the accounts of Manslaughter, grievous body harm, and perjury.

It is well worth noting that since the brother's body was found, several black organisations up and down Britain, demanded that an inquiry be held into police Brutality and corruption which surrounded the brother's death. These demands were made to the Chief Inspector of Leeds, and The Home Office. Both responded with the usual answer that any complaints should be made through the proper channels. The investigation and the bringing in of the charge of Manslaughter against the two fascists, is a result of continuous pressure over a period of years by Black people in Britain.

THE INFORMATION CENTRES LISTED BELOW, PROVIDE POINTS OF CONTACT IN OUR COMMUNITIES FOR EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION, ADVICE, DISCUSSION, AND COLLECTIVE ACTION.

1. BIRMINGHAM:- AFRO-CARIBBEAN SELF-HELP ORGANISATION, 97 Leonard Road, Birmingham Tel. 021 534-274
2. Huddersfield:- BLACK PEOPLE'S LIBERATION PARTY, 51 Grove Street Huddersfield Tel. 38352
3. LEICESTER:- BLACK PEOPLE'S LIBERATION PARTY, 91 Laurel Road Tel. 25180
4. LONDON:- BLACK PANTHER MOVEMENT (Central Information Centre) 154 Barnsbury Road N.1. Tel. 01 278-1791

BLACK PANTHER MOVEMENT (Information Centre & Unity Bookshop)
38 Shakespeare Road S.E. 24 Tel. 01 274-0998

BLACK PEOPLE'S INFORMATION CENTRE & BOOKSHOP 303 Portobello Road W.10

5. NOTTINGHAM :- BLACK PEOPLE'S FREEDOM MOVEMENT 128 Derby Road Notts
6. WOLVERHAMPTON:- AFRO-CARIBBEAN CIRCLE 26 Francis Street, Wolverhampton.

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL APPEAL

Over the past three years Afro-Carib Self Help, Birmingham has been working in the community. At present their headquarters is up for sale and they need financial help. Any contributions would be appreciated to help this organisation. Send contributions to Information Centre, 97 Leonard Road, Handsworth, Birmingham, England.
Information Centre, 154 Barnsbury Road, Brompton, London, N1. England.

"News Appeal"

News of local and community interest and industrial news is needed for this bulletin. Should anyone who has any information they would like to submit send it to one of the following addresses:

- 154 Barnsbury Road (as above)
- 38 Shakespeare Road (as above)

APOLOGY

Black People's Information Centre would like to apologise for the late publication of this issue.

ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE!!

POLICE ATTACK PEACEFUL PICKET

LONDON

Tuesday 7th Dec. '71

Outside the Old Bailey today, the police force attacked and broke up a peaceful picket of people who had assembled to show their opposition to political trials in this country. They gave no proper reason, but made it evident by a series of provocations that they did not intend to allow this perfectly legal representation to proceed. At first the police threatened the people on the picket, they then illegally towed away the car containing the demonstrators' placards. The demonstrators replied with instant organisation by making new placards. Finally a swarm of police were sent in and violence was used to stop the picket. In this era of immigration bills and industrial relations bills, there are very few rights left to the people of Britian. This day's events are a step towards denying the people of this country their basic right to demonstrate a grievance peacefully on the street. The seriousness of this assault cannot be stressed too strongly. After the Mangrove trial, the trial of Prescott and Purdie and the treatment they were given by the courts, after the murder of brother Oluwale by so called officers of the law, this vicious attack on concerned and demonstrating people can only mean that the state sanctions these extensions of police repression. It is an issue which concerns not only those who demonstrate their grievances, but every single citizen of these islands. The state is in the process of retracting one of the basic freedoms that the people have forced it to tolerate.

EVENTS LEADING TO POLICE ASSAULT --- AN ATTACK ON THE RIGHT TO DEMONSTRATE

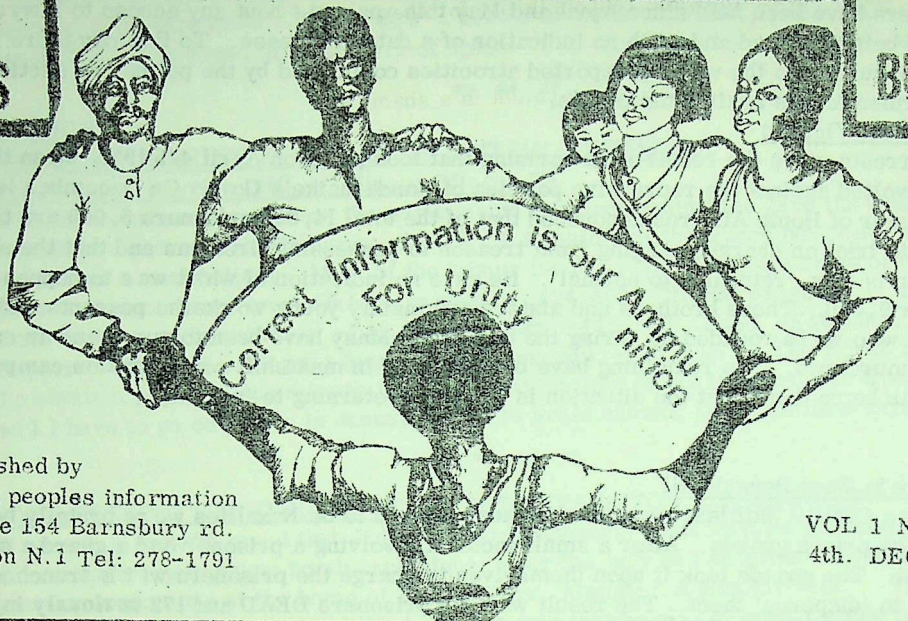
- 9.50 a.m. Twenty people assembled outside the Old Bailey to mount a picket against political trials and the complicity between the police, the courts and the press. The brothers and sisters, both black and white, marched around the central traffic island outside the Old Bailey holding placards. They did not chant slogans, they did not in any way obstruct traffic or pedestrians, they were only exercising the right that this country pretends to give its people. The placards made no reference to any particular trial, but pointed out the bias of the national press against political defendants and attempted to expose the conspiracy of the police and courts against workers and against black people. The placards generally demanded freedom for all political prisoners. Judge Edward Clark, conducting the trial of the Mangrove 9, now in its ninth week at the Bailey, had clearly said that the courts and the country respected the right of oppressed people to peacefully demonstrate their grievances. There were ten policemen and one inspector hovering around the picket.
- 10.45 a.m. Clerk of Court to the Old Bailey, Boyd, stood on the steps of the court and read all the placards as they came round to ensure that none of the slogans or demands were "in contempt of court".
- 11.00 a.m. The picket took a break for an hour. The people deposited their placards in a private car belonging to one of them, which was quite legitimately parked around the corner from the site of the picket. The police watched the people stow the placards in the car. Some of the brothers and sisters went into a cafe opposite the Old Bailey, planning to resume at twelve, in time for the lunch break of the city public and of the Old Bailey itself.

- 12 noon The picket reassembled in a disciplined manner and some brothers and a sister went to fetch the placards. They found that the car had been towed away by the police. This was the first step of intimidation against the pickets, a deliberate attempt by illegal means to stop a perfectly legal, peaceful protest.
- 12.05 p.m. The brothers and sisters were unanimous in their determination not be stopped by this ploy. Two of them went to fetch the car from the police pound. A quick collection was made, cards, markers and sello-tape bought from down the street, and using the benches in the church park opposite the court, twenty five placards were made.
- 12.35 p.m. The picket, with increased numbers and determination, was back on the street, circulating around the margin of the island. The police, annoyed that the theft of the placards had only given new life to the spirit and organisation of the people, began to gather in force. They stood in loose, single-file formation around the pavements surrounding the picket..... waiting.
- 12.40 p.m. Two chief Superintendants and one Commander of police appeared on the scene and demanded, without a reason at that point, that the brothers and sisters stop the picket and disperse. They obviously wanted the picket to stop before the Bailey adjourned for lunch. Two special patrol vans arrived, and the build-up of a hundred policemen was attracting quite a lot of attention from the public who read the placards as they passed. Four unidentified photographers were clicking events. The people, conscious of their legal rights, disregarded police threats and continued to march peacefully round the central traffic island.
- 1.00 p.m. The legal representative of the brothers and sisters on the picket was called to give advice and he talked to the police leaders. The Commander said that the picket was likely to cause a breach of the peace as a member of the public might attack the picket. Apparently the police did not see it as their duty to prevent members of the public attacking the brothers and sisters, their only purpose was to use this idiotic excuse to deny the people their rights. The legal adviser pointed out to the police that it was illegal to hold a public meeting outside the Bailey, but not to hold a picket. The police ignored this and the Commander instructed the officers to attack the picket and break it up. The police swarmed across the street, 2 or three to each protester, grabbed them, viciously tore up placards, snatched coats, necks, shoulders, hair, and poured filthy racist abuse on men, women and children. Six policemen fell upon brother Gregory Galloway (aged 18) and beat him to the ground. They dragged him away to the police station around the corner and later charged him with assault on one of the senior police officers.
- 1.05 p.m. The police were instructed to get all the demonstrators, by force if necessary, away from the vicinity of the Old Bailey. As the brothers and sisters left, they were tailed by police. Irritated by the spirit of the people they had brutalised, the police vent their rage on the makeshift placards and tore them into little bits, heaping paper and cardboard on the central island.

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INDO-PAKISTANI WAR serves interests of ruling class

With the incursion of Indian troops into Bangla Desh and the bombing of Indian cities by the Pakistani air force, the situation between the two countries has been manipulated into total war.

India has already declared a State of Emergency, and Pakistan has announced to the world its air attacks on Agra, Patiala, Amritsar, Pathankot and Srinagar. In spite of all the peaceful noises made by the Big Powers, the countries are fighting each other with American and Russian planes, tanks, arms and ammunition.

Yayha Khan's military regime and its US supporters have no option but to resort to a desperate war to prevent India from supporting and controlling the 'freedom fight' of Bangla Desh. The government of Indira Gandhi is using Indian troops to cover and control the Mukhti Bahini of Bangla Desh, guerillas whom they train and equip with light weapons. Both governments are using the war to prevent the disruption of the capitalist interests they represent.

The demand for freedom by the people of Bangla Desh is seen as a danger within India and within West Pakistan. Emergency legislation within India and Pakistan is being used to imprison and eliminate the peoples opposition to the bourgeois regimes of both countries.

NATIONAL CAMPAIGN AGAINST POLITICAL REPRESSION IN TRINIDAD & TOBAGO. IS BEING ORGANISED BY THE BLACK PEOPLES NATIONAL ACTION COLLECTIVE. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
 BLACK PEOPLES INFORMATION CENTRE,
 154 BARNSBURY ROAD,
 LONDON, N.1.

INDUSTRIAL NEWS

2,300 Workers to be laid off by British Rail

Rail union leaders, boycotted a meeting with the British Railways Board, because Mr John Peyton, Minister for Transport Industries, has said, that he sees no point in meeting the union, while they are still negotiating with the employers.

The minister wants to evade responsibility for the impending 2300 redundancies proposed by British Rail, with another 2700 to follow in the next few years. One of the union negotiators said "if the government is not prepared to meet, it shows that its claim to be concerned about unemployment is a sham.

Industrial Relations Act

Parts of the Industrial Relations Act, have been implemented this week, with the setting up of the National Industrial Relations Court, to deal with those parts of the Act, covering agency (closed shops) and bargaining rights of unions. Only those unions which are registered with the registrar of trade unions have bargaining rights, all unions are automatically registered unless they deregister. Many unions, in protest against the Act have voted to deregister, and not use the Industrial Court.

However, opportunists will use the Industrial Court, to gain the right to represent workers. A new organisation which intends to do just that, is the Association of Professional Scientists and Technologists, who hope to recruit 20,000 members, particularly from unions like the Association of Scientific Technical and Managerial Staffs, which is committed to fight the Industrial Relations Act.

More Unemployment

In fighting to save 'white collar' jobs in industry, union leaders have agreed with management, to a four day week and a ban on overtime. In the past year there has been a 15% cut in the number of white collar jobs in the engineering industry.

However, with the change in qualifications for unemployment benefit, workers who are subject to such agreements, get squeezed both ways: a person has to work nine weeks at four days before he could qualify for the benefit lost by not working five days. With overtime ban this is a heavy financial penalty.

* * * * *

Immigrants in Prison

Home Office statistics on prisons, published this week, show that the number of people imprisoned under the Commonwealth Immigration Act, rose from 141 men and 18 women in 1969, to more than twice the number in 1970, 308 men and 36 women; although the total number of immigrants entering Britain dropped, between 1969 and 1970. The government and police have used previous immigration acts to imprison black people without trial and without access to legal advice or visits from relatives.

* * * * *

Capitalist Economies in Crisis

European, Japanese and American finance ministers met in Rome this week for talks on the crisis in the international monetary system. The US, playing the role of "bully boy", has demanded that other countries revalue their currency, before America lifts its 10% surcharge on goods coming in the US.

The lesser capitalist countries see it as a disadvantage to themselves to revalue their currency, a step which will make their exports dearer and less competitive. The finance ministers agree, that a deal is necessary to stave off a period of recession. Already in Britain, one million workers are unemployed. In the US, steel production is less than 50% its normal capacity, with 95000 steel workers laid off. Many American farmers are threatening to burn their surplus produce, rather than sell at rock bottom prices.

* ** * ** *

Racism at Royal Ordnance Factory Blackburn

Blackburn Ordnance Factory has been in existence for 32 years and employs over 3000 workers, in a town with a black population of 6000. However not one black person has ever been employed at this factory, although black people have been resident in East Lancashire for over 50 years.

The Ministry of Defence refuse black applicants who apply for employment at this factory on the grounds that black people are a security risk. This ministry has no objection to black soldiers serving British imperialism in Northern Ireland and elsewhere. Black people all over Britain should write to the Royal Ordnance Factory and demand that black people be allowed to work at the ROF. Letters of protest may be sent to:

The Factory Director, Mr E. J. Gammons
Lower Darwen, Blackburn, Lanes.

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO CONT.

decision to strike, thereby foiling the peoples' movement. He is being supported by other executive members who have not yet come out into the open.

Youths Retaliate

Three policemen were seriously injured when a group of youth opened fire on them with sub-machine guns last week. There was a series of raids after that, and a cache of arms and explosives were found in West Port-of Spain. Two men have been arrested, one an ex-soldier.

** ** *

BRITAIN

THE FIGHT AGAINST FEUDALISM IN BRITAIN CONTINUES

The Queens' Payrise 106% - Miners Offered 7%

Without significant opposition the parliamentary select committee gave the Queen one million pounds per year - a pay increase of 106%. It is said that the Queen never stops working and never has a real holiday. Most of the labour involves spending huge sums of money. Last year her expenditure was: Garden parties - £24,402, Official presents - £9,017, Cars (upkeep and purchase) -£11,912, Drinks -£12,000, Food -£44,000, Household 'Repairs' -£17,677, Horses (purchase and upkeep) -£11,508, The Royal Yacht - 839,000. To obtain a payrise, the miners whose yearly income is far less than the Queen's drinks bill, will have to go on strike in January so as to avoid causing their families hardship over X'mas

** ** *

JAKE PRESCOTT SENTENCED TO FIFTEEN YEARS FOR 'CONSPIRACY'

It was in a spiteful mood that Judge Melford Stevenson sentenced Jake Prescott to 15 years for 'conspiracy to cause bomb explosions' after the jury had acquitted Prescott of actually causing explosions at the home of Robert Carr, Minister of Employment. The judge clearly disagreed with the verdict of the jury, but said that he would loyally abide by their decision, whereupon he refused to allow bail to Ian Purdie (charged and acquitted jointly with Prescott), who is also charged - with others who are themselves free on bail - for possessing stolen cheque books. Both defendants had been in prison for just under a year without trial. Prescott's sentence contrasts significantly with the 2 to 3 year sentence two fascists received for ~~fire bombing~~ a West Indian party, which caused permanent injury to at least ten black people.

DEMONSTRATION CALLED TO PROTEST AGAINST RAILROADING OF POLITICAL PRISONER
Assemble St. Pauls Tube Station - Monday 6th. December - 6 p.m.
March to Appeal Court in the Strand via the Old Bailey and Fleet St.
FREE JAKE & IAN - FREE ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS!

THE INFORMATION CENTRES LISTED BELOW PROVIDE POINTS OF CONTACT IN OUR COMMUNITIES FOR EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION, ADVISE, DISCUSSION AND COLLECTIVE ACTIVITY:

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BLACK PANTHER MOVEMENT (information Centre & Unity Bookshop) 38 Shakespeare Road, S.E. 24 Tel. 274-0298
5. NOTTINGHAM:- BLACK PEOPLES FREEDOM MOVEMENT, 128 Derby Road, Notts.
6. WOLVERHAMPTON: AFRO-CARIBBEAN CIRCLE, 16 Francis Street, Wolverhampton.

'MANGROVE 9' - PICKET OLD BAILEY!

THE RAILROADING OF THE MANGROVE NINE IS IN ITS FINAL STAGES:
AND THE VERDICT WILL PROBABLY BE GIVEN NEXT WEEK.
THERE WILL BE A PICKET OUTSIDE THE OLD BAILEY EVERY WEEK DAY
FROM TUESDAY, 7th DEC. FROM 10 a.m.

SHOW SOLIDARITY WITH THE MANGROVE 9!

FORWARD TO ORGANISED RESISTANCE

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

CEYLON

14,000 Political Prisoners Still Held - 5,000 To Be Tried

In Ceylon today at least 14,000 political prisoners are still under detention. These brothers and sisters have been held since April and May this year without any access to lawyers, without being charged and with no indication of a date of release. To this day there has been no inquiry into the widely reported atrocities committed by the police and sections of the armed forces against the people.

Youth Main Victims

These arrests were the result of an uprising that took place on April 4/5 1971, when the youth revolted against the repressive policies of Bandarnaike's Govt. On December 1st. the Minister of Home Affairs announced that of the total 14,000 prisoners 5,000 are to be brought to trial on charges ranging from treason to possessing firearms and that the situation in Ceylon is now 'returning to normal'. He gave no indication of what was to happen to the other 9,000. These brothers and sisters are mainly young workers, peasants and students who were rounded up during the uprising. Many have been tortured and an endless number murdered. The remaining have been dumped in makeshift concentration camps. There can be no doubt that the situation is far from returning to 'normal'.

INDIA

Massacre In West Bengal Jail

At Alipore Central Jail last week six brothers alleged to be Naxalites were brutally beaten to death by prison guards. After a small incident involving a prisoner and a guard a scuffle broke out. The guards took it upon themselves to charge the prisoners with truncheons in order to 'disperse' them. The result was six prisoners DEAD and 172 seriously injured.

Similar Attacks In The Past

Since December 1970, 47 political prisoners have been murdered inside jails all over Bengal. The Govt. has failed to investigate these killings and no one has ever been charged. Following this last outrage Jyoti Basu of the Communist Party of India (Marxist), has demanded an immediate public inquiry to "ascertain the cause of the attack and massacre of the prisoners". The only comment from a Govt. official was that the "jails are over crowded and this often leads to frayed tempers both among the prisoners and the wardens". This casual reaction is typical of Indira Gandhi's government.

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

SEDITION ACT NOW LAW

With the Sedition Amendment Act now law, the reactionary Williams government is planning to introduce its next piece of repressive legislation. Under the Summary Offences Amendment Bill, which is now before Parliament, all public meetings and demonstrations in Trinidad & Tobago will be banned unless police permission is granted. With the present state of the country, the police will never allow such meetings to ever take place again. The penalty for breaking this law will be \$1000 or 1 year in jail. Another clause in this Bill will ban all non-Trinidadians from speaking to public meetings of any kind unless they have the permission of the Minister of National Security. Any non-national who breaks this law will be subject to a fine of \$2500 or 2 years in jail.

** **

Oil Workers Sold Out

With Brother George Weekes now in jail, all the traiters in the Union Executive of the O.W.T.U. are now coming out and identifying themselves for the first time before the public. The Acting President of the Union, Verne Edwards, who has for long been suspected of being the government spy on the central executive, has now openly declared his stand. Last week, he condemned people who try to introduce "politics" into O.W.T.U. He attacked Weekes and said that the business of the union is to look after oil workers alone and to hell with everybody else, including other workers. He also announced that from now on there will be a specially appointed committee to "supervise" the contents of the VANGUARD newspaper, voice of the union, and to make sure that no politics get into the paper. He has also given instructions to the VANGUARD publishing company that NEW BEGINNING is not to be published by them as long as it continues in its present revolutionary vein. This traitor to the working class is now openly acting in the interests of the government and the oil corporations. Last year, he was the man who singlehandedly prevented the Union from going on strike in support of the Army mutiny. If the O.W.T.U. had gone on strike, the whole working class would have followed. This man sabotaged the General Council's

MANGROVE 9 TRIAL

COURT

TUES—FRI



REPORT

OCT. 5—8, 1971

The trial of the Mangrove Nine, seven brothers and two sisters, opened on Tue. 5th Oct. '71 at the Central Criminal Court, Old Bailey, London. The nine are charged with riot and affray and some of them with assault. Their case arises out of a demonstration against police brutality and the continuous harassment of the Mangrove restaurant in Notting Hill. Two of the defendants, Radford Howe and Althea Jones LeCointe are representing themselves. The case was postponed from Monday to Tuesday on very short notice by the court so that Judge Edward Clark, whom the court wanted, would be available to conduct it. The Black People's Information Centre, realising the extreme importance and significance of this trial for black people in Britain, indeed for the common man in general, are going to put out this weekly report of the proceedings in the courtroom.

Tuesday 5th October

The day opened with the counsel for the defence objecting to the fact that relatives of the defendants were not allowed into the well of the court. The relatives of the defendants had been given access to the public gallery only, and that too by a system of tickets which the Clerk of the court had attempted to set up. Counsel argued that it was quite normal for relatives of the defendants to be allowed into the well of the court and asked for a reason for this unusual procedure which the Clerk had adopted. The judge refused to give a reason and said that this was upto the discretion of the Clerk. Friends of the defendants, who had been queuing outside the court for entrance to the public gallery, were allowed in after some argument with the officials in charge who had been instructed to keep them out.

The defendants then made an application to the court to remove the charge of riot against them as it had been thrown out at the preliminary proceedings in the magistrate's court for lack of evidence. Judge Clark, refusing the application said that he had no power to do this. The defence counsel objected strongly to this stand by the court. Radford Howe, getting to his feet in the dock said "My Lord, I have no precedents to state, but I have a sense of justice. I detect a certain vagueness in the way the prosecution has brought back this charge of riot, and as a famous philosopher said, "vagueness in certain matters conceals treachery". Many black people and ordinary people would wonder, he said, how he could be tried twice for the same offence having had the charge thrown out once before. As a common man he felt this was a breach of natural justice.

A hush fell over the court as the charges were read and the defendants got to their feet one by one and intoned "not guilty".

Ian MacDonald, young, bespectacled, defence counsel for Barbara Beese, then made an application on behalf of the Mangrove Nine for a trial by black jurors. He said that his request for an all black jury was based on the common law of England which had existed for over 700 years. "What I am asking for is simply something I am entitled to under the law, I am not asking for an extension of the law or for the court to make any special concessions," he said. In support of his claim Mr. Mac Donald quoted a series of historical examples beginning with the authority of the Magna-Carta 1215A, D. which clearly said that a man should be tried by his peers or equals. As this particular provision of the charter had not been repealed it was still the accepted law of the land.

To support this important application, he went on to quoting precedents of trials with

juries of all Jews or all Welshmen or all merchant juries. The judge interrupted Mr. MacDonald by asking him for "the real substance of the submission".

Mr. MacDonald replied that he was astounded that the judge could prejudge the issue.

JUDGE: You can object as much as you like, at the moment we are at 1215, I want you to get up to contemporary, modern times.

MacDonald: There are also precedents for the trial of aliens by their equals.

JUDGE: Would it matter in this case if the jurors were Nigerians, West Indians, Indians or any other nationality as long as they were black?

MacDonald: No, it would not.

Wednesday 6th October

On this second day of the trial Mr. MacDonald was allowed to continue his application for a black jury. The judge, whose attitude was hostile to the application from the start said that the only relevant precedent for counsel's application was the case of Regina vs Broderick in which, three years ago, the chairman allowed one black juror. MacDonald said that that was irrelevant as no application had been made at that time for an all black jury. The judge was given a submission to procure the right to cross-examine jurors about their attitude to race to establish if they were racially prejudiced.

Going on with the application, Mr. MacDonald quoted two cases where specialised juries had been allowed. The first involved the Sexual Discrimination Removal Act of 1919 which included a provision for an all male or all female jury. A woman who broke up the Miss World competition on political grounds might request a jury of women.

Mr MacDonald satisfied judge Clark's thirst for the contemporary by quoting a case out of the morning papers in which a Cockney, being tried by a middle class jury in Lewes, Essex, pleaded that the people in Essex were as green as cabbage; and he wanted, for this excellent reason, to be tried by a Cockney jury in London.

"An all black jury is necessary for the present time because you cannot guarantee, in a society in which racial prejudice is rife, that a jury will not have on it persons who start off with prejudice against the defendats because they are black." said the counsel for the defence in summing up.

The judge rejected the submission and application for a black jury. "I need give you no reason for my refusal", he said.

Counsel for the defence then said that jurors should be chosen from areas of London in which large numbers of black people lived.

Judge: There is a danger even before the jury is sworn that this will deteriorate into a black versus white contest.

Thursday 7th October

Mr Mac Donald formally repeated his challenge to the entire panel of jurors, on the grounds that there were not even twelve black people on the list of a hundred and fifty. The judge again overruled the objection and the selection of the jury began. The defence objected to several white people. One black brother dismissed himself on the grounds that he was a student and had to take exams in April and couldn't afford the six weeks that the trial would take. The second black juror was challenged by the prosecution as soon as he began taking the oath in a strong grass roots accent. The defence counsel said that he could not be challenged once he had started taking the oath, The judge said he hadn't heard him begin. The jury, after several objections consists finally of 8 white men, 2 white women and 2 black men.

The prosecutor also challenged one young white juror.

Miss Althea-Jones Leconte who is conducting her own defence made an application that she should have a friend sitting next to her and assisting her during the trial. This kind of application was made in several other cases including most recently the OZ trial. But Judge Clarke said he had never heard of this done in criminal cases. The jury were then dismissed with remarks from the Judge that he didn't see why they should waste any more time.

He finally said he'd give a decision the next morning.