



## HIT BY A BOMB?



### No—Wrecked by an Apartheid-mad Government

AS the families in the buffer zones of Sophiatown are moved to Meadowlands, demolition squads move in and systematically wreck their former homes. Thousands of families are homeless in Johannesburg and yet this criminal destruction goes on because the Government's apartheid plans demand the eradication of the so-called black spots.

Silent crowds have gathered in Sophiatown in the past weeks to watch the demolition.

# FORCED REMOVALS WERE NO VICTORY FOR VERWOERD

## Lessons of "First Round"

JOHANNESBURG.

THE battle of the Western Areas has just begun. The people in the area and throughout the country recognise that it is their first full-scale engagement against apartheid, in which the forces of democracy will grow stronger as political consciousness and organisation spread, said Dr. Y. M. Dadoo in an exclusive interview with New Age.

IN every mass movement there are faint hearts who, at the first sign of superior forces, tend to despair. Because the Government, with an overwhelming show of armed strength, has managed to move a tiny fraction of the 8,000 families from the Western Areas, there are some who are today saying "Congress has had it." Agents of the Government are eagerly seizing on this kind of talk and doing their best to spread it.

But in order to understand the true significance of the Western Areas position it is necessary to see the whole affair in perspective.

It must not be forgotten that it was the Congress movement which spearheaded the whole of the peoples' resistance to the Government's plans, Dr. Dadoo said.

### WORLD IMPORTANCE

It was this resistance which made the Western Areas Removal a matter of national, and indeed of world, importance.

It compelled Verwoerd to drop his earlier "site and service" scheme under which he originally proposed to have the Western Areas evacuees build their own shanties on the veld.

The Government had to put up reasonable houses in Meadowlands, to provide sewage, schools, shops and other amenities. Afrikaans charitable organisations were mobilised through the columns of the Nationalist Party Press to collect second-hand items of furniture and kitchenware for the families in the first removals.

### DESTROYED PRETENCE

Above all, Swart was compelled to mobilise one-tenth of South Africa's police force to occupy the threatened area, to impose virtual martial law on the Witwatersrand before he could transfer the first small batch—thus at one stroke destroying the pretence that this was a voluntary slum clearance scheme.

It cannot be denied that serious

mistakes were committed in the course of the campaign.

### TOO LITERALLY

The slogan "We shall not move" was taken too literally. Instead of being interpreted as "No collaboration" with the Government, many gave it a meaning which it could not and was not intended to bear. Some gave the impression that it was possible by local action alone to defeat the removal scheme right at the beginning.

Again, rather rigid and mechanical plans were made for industrial and other types of action, which in the end could not be implemented. Government bannings have made themselves felt in the Congress movement and the police and authorities have spared no effort to hamper and restrict the Congress at every turn. The people have well learnt the lessons of the first round.

If this was a victory for the Government, it was a pyrrhic one. It cannot afford many more such victories.

Feeling in the Western Areas is as strong as ever against the removal scheme. It is true that many live in hovels and pay high rents, but they see Meadowlands as a part of Apartheid. They know that this racially zoned location hedged in by restrictions is not planned for their benefit. They may go under the guns of the police to Meadowlands, but each new removal at revolver point, each fresh show of force serves only to fan resentment and opposition to the Nationalist Government, bringing closer the day of its fall, Dr. Dadoo concluded.

# NEW AGE

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## Workers' Film of Africa

Ivens, Shostakovitch, Robeson, Picasso  
Co-operate

LONDON.—A film featuring the development of political and trade union consciousness among the peoples of Africa has been produced by the World Federation of Trade Unions. Directed by world-famous Joris Ivens, it is entitled "Song of the Rivers."

A critic wrote—"For the first time I believe the Coloured people of Africa are shown as human beings, as workers—exploited, but fighting back as trade unionists. There is a wonderful jungle sequence—a tomtom arouses the population of a village. They gather, listen to a speaker and elect a delegate to the Vienna congress of world trade unionists."

"Speaking generally, the most impressive material stems from the colonial and semi-colonial countries."

The film brought together an impressive team of artists. Producer Ivens, who made Spanish Earth, China's 400 Millions, New Earth, Indonesia Calling, and Peace Will Win, among other films, directed and collaborated on the story with French writer Vladimir Pozner, who also wrote the commentary.

The music is by Dmitri Shostakovitch, the Russian composer, who used material from his fifth, seventh

and tenth symphonies and in addition wrote an original score specially for the film.

### ROBESON SINGS

There are two new songs, one sung by a choir; the other—"The Song of the Rivers," by famous German dramatist Bert Brecht—has been translated into English by the American Negro novelist, Lloyd Brown (author of "Iron City"), and is sung by Paul Robeson.

Thus Robeson, who has been prohibited by the American Government from leaving his country, will be heard round the world in this film, which is being dubbed in 18 languages, including Arabic, Japanese, Persian, Czech, Polish, English, Russian, Spanish, Chinese, French and German.

The poster for the film, which will be used internationally, is being designed by the French artist, Pablo Picasso.

The critic concludes—"I feel this is Joris Ivens' best movie, and probably the greatest documentary ever shot."

## FIRST MEETING AFTER BAN

JOHANNESBURG.

At the first public meeting of the A.N.C. held in the Western Areas since the ban on gatherings, Mr. Robert Resha, A.N.C. Secretary, asked the crowd: "Have you ever seen a man supposed to be willing to move surrounded by two thousand policemen before he moves?"

"No!" came the answering shout from the crowd. Mr. Resha added only the foolish would believe that the fight against the scheme started and ended on the 9th or 12th of February.

"We say the removal scheme must be fought till the bitter end."

## Massina Back From World T.U. Conference

JOHANNESBURG.

MR. LESLIE MASSINA, secretary of the Transvaal Council of Non-European Trade Unions, returned to the Union last week from a three-month visit overseas, during which he attended the International Miners' Conference.

Mr. Massina also represented his Council at the Warsaw meeting of the council of the World Federation of Trade Unions.

He visited four East European countries in all: Czechoslovakia, Poland, Hungary and Rumania.

Most of his time was spent visiting factories and talking to workers and Mr. Massina was most impressed by the high living standards and good working conditions of the people.

Conditions were so much better than those in South Africa that they could not be compared, said Mr. Massina, talking particularly about a Rumanian coal mine he visited and factories in Prague.

It was clear, he said, that the people in East European democracies were happy. Talk of iron curtain isolation was nonsense. "South Africa has the iron curtain," he said. "We restrict entry and declare individuals prohibited immigrants."



This appropriate slogan is inscribed on Johannesburg's colour-bar "Public" Library.



## THIS IS MY LAND

No African man to-day can stand with pride in front of his property and rejoice happily. This is my land!

That landscape yonder is in my hands;

This is the country in which I was born to enjoy the fruits of nature!

I can stand on that hill yonder and admire the magic of nature! This very land, this piece of earth, that silvery stream, was left to me by my forefathers

To drink its enchanting waters as I please!

"Two thousand armed police, 86 armed troop carriers, U.D.F. signal units and military police converged on Sophiatown."

There is no man who could have attempted to resist such a terrific action performed by a merciless Government. There is no sight so sad as that of a man's property being taken before his eyes to a strange place he does not desire to occupy.

What can he do, the poor man. He cannot resist it. He has to go. He does not want to land in jail. He has his wife and children to look after. He moves away and says good-bye to the last sight of his only property, although his freedom was measured even in that little house of his.

From now on he is going to live under the roof of another man. He shall have to be driven from place to place like cattle

from decade to decade.

The Gestapo has said unto him—"You cannot graze on these green pastures. You were not meant for this; yours is the worst and most remote. If you graze here you shall think of yourself as something upon earth. Therefore, go away from here! You are too close to the Baas. The Baas cannot breathe properly. Go to the Meadowlands! Those were meant for you and for you only."

On top of the lorry, huddled with his possessions, he is carted away unceremoniously to his declared abode. The lorry is travelling on a road packed on the sides with armed men who are ready to strike or shoot.

The African people are never at ease. Every day is a miserable day for them.

But everything has an end. Our White neighbours should not expect to dominate us until the clock stands still. No!

It is clear now from the actions of our so-called rulers that some day we shall rule our land.

Our Government shall be carried along the lines of justice and peace to everybody, even if he happens to be as white as snow. Colour does not mean barriers between mankind.

With the inspiration of New Age and the everlasting chiming bells of Afrika!

J. R. MABE,  
Galeshewe, Kimberley.

### Six More Pounds

A resolution calling for the reversal of decisions to re-arm Western Germany and the settlement of international disputes by negotiation was carried unanimously by our general meeting.

The meeting also endorsed the branch executive decision protesting jointly with 15 other trade unions against the murder of the people's newspaper, Advance, by the Minister of Justice, and resolved to raise sufficient funds to assist the New Age.

In terms of the last resolution the sum of £6 0s. 9d. was collected from the members.

V. S. M. PILLAI,  
Secretary, Durban Branch,  
Operative Biscuit Makers'  
& Packers' Union of S.A.

## STOP that Headache!

Mag-Aspirin is better. When throbbing headaches torture you, take Mag-Aspirin at once! Feel how gently the nerves are calmed, the pain soothed away. Mag-Aspirin quickly restores sound, health-giving sleep. It has given thousands of sufferers welcome relief from headache, bladder pain, backache, toothache, lumbago, neuritis and rheumatic pains.

**MAG-ASPIRIN**  
is not ordinary aspirin

Mag-Aspirin Powders, 2/- per box. Also available in Tablets at 2/6 at all chemists and stores.

6560-2

### African Magazines

Many of the African magazines now in circulation do not represent the African of to-day.

Do they fear to show the ragged African on the farm, police interference and raids?

We have had enough of tsotsi stories and stories about well-to-do Africans. Let us hear, too, about our brothers and sisters and their conditions of living.

BEGGAR.

P.O. Sukkelaar, Tvl.  
(Via Bethal.)

### He Left Disappointed

A little while ago the Native Commissioner at Moletjies Location, Pietersburg, called a meeting to talk to the people about the mission schools. Over 800 people attended. The Native Commissioner stated that nine mission schools are going to be closed on March 31.

The people complained that they were not told in time to discuss the report. The Commissioner insisted they should sign their names on the paper to be submitted to the Government, but they refused. He tried to divide them by suggesting that the school committee and headmen should meet separately, but this was also refused.

When the school inspector was questioned about Bantu Education he could not give a clear explanation. He said Bantu Education was only a name that had changed, but the education was still the same as that of the Europeans. No one believed this, and the meeting ended without a decision.

There were two African C.I.D. men present, hiding behind the office, taking notes.

The Commissioner left very disappointed.

G. RAPUDI,  
Moletjies Location, Tvl.

### More Replies to Mr. Mdzeke

Mr. Mdzeke's attack on New Age (Letter-Box, February 10) is a great shock. I doubt if he is one of our leaders. There is not a single person who wishes to oust the White people from this country, and our leaders have repeatedly said this. Only those Africans who are blind do not support New Age.

G. T. DYUBENI,  
Langa, Cape.

It is my deepest conviction that Mr. Mdzeke is either not with the people in the struggle against oppression and fascism or he is still many years behind the move for liberation.

I say with full confidence that all or the greatest majority of the oppressed Non-European people and democratic organisations agree unreservedly with the New Age editorial Mr. Mdzeke is protesting against.

I wish to inform Mdzeke—(1) We in Congress support New Age, and will continue to do so by all means as long as it represents us as correctly as it does in its every issue; (2) That we are not prepared to go forward half-heartedly for a half-loaf. We would like to see this Government ousted and replaced by a democratic Government.

It is also a puzzle how Mdzeke arrives at a conclusion that "it (New Age) is only one-sided, which means to the man in the street that the Government has done nothing for us." Is Mdzeke thankful for the Bantu Education Act? The Forced Resettlement Act? The Group Areas Act? The Urban Areas Amendment Act? The Native Labour (Settlement of Disputes) Act? The Co-ordinated Documents Act and many others such as the Bantu Authorities and Ethnic Groupings? If these are what Mdzeke wishes, then he is right. He has a lot to be thankful for.

A. B. MNISI,  
White City, Johannesburg.

### Feels at Home

It was a pleasure to me when I came to Cape Town to meet a large number of African National Congress members and officials and also other fighters for freedom.

I was very glad to be able to address various meetings and to see that large numbers of people were joining the Congress movement. When I see all this activity I always feel at home.

The African National Congress is the best home of the man and woman of Africa. People must join the Congresses in big numbers, because the Congresses fight for everybody's rights and freedom in this country.

P. S. J. MANANA,  
Chesterfield, Natal.

### Slave Education

It is with the greatest regret that I have to deplore the action taken by the majority of Anglican bishops in failing to follow the lead taken by the Bishop of Johannesburg.

They agreed to compromise with the Government by deciding to let their school buildings to the Government.

They should rather have used the buildings for many deserving purposes. Leasing the schools is a way of giving the Government a chance to force African children into national suicide or slavery.

J. SPENCER POOE,  
Sophiatown, Johannesburg.

## EDITORIAL

# THIS CONCERNS THE CONGRESSES, TRADE UNIONS, PEACE MOVEMENT

FROM next week New Age will consist of only four pages.

Unless there is a very substantial increase in financial support from our readers, there is no immediate likelihood of the paper returning to its present size. In fact, it is going to be a battle to keep the paper coming out at all.

It is nothing new for the people's paper to be in urgent need. Some readers may tend to shrug this off as "just another New Age crisis."

The miracle which always seems to occur to keep the paper on the street never fails, and they rest content, sure that the money for an eight-pager will come from somewhere.

But no newspaper can rely on these frequent miracles—these frantic last-minute scrambles for money to prevent our extinction. The problem is a political one. It is not a matter which should be left for the New Age staff to solve. It is a matter of vital importance to the entire South African democratic movement. It concerns the Congresses, the trade unions, the peace movement.

And the fact is that though these organisations have not stunted moral support for the paper, they have failed to pay any attention at all to the question of practical support.

Take one example.

Let us say that there are, at the very least, 25,000 active supporters of the Congresses.

If each of these gave only a tickey a month to their paper we would be able to go back to an eight-page issue.

THREE PENNIES A MONTH!

There is no one, no matter what his circumstances, who cannot afford to make that sacrifice. And there are very, very many who could, with little difficulty, give a shilling, half-crown or even ten shillings each month.

## It is up to the People's Organisations

It is up to the people's organisations to ensure that their members have as a regular political task the raising of enough money to keep New Age on the streets. This they should do in co-operation with the local New Age office, which will assist them in making the collections.

We call on all members of democratic organisations to raise as a matter of urgency the question of placing New Age on a safe financial footing.

Two fascist bans have not halted for even one week South Africa's proud tradition of a progressive Press. Just think of the world-wide shock if the unthinkable happened—if New Age were to cease publication, not because of a Government ban but because the members of the people's organisations were not interested enough to give a tickey a month.

But we say with confidence that this can never happen.

We say this because we are convinced that when the people's organisations are faced with this hard fact—that in the past they have failed to pay proper attention to New Age, and that it is a matter of the greatest urgency that this omission be rectified—they will take steps at once to safeguard the people's paper.

READER! DO YOU WANT AN EIGHT-PAGE NEW AGE? WE ARE IN YOUR HANDS.

# NKRUMAH CHALLENGED TO HOLD ELECTIONS

## Discontent In Gold Coast

ACCRA.—The political position of the Gold Coast Premier, Dr. Kwame Nkrumah, has been greatly weakened during the last few months. Many sections of the people who formerly supported his leadership have now turned against him and against his Convention People's Party.

**BOTH** nationalist and economic influences are at work to undermine Nkrumah's popularity. The trouble started last August, when the Government inflamed national sentiment by refusing to accord the status of official Opposition to the Northern People's Party, which had won 16 out of 26 seats allocated to the Northern Territories in the general election, and was the second largest party in the Assembly.

In September, 1954, the Government antagonized nationalist elements in Ashanti, the province where a great part of the world's cocoa is grown, when it increased the tax payable on cocoa. A second irritant was the Government's fixing of the price of cocoa for the following four years at £3 12s. for a load of 60 lbs.—an extremely low price. The farmers were demanding £7 10s. a load.

The Government's actions led to the rapid development of a National Liberation Movement, representing mainly elements in the Northern Territories and Ashanti, which demands the replacement of the present unitary constitution of the Gold Coast by a federal form of government.

### REQUEST REFUSED

The Asanteman Council, which advises the King of Ashanti, Sir Agyeman Prempeh II, appealed to the Secretary of State of the British Government towards the end of last year to appoint a Royal Commission to examine the possibility of a federal form of government. The Secretary of State in due course issued a statement refusing to appoint such a commission.

The leader of the National Liberation Movement, Mafuor Osei Akoto, said at a mass rally, in reply to both the Secretary of State and Dr. Nkrumah, that it was no use trying to distract the attention of the people by holding out the promise of "independence" and "self government" at some time in the future.

And the general secretary of the N.L.M., Mr. Kusi Amporfo, said in a statement to the Ashanti Pioneer: "We are not opposed to self-government for the Gold Coast, but I must stress that no federation, no self-government."

### ACRIMONIOUS

The dispute between the Government and its critics has at times become extremely acrimonious. Dr. Nkrumah, who maintains the Gold Coast is a political and economic unit and cannot be split up on federal lines, has referred to his opponents as an "irresponsible minority" and "enemies of the people." They have replied with accusations against him and his Convention People's Party of dictatorship and nepotism.

The dispute between the National Liberation Movement and the Government was brought to a head recently when three of Dr. Nkrumah's colleagues resigned from the Convention People's Party to join the N.L.M. All three levelled serious charges against the Government.

### "CORRUPTION"

One of the three is Mr. Joseph Appiah (who married Miss Peggy Cripps), who said that "moral and material corruption is fatal to the country, and those who indulge in it are traitors to the country."

Mr. Reginald Amponsah, formerly a Government liaison officer in Germany, said Dr. Nkrumah's unwillingness to take measures to investigate allegations of bribery and corruption in the Cocoa

Marketing Board and the Cocoa Purchasing Company was indefensible.

The third man to resign, Mr. Victor Owusu, a barrister, has challenged Dr. Nkrumah to test his Government's popularity by holding a general election.

At the beginning of February, the King of Ashanti, addressing a meeting in Kumasi, challenged the Nkrumah Government. He said: "Even if we are all imprisoned we shall come back to continue the fight. Let all the cannons and guns be brought against us, we shall never give up our demands."

Needless to say, in the background the British authorities, ever trying to carry out the policy of "divide and rule," are by no means displeased at the turn things are taking.



Dr. Nkrumah—This Government is accused of corruption.

# Church Report Condemns Moral Re-Armament

LONDON.

**THE** Moral Rearmament Movement (M.R.A.) has been condemned as "psychologically dangerous and gravely defective in its social thinking" in a report issued by the Social and Industrial Council of the Church Assembly of the Church of England.

The study of M.R.A. was undertaken because of the demand for guidance from members of the Church of England, both clergy and laymen. Chairman of the inquiry was Sir Wilfred Garret.

The council include among their criticisms the failure of M.R.A. to take the nature of politics seriously and to make a sufficiently profound analysis of the world's social problems.

"We have at times been haunted," the report states, "by a picture of the movement, with its hectic heartiness, its mass gaiety, and its reiterated slogans, as a colossal drive of escapism from the full force of the difficulty in detail of responsible living in the world."

### ERROR

The report says M.R.A. errs in thinking that if only men will change heart all the evils of the world will disappear.

"To assume, as M.R.A. apparently does, that 'new men' automatically lead to a solution of the world's problems fails to diagnose the nature of many of the world's social problems. It assumes that the world is in its present condition through the personal immorality of men who are not honest, pure and loving. This, of course, has its own poignant truth.

"But the basic social problems of the world are not due to

purely personal immorality, and they are not, therefore, cured by purely personal morality. . . . Evil resides in human history in more subtle ways than M.R.A. has discovered."

Pointing out that M.R.A. places strong emphasis on "unselfishness and love" as necessary personal qualities, the report comments that there is no similar emphasis on social justice as a desirable social quality. This reveals a basic failure to understand the nature of politics.

### RELIES ON EMOTION

The report also condemns M.R.A. for its failure to rely on reason instead of emotion in its appeal to people. "It relies on 'guidance,' on testimony, on choruses, on super-theatrical demonstrations and on a psychologically induced experience through these means.

"It is clear to anyone who has visited Caux in a spirit of inquiry that the study of facts, teaching, discussion and reasoning together have no pronounced place in the glittering display of fireworks."

The movement also makes immodest use of "big names" in its desire to impress potential converts.

The report is to be debated by the Church Assembly at the spring session this month.

# "AMERICA WILL FIGHT ALONE"

## U.S. "Blindness and Folly" Attacked in Britain

LONDON.—THE WORLD-WIDE OUTCRY AGAINST AMERICAN AGGRESSION IN THE FORMOSA STRAITS HAS FORCED THE U.S. WARMONGERS TO RECONSIDER THEIR PLANS. ONCE MORE IT HAS BEEN MADE VERY PLAIN TO THEM THAT IF WAR COMES OVER THE FORMOSA ISSUE AMERICA WILL FIGHT ALONE, WITHOUT HER ALLIES.

**MOST** violent opposition to American tactics in the Far East has been voiced in Britain, the one ally on whom America would have to lean most heavily in any shooting war either in Europe or Asia. There was no doubt Mr. Attlee was speaking for the majority of the British people when he denounced America's support of Chiang as intervention in the Chinese civil war.

Time magazine reported: "In speaking as he did, Clem Attlee made common cause with his party's left wing. But he was also unquestionably expressing more rudely a feeling Eden and many Tories share: the fervent wish that Chiang Kai-shek would simply disappear, vanish, evaporate, go away."

The Formosa issue was also discussed at the conference of Commonwealth Prime Ministers. Time magazine again reported: "No one of the Prime Ministers was eager, or even willing, to fight to save Formosa. Privately they agreed that they were not 'automatically committed' to help the U.S. in its defence. But even Eden recognised that if the U.S. should get into a large-scale war with Red China, Britain would inevitably be drawn in."

It was fear of this very prospect which led the majority of the British press to come out in outspoken criticism of America's China policy.

### THREE-QUARTERS OF NATION

The New Statesman and Nation commented that Mr. Attlee's broadside in Parliament expressed the feeling of "three-quarters of the nation, and it was high time that our American allies were told how

extreme that feeling is. The British people is convinced—and in our view rightly convinced—that the main responsibility for the Formosa crisis lies in Washington, not in Peking.

"If the Seventh Fleet becomes involved in hostilities, no one will be able to persuade the average Englishman that the U.S. has not brought this on itself by its blindness and folly in intervening in the Chinese civil war and seeking to reverse the Asian revolution. . . .

"The chasm which divides American public opinion on this issue from the British has been permitted to grow so wide that it would be difficult to conceive of any policy acceptable on both sides of the Atlantic. But this only reinforces the need for the kind of warning Mr. Attlee has given. Just because there is no chance in the foreseeable future that the Americans will accept the minimum conditions of a peaceful solution, it is essential that they should be told now that they will not be able to rely on Britain for any help whatsoever if they muddle themselves into war."

But in fact the apparent difference between British and American public opinion is not as great as it seems to be. The Statesman's own New York corres-

pondent wrote in the same issue: "There is by no means the whole-hearted support for the Eisenhower Formosa policy that the overwhelming Congressional vote for the White House resolution would suggest. Its acceptance was made inevitable by its mere presentation. Few Congressmen would dare publicly to refuse to back up their President in a show of American strength.

"Nevertheless, there were a few Senators who had the courage to criticise the resolution."

One of them, Senator Langer, criticising the SEATO Treaty during the debate, said: "If such a treaty had been in force among the nations of Europe at the time of the (American) Revolutionary War, the U.S. would still belong to Great Britain."

### WHITE HOUSE DEMONSTRATION

And on January 29 there was even a demonstration outside the White House to protest against Eisenhower's demand for armed forces against China. Demonstrators represented the Catholic Workers, Peace Makers, the War Resisters' League of New York and the Fellowship of Reconstruction of Philadelphia. They carried posters demanding peace and protesting that U.S. policy could mean a shooting war.

To return to Britain, the Daily Mirror, in a leading article entitled "Five Minutes to Midnight," urged Sir Winston Churchill to tell the world that "Britain will not fight" over Formosa.

"Tell the world," it said, "—and particularly the fire-eaters in America—that Britain will not take part in any war to keep Chiang Kai-shek in Formosa. No Government could drag this country into a war to deny China's right to rule over Chinese territory.

"And for God's sake speak out soon, before the clock reaches the dark midnight of extinction."

The Manchester Guardian, urging a revision of American policy, asked: "Has Washington any idea how deeply it appears to be putting itself in the wrong?"

### "NO BRITISH GUN"

The Daily Herald said: "The country is united in this matter behind the Labour Party. The Government should end any lingering doubts in American minds. No British gun will be fired for Chiang Kai-shek."

British workers were also taking active steps to prevent being involved in an American war. The National Amalgamated Stevedores and Dockers' Union was planning to boycott all cargoes that might be used to wage war against China. The Earls Court branch of the National Union of Railwaymen unanimously decided to ask its national executive to call an immediate national rail strike in the event of further intervention by the U.S. in the affairs of China. A general strike on the same issue was unanimously urged by a branch of the Amalgamated Engineering Union.

The executive of the Birmingham Trades Council, representing 150,000 workers, asked the Trades Union Congress to demand that U.S. intervention cease. It described America's action as "a strong-arm display in the old imperialist fashion" and a threat to world peace.

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