

HANRINGEY & HIGHGATE AAM. June 15th 74

1) APARTHEID NT JUST ANOTHR 'CAUSE'

'Why dont you protest abt...'

'Why sports boycott SA, wht abt jews in Russia...'

Argument: othr policies we object to; if you organise protest or institute boycott against one, must do it against all t others.

Cant protest against everythg each of us dislikes abt wht goes on in othr countries, & also it is natural & right tt we shld b selective in our protests.

Obviously act on those things felt most deeply, & also obvious tht those who feel strongly abt racialism wll als hve reactd most strongly on Vietnm, Greece, Chile.

Ths does nt imply indifference to injustice elsewhere, & my own belief is tt prison without trial, torture, injustice is indefensible anywhere, just as famine in India or Africa must stir us to depths o our beings.

BUT my intention to plead tonight SA is not 'just anothr cause', bt fr people o ths country, a particular & unavoidable involvemnt.

2. THE BRITISH INVOLVEMENT

i. Entire system o Sthn Af (except Portugal) is derivd from British:

Constituion o SA 1910 is creation o Brit, as were constitiions o bth Rhodesias, t Zambian one as well as t Smith one, as are Protectorates - those lands which are dependencies o Ap thru Brths neglect, as is Namibia, since Britain seconded hr mandate undr League to SA.

Brit. made Sthn Af wht it is today, t constitutions, the pattern; created t gvts which so successfully excluded t majority except on the promise of the future. British people hve ths unique responsibility fr situations they creatd.

ii. The Economic involvement.

Britain remains far & away largest tradg partner, hs somethg like £2,000 m investd in SA wth stake growng yearly.

Brit. accounts fr 61% o all foreign investmnt. In 1971, more thn 500 Brit companies hd subsidiaries or associates in SA.

Of SA's top 100 indstrial companies, 25%, one quarter, owned or partially ownd by Brit corps, includg t top 10, ICI, British Leyland, Associatd Brit Foods, etc.

Briths clearng banks, led by Barclays, all hve stakes in SA. Barclays largest, bt Nat. Westminster 2nd larges & Standard, Midlands & Lloyds all hve big shares.

TRADE: Brit still SA's most important tradg partner, one thid o all SA's exports come to Brit, who in turn supplies abt one quarter of all SA imports.

Japan, US, France, West Germany, Italy, all developg considerable stakes in Ap system, bt they all remain secondary to place occupied by Brit.

iii. Hvent spca. o characteristics o Ap., bt its most outstandg feature is oftn overlookd - tt is, its profitabxility. Wth exception o Malaysia, which operates undr mch limited conditions, no othr place i whole wrld where rates o profits are higher.

Between 60 & 65, average returns on direct investmnts in SA rangd btween 10 & 15%, almost 50% hight thn av. returns on Brit invesmnts elsewhere overseas; 2 yrs latr, reportd returns were btween 17 & 26%

Why sch high profits? Bcause abysmally low wages. In 69, Afs who constitutd nearly 70% o pop recieved only 18.8% o nations income, whereas whites, who are less thn 20% o pop, received more thn 73%

Gap widens, not narrowng. In Ming, Average white wage is 17 times as high as tt o Afs - similar in othr industries. Thats same as 2 wkrs in same industry in England, unskilld gts £16, sklld wld get £272.

3. RESULTS O THS INVOLVEMNT.

Kwashiokor (only kwn in under-dev countries) & othr diseases o poverty kll off estimatd 40% o all Transkei child b4 they reach age o 10 (Prof Reid, Univ. o Natal.) Hoffenberg: More thn 50% all blk childrn i homelnds die b4 age o 5.

Film on brain, mentioned malnutrition nw reckoned to cause irreversible brain damage. Ths cn be thru mal o mothr b4 birth, on foetus, or in latr stages o childhd. Previously we knew o physical effects which i all bt worst cases WERE reversible wth propr treatment. Ths is somethg else.

You cn count t food u eat & t clothes u wear as part o t fruits o racist exploitation. Western world, this highly developed, civilised, welfare-orientated, educated cultured & concerned Western world consumes the brains o blk children.

Then sociologists, Jensen, Eysenk, cn come wth their culturally loaded IQ tests & prove tt blk children are inherently less intelligent thn white.

Hume is always explaing to us logically why we need t Ap state, & it all sounds pphausible - Red Fleet in Indian Ocean, etc.

Let Douglas Hume & Heath, Sir Nicholas Cayzer & Patrick Wall, William Luke & Lord Fraser, the directors o Shell & BP, o ICI & Unilever, o Courtaulds & Plessey & Bowater & Boots & all t rest, let thm talk about trade routes, the Russian fleet, the Brit way o life & t rest.

Wht they are really talkg abt is this: t exceptionally high return on investments; & children who die.

Neil Wates reportd:

'We shld hve to operate within an economic climate which is designd deliberately to demoralise & maintain an industrial helotry; we shld in turn ~~PROFIT~~ ~~FRM~~ ~~SUCH~~ ~~EXPLOITATION~~ & ~~ULTIMATELY~~ ~~END~~ ~~UP~~ ~~WTH~~ A VESTED INTEREST IN ITS MAINTENANCE.' He therefore statd idea o duing business i SA ws totally unacceptable - 'we couldnt b true to t basic principles on which we run our business & we shld lose out integrity i t process.'

4. APARTHEID & RACIALISM - THE CONNECTION

Oftn told ec developmnt wll break down Ap laws -argumnt
usd against boycotts.

Far from racialism being impediment to developmnt o
industry & profits, it is an essential function o it &
hs increasd its effectiveness.

It is t very under-developmnt o t Af. sector which is
basis o prosperity & priv o Ws. Cantt b changd wthout
radical restrucring o whole society ('petty' apartheid)

White wkrs are integral part o t power structure & hve
vestd interest in its maintenace. Ec. growth in SA
operates on ths pragmatic alliance o ownrs & business
interests with othr power structures, includg organisd
Whte labour, for t benefits accruing; & increased
industrialisation contributes to entrenchmnt o powr in
W hands.

T Brit wkrs who emigrates to SA (Aftr careful vettg)
participates ~~imm~~ & directly i t fruits o Ap, & is
totally immersed in a high standard o livng tt rests on
ths Af exploitation, on t poverty, malnutrition & real
sufferng o t Af people; apart frm fact tt Afs wll nevr gt
sklld jobs while w. workrs cn b importd. (Hence AAM polic.

BUT MORE

T immense profts drawn frm SA shape Brit & Western E.
policy, & mould attitudes twards colourd settlers in
Brit as well. Gap btween dev. & Under-dev wideng, nt
lessng. T more aid givn, widr it bcomes. Real solution
lies in rapid consolidation o bth economic & pol. power
to change image & status o t mn o colour i ths world.

SA Ws nt peculiar breed, just as Brit are nt
necessarily openminded & democratic.

Freedm is more thn right to see uncensord films or
speak at Hyde Pk, Cicero understood wht freedm is - he
said freedm is 'participation in power.' ~~xxxxxxx~~
~~asxixkxpxozhiczzyzkrzrxn~~ Portuguese are beginng learn nw
abt t meang o freedm *the one teachy them*

Tryng to explain tt freedm, like peace, is indivisible
T evils o racism & colonialism are nt simply i t past,
are very mch an evil part o present. Sth Af & Ap
are NOT prive obsession o exiles o Afs, they are

most potent expression of racism in the world today & therefore most dangerous to our very wellbeing.

The immense profits drawn from SA shape not only British policy towards SA, but help mould also British attitudes towards coloured settlers in this country. Arrogance on this question is unbelievable - in 60 years, between 1871 & 1931, 3 million British settled all over the world, mostly in colonies - yet now they want to close doors to immigrants from those very colonies which were kept poor by colonial policies.

Racial arrogance of the West is old only as power of the West is old, mere moment of human time & few centuries of registered history.

Civilization is composite, an accretion of experiences & ideas beyond race or region, & term 'Western civilization' ultimately meaningless. Europe reads with letters & counts with numbers that come from crossroads of Africa & Asia. Origin of man himself is African.

5. APARTHEID IS UNIQUE.

When they tell you there is worse poverty in Africa & Asia, & thus South Africa & apartheid is not unique, they twist the truth. There is worse poverty, but affront is not that poverty exists, but that this is in land of unlimited wealth, bounded economic development, riches

Affront is not that kwashiorkor exists or that 40 die daily of TB (70,000 new cases a year) or 1 million children in reserves are starving (Sahel, Ethiopia) but that this takes place in midst of abundant food, prosperity, enormous wealth, lavish living standards.

And that South Africa is ONLY COUNTRY IN WORLD which enshrines & extends racialism in its laws & constitutions, where apartheid & racialism are legally enforced, & govern every aspect of life.

Apartheid denies the very basis of our civilization, & in that sense threatens every one of us.

There are no deserts where men live divided from others. Dimbaza is here in this room, in the hearts of every one of us here tonight.

'Humanity is outraged in me and with me. Let us not dissimulate, nor try to forget this indignation, which is one of the most passionate forms of love.'

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